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**NEXTCOME DANCE 16-17 SEASON AT THE PRINCE THEATER
FEATURES PHILADELPHIA DEBUTS
WORLD PREMIERES AND MASTERPIECES
OCTOBER 13, 2016 THROUGH MAY 7, 2017**

(Philadelphia, PA) NextMove Dance, formerly known as Dance Affiliates, Philadelphia's leading presenter of world-class dance, announces its 2016-17 season at the Prince Theater, 1412 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA.

"Our second season at the Prince Theater offers eight stylistically-diverse companies and expands our tradition of community outreach activities," said Randy Swartz, Artistic Director. "We are very excited about next season as we host old friends bringing new work, and new companies making their Philadelphia debuts. We are also thrilled to bring the finest in American dance with companies like Martha Graham, featuring her masterpiece *Appalachian Spring* with original music composed by Aaron Copeland."

NextMove Dance will present compelling works such as Jessica Lang Dance's *Thousand Yard Stare*, a moving tribute to war veterans and Aspen Santa Fe Ballet's *Silent Ghost* by Spanish-born choreographer Alejandro Cerrudo. Fusing hip-hop and ballet into a new style, RUBBERBANDance Group brings a stunning interpretation of Prokofiev's "Dance of the Knights" from *Romeo and Juliet*.

NextMove Dance will also host the world premiere of a new Parsons Dance work produced in conjunction with Drexel University's technically-driven, cross-disciplinary ExCITe Center that integrates the dance company with robotics in performance. This will be a show stopping experience for both dance devotees and tech enthusiasts.

Cuba's renowned Malpaso Dance Company makes its Philadelphia debut with a new work by American Aszure Barton. Other companies in the line-up include Doug Varone and Dancers and Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo.

Performances will take place at the Prince Theater, 1412 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA. Season subscriptions are available online at www.princetheater.org/next-move, phone 215-422-4580 or at the Prince Theater Box Office or by calling Dance Affiliates 215-636-9000 ext. 109 for more information. Single tickets will go on sale in September. Each company will offer six performances on Wednesday and Thursday at 7:30pm; Friday at 8pm; Saturday at 2pm and 8pm; and Sunday at 3pm. RUBBERBANDance Group and Martha Graham Dance Company will open on Thursday with an two Sunday performances at 2:30pm and 7:30pm. NextMove companies will be conducting low-cost or free residency activities including a Student Discovery Program for schools and a master class for the dance community, as well as pre and post-performance chats for audience members.

RUBBERBANDance Group (October 13 – 16, 2016)

The cutting-edge energy of hip-hop, meshed with the beauty and discipline of ballet, creates a new and exciting style. Under the choreographic direction of Victor Quijada, himself a master of both forms, this Montréal company presents a “best of” program called *Vic’s Mix*, a compilation of works that explores a variety of musical styles including the stunning interpretation of Prokofiev’s “Dance of the Knights” from *Romeo and Juliet*.

Martha Graham Dance Company (November 3 – 6, 2016)

This legendary company performs Graham’s masterpiece *Appalachian Spring* with commissioned music by Aaron Copland that earned him a Pulitzer Prize and set design by Isamu Noguchi. The program also features *Lamentation Variations*, which was built on Graham’s 1930 groundbreaking solo on grief. This work was conceived in 2007 to commemorate the anniversary of 9/11 and consists of contemporary interpretations by some of today’s outstanding choreographers.

Parsons Dance (December 7 – 11, 2016)

An audience favorite returns with new work and a world premiere commissioned in part by NextMove Dance. Come fly with us as Parsons integrates robotics and dancers in a work being developed in conjunction with ExCITE Center at Drexel University. The program also includes *Swing Shift* (2003 and the Philadelphia premiere of *Finding Center* (2015), both choreographed by David Parsons.

Doug Varone and Dancers (January 18 – 22, 2017)

Known for its extraordinary humanistic, versatile and virtuoso works, Doug Varone and Dancers is celebrating its 30th anniversary. A much sought after director-choreographer, Varone’s work for opera, theatre, dance, film and fashion has appeared on stages worldwide earning him a Guggenheim Fellowship, an OBIE Award, and three Doris Duke Awards. The company will bring the Philadelphia premiere of *ReComposed* (2015) inspired by Joan Mitchell’s drawings and a restaging of Varone’s poignant and powerful *Possession* (1994).

Malpaso Dance Company (February 15 – 19, 2017)

Cuba is known for producing world-class dancers who can do anything from contemporary to classical to capoeira to Afro–Cuban. Malpaso will not disappoint when it makes its Philadelphia debut. The company will be premiering a brand new work by Aszure Barton, whose company was a big hit in Philadelphia a few years ago as well as *24 Hours and a Dog* (2014), a response to Grammy-award winning jazz composer Arturo O’Farrill’s theatrical score choreographed by Osnel Delgado in collaboration with the dancers.

Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo (March 8 – 12, 2017)

For a night of uproarious fun, lots of laughter and great send-ups of classical ballet, no one can top the Trocks. These men in tutus and pointe shoes can dance and have amazing technique. Of course it all depends if their diva prima ballerina consents to perform its hilarious *Dying Swan* solo. The program also includes *Swan Lake Act 11*, excerpts from *Don Quixote* plus a tongue-in-cheek duet.

Jessica Lang Dance (April 5 – 9, 2017)

A superstar on the rise two years ago when Dance Affiliates first presented her, Jessica Lang, a Philly native has garnered international recognition for her recent commissions from The Kennedy Center and the Brooklyn Academy of Music and for her emotionally-driven and astoundingly-beautiful works. The program features all new work including *Thousand Yard Stare*, a physically-riveting tribute to veterans set to Beethoven's *String Quartet* and a new work inspired by the colorful and visceral artwork of Georgia O'Keeffe.

Aspen Santa Fe Ballet (May 3 – 7, 2017)

This gem of a contemporary ballet company is known for commissioning top-notch choreographers such as Jiri Kylian, Moses Pendleton, Jorma Elo, Nicole Fonte, and Trey McIntyre to create accessible yet sophisticated work. ASFB mixes American athleticism with European refinement in works performed by its virtuoso troupe. The program includes the Philadelphia premiere of *Silent Ghost* choreographed by Spanish-born choreographer, Alejandro Cerrudo.

Dance Affiliates/NextMove Dance

Artistic director Randy Swartz created the first Philadelphia dance series at the Walnut Street Theatre in 1970. In 1983, he moved the Dance Celebration series to Annenberg Center for a 32-year run and then brought it to the Prince Theater in 2015-16. Dance Affiliates, renamed NextMove Dance, has become known as one of the nation's finest dance presenters. Known internationally for award-winning presentations for more than three decades, Dance Affiliates/NextMove Dance provides a wealth of opportunities for the Delaware Valley community to interact with the artists through talk-backs, master classes, artistic collaborations, workshops, children's programs and much more.

Funding for the 2016/17 season of NextMove Dance is provided by the Friends of Dance, National Dance Project of the New England Foundation for the Arts, Philadelphia Cultural Fund, and the William Penn Foundation. State arts funding is received through a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. Visit www.danceaffiliates.org

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