

Innovative dance in an intimate venue: *NightMoves* offers new works and a classic

COLUMBUS, OH—Get personal with dance in BalletMet Columbus' *NightMoves*, **Nov. 6-21**, in the intimate BalletMet Performance Space, 322 Mt. Vernon Ave., downtown Columbus. Presented in association with the Wexner Center for the Arts, this diverse collection features five premieres, plus a Company favorite. On the bill are works by choreographers Laurie Eisenhower and Michael Uthoff, and Columbus-based talents Gerard Charles, Maria Glimcher and Adam Hundt. Plus, BalletMet brings back to the stage *Sinatra Suite*, by the award-winning Twyla Tharp. *NightMoves* offers a broad musical array of classical, jazz and electronic, from Mozart to Sinatra to The Chemical Brothers. Whimsy, drama, humor and romance, all in one show.

On the program:

- Gerard Charles' *Maestro*, set to Britten's *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*.
- *Night Music*, by Laurie Eisenhower, set to Mozart's *Eine kleine Nachtmusik*.
- Maria Glimcher's dramatic *Relevant*, set to *Requiem for a Dream* by Clint Mansell.
- Adam Hundt's new mixed media work *dwell*, set to music by The Chemical Brothers.
- Michael Uthoff's romantic *in g major*, set to the music of Ravel.
- Twyla Tharp's *Sinatra Suite*, set to songs sung by Frank Sinatra.

"We are thrilled to offer this eclectic collection in our own performance space," said BalletMet Artistic Director Gerard Charles. "This is an opportunity to experience works from six exceptional choreographers, each with a unique voice and choreographic point-of-view."

***Maestro*, Gerard Charles** (*Company premiere*)

Created in 1985 for Milwaukee Ballet when Gerard Charles was a dancer with the company, the whimsical *Maestro* has been updated for BalletMet's versatile dancers. As with the music, (Britten's *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*), the dancers are divided into four sections. Though the costumes are inspired by the instruments of the orchestra, the dancers each have their own personalities and differing relations to the main figure, the Maestro.

Charles was named Artistic Director of BalletMet in 2001, having served as Interim Artistic Director and Associate Artistic Director for the previous three seasons. Charles was born in Folkestone, England, and trained at the Royal Ballet School in London. He danced professionally for Ballet International in London, Milwaukee Ballet and BalletMet. Upon retiring from the stage, he served as Ballet Master for BalletMet and Les Grands Ballets Canadiens. Charles has choreographed and staged works internationally and received an NEA Choreography Fellowship. His works for BalletMet have included *Alice in Wonderland*, *The Nutcracker* and *Cinderella*.

***Night Music*, Laurie Eisenhower** (*Company premiere*)

Created in 2004, *Night Music* is a clever look at sleep and makes its debut in the repertory of BalletMet in *NightMoves*. Inspired by Mozart's *Eine kleine Nachtmusik* (*A Little Night Music*), Laurie Eisenhower choreographed the contemporary movement in contrast to the classical music.

--more--

Eisenhower earned an MFA from Arizona State University. She danced with companies and choreographers including Pilobolus, David Parsons, Chen and Dancers and Mel Wong and was artistic director of Harbinger Dance Company. In 1991, she formed the Eisenhower Dance Ensemble, Michigan's premiere dance company. Eisenhower has received Creative Artists grants from state arts foundations, the Michigan Dance Association Choreographers Festival Award, and the Women in Art Award. She earned the 2003 Outstanding Michigan Artist Award.

Relevant, Maria Glimcher (*World premiere*)

Set to *Requiem for a Dream* by Clint Mansell, *Relevant* is about being captured in the moment and experiencing true existence within that moment. The music led choreographer Maria Glimcher to the concept of time, how people are affected by and related to it. Danced by four women, the essence of the piece is to reach a place of peace. Fabric plays a significant role in *Relevant* and represents the architecture of time.

Glimcher teaches at The Ohio State University, Otterbein College, and BalletMet Dance Academy. Born in Baku, Azerbaijan, Glimcher earned a BFA from the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. She danced with Syncopated Inc, Dayton Contemporary Dance Company, Ballet Hispanico and Columbus Dance Theatre. In addition to working with such choreographers as Dwight Rhoden and Ron Brown, Glimcher has choreographed for Dayton Contemporary Dance Company II, Otterbein College, Columbus Dance Theatre and BalletMet Columbus.

dwell, Adam Hundt (*World premiere*)

Adam Hundt was influenced to create this new work by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's quote, "the best thing one can do when its raining is to let it rain." This emotionally-driven mixed media work includes video imaging and audience participation. The contemporary piece's score draws from the electronic music of The Chemical Brothers.

Hundt, in his sixth season with BalletMet, has danced with Ballet Pacifica, American Repertory Ballet, Hubbard Street 2 and the Dominic Walsh Dance Theater. He has choreographed for BalletMet, Ballet Pacifica and DanceWorks Chicago. He received a fellowship in 2006 from the Greater Columbus Arts Council's Choreography Project and a Fellowship Initiative grant in 2007 from the New York Choreographic Institute, an affiliate of the New York City Ballet.

in g major, Michael Uthoff (*Company premiere*)

Choreographed in 1996 while Michael Uthoff was artistic director of Ballet Arizona, this *pas de deux* (dance for two) was created as a gift to two company dancers about to get married. The romantic and personal dance portrait is set to the inviting music of Maurice Ravel.

Internationally renowned Uthoff became artistic and executive director of Dance St. Louis in 2006. In 1972, Uthoff established the Hartford Ballet and was the company's artistic director for 20 years. He led Ballet Arizona as artistic director from 1992 to 1999. He has served on the board of Dance/USA and National Endowment for the Arts panels. Uthoff's career includes works for such companies as the Shanghai Ballet of China, the Ballet Estable of the Teatro Colon in Argentina and Michael Uthoff Dance Theatre. In 2007 Uthoff received the Chilean North American Institute's *Distinción Ernst Uthoff* award for his contributions to dance.

***Sinatra Suite*, Twyla Tharp**

This concentration on songs sung by Frank Sinatra follows Tharp's previous *Nine Sinatra Songs*. Tharp fashioned a single-couple showcase with its own emotion and distinction. Each of the five songs selected had been previously choreographed, however she honed in on a different emotional portrait. The songs reveal facets of the same twosome, rather than characterizing different couples. In Tharp's view, the dancing runs the gamut of showing infatuation, through cynicism and resignation, and to revealing the difficulties and abrasiveness that might follow.

In 1965, Tharp formed Twyla Tharp Dance and has created over 125 works to date. She has also choreographed for American Ballet Theatre, Paris Opera Ballet, The Royal Ballet, New York City Ballet, Boston Ballet, The Joffrey Ballet, Hubbard Street Dance and Martha Graham Company. Tharp's Broadway credits include *When We Were Very Young*, *The Catherine Wheel*, *Singin' In The Rain* and *Movin' Out*. She collaborated in film on *Hair*, *Ragtime*, *Amadeus*, *White Nights* and *I'll Do Anything*. Tharp is the author of two books: *Push Comes to Shove* and *The Creative Habit: Learn It And Use It For Life*.

PERFORMANCES AND TICKETS

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Nov. 6 • 8pm	Nov. 7 • 8pm	
Nov. 13 • 8pm	Nov. 14 • 8pm	Nov. 15 • 2pm & 7pm
Nov. 20 • 8pm	Nov. 21 • 8pm	

General admission tickets are \$35 and can be purchased through CAPA (614.469.0939), Ticketmaster (800.982.2787, ticketmaster.com) or balletmet.org. Group discounts available through BalletMet (614.586.8665). College students with ID can purchase \$15 Student Rush tickets at the theater up to two hours prior to show. Students 13 to 18 can purchase \$5 High Five vouchers at Kroger Ticketmaster locations.

FREE OPEN REHEARSALS Oct. 28 and Oct. 30, 12-1pm, BalletMet Performance Space
Bring lunch and watch the dancers rehearsing a new work with a *NightMoves* choreographer.

POST-PERFORMANCE TALKS Nov. 15 and 20, BalletMet Performance Space
NightMoves choreographers and dancers discuss the process of creating new work.

SPONSOR SUPPORT: BalletMet Columbus receives support for its annual performance season from The Columbus Foundation, the Greater Columbus Arts Council, the Ohio Arts Council, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Classical 89.7 WOSU-FM and Time Warner Cable. Season partner is OSU Medical Center Sports Medicine. *NightMoves* is presented in association with the Wexner Center for the Arts; media partners are *alive!* and WCBE.

ABOUT BALLETMET COLUMBUS: BalletMet Columbus, renowned for its versatility and innovative repertory, ranks among the nation's largest dance companies, and its Dance Academy ranks among the largest professional dance-training centers. Since its inception in 1978, BalletMet has added 147 company premieres to its repertoire and produced 122 world premieres. It has also developed DanceReach, a series of educational and outreach programs that serve 20,000 people annually, as well as a scholarship program that provides tuition for youth.

FOR HIGH RESOLUTION PHOTOS: Visit http://www.balletmet.org/press_photos.php.