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Hubbard Street Dance Chicago returns to the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago

May 2017 performance series marks the company's third danc(e)volve: New Works Festival

New repertoire and performance dates added to Season 39 subscription engagements in 2017

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CHICAGO – <u>Hubbard Street Dance Chicago</u> and Artistic Director Glenn Edgerton are excited to announce the main company's return to the <u>Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago</u> for *danc(e)volve: New Works Festival*, May 10–14, 2017 in the Edlis Neeson Theater, located at 220 East Chicago Avenue in Chicago. This marks the company's fourth appearance since 2012 on the MCA Stage; both previous *danc(e)volve* engagements as well as *Princess Grace Awards: New Works* have been dedicated to world premieres of contemporary dance, developed in collaboration with Hubbard Street's acclaimed ensemble, led by established and ascending choreographers. Extending this tradition, Season 39's *danc(e)volve* engagement next spring will include the latest creations by Chicago-based choreographers Julia Rhoads, founding artistic director of Lucky Plush Productions; three-time Princess Grace Award–winner <u>Robyn Mineko Williams</u>; and 2016 International Commissioning Project choreographer <u>Alice Klock</u>. Completing the program will be the mainstage debut of *Berceuse* by 2016 Princess Grace Choreography Fellowship awardee <u>Penny Saunders</u>, originally developed through Hubbard Street's 2011 *Inside/Out Choreographic Workshop*, and set to excerpts from the opera *Jocelyn* (1888) by French composer Benjamin Louis Paul Godard.

Hubbard Street's third *danc(e)volve: New Works Festival* at the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago replaces the previously announced, two-performance Chicago Series at the Harris Theater for Music and Dance. All Season 39 subscribers are guaranteed seating at a *danc(e)volve: New Works Festival* performance; a limited number of single tickets will be available at a later date.

In addition, March 16–19, 2017 at the Harris Theater, the **Season 39 Spring Series** featuring global choreographer **Nacho Duato** now includes Hubbard Street repertoire by **Lucas Crandall** and **Crystal Pite**. One of the first dance companies in the U.S. to perform Duato's choreography, the company pays tribute to its two-decade relationship with the Spanish-born artist by reviving his plaintive, pastoral *Jardí Tancat* (1983), for three couples and set to Catalan music recorded by vocalist María del Mar Bonet i Verdaguer; and a duet from *Multiplicity. Forms of Silence and Emptiness* (1999), Duato's two-act tribute to the composer J. S. Bach. Completing the Spring Series program are Crandall's full-company work *Imprint* (2016), with improvised live percussion by Hubbard Street Dancer David Schultz; and Pite's Solo Echo (2012), to music by Johannes Brahms.

Season 39 at Hubbard Street, as previously announced, begins with the **Fall Series**, November 17–20, 2016 at the Harris Theater, with **Alejandro Cerrudo**'s 15th original work as the company's Resident Choreographer, alongside Hubbard Street's debut in choreography by 2013 Guggenheim Fellow **Brian Brooks**, founding artistic director of <u>Brian Brooks Moving Company</u>. Hubbard Street's world premiere by Brian Brooks is commissioned by the Harris Theater and is made possible by the Jay Franke and David Herro Choreographer in Residence Fund through the *Imagine* campaign. Completing the Fall Series program, Hubbard Street presents two contrasting ensemble works by Czech-born, Holland-based dancemaker Jiří Kylián: Sarabande (1990) and Falling Angels (1989). **Single tickets for the Season 39 Fall Series start at \$30 and will be available beginning September 7 at 10am**, online at hubbardstreetdance.com/fall or by phone at 312-850-9744.

June 8–11, 2017 at the Harris Theater, the Season 39 **Summer Series** kicks off a full year in celebration of the company's 40th anniversary season. The Summer Series combines audience favorites representing all four decades of the company's history, including **Founding Artistic Director Lou Conte**'s full-company *The 40s*, Hubbard Street's longtime signature work; Conte's beloved duet *Georgia*, originally premiered in 1987 as part of the triptych "Rose from the Blues"; **Twyla Tharp**'s *The Golden Section*, premiered on Broadway in 1981, and debuted by Hubbard Street in the Netherlands in 1991; the full-company work *One Flat Thing, reproduced* by **William Forsythe** and solo *A Picture of You Falling* by **Crystal Pite**; and excerpts including scenes from *Palladio* (2007) by former Hubbard Street Artistic Director **Jim Vincent**, and *One Thousand Pieces* (2012), the company's first evening-length production, created by **Resident Choreographer Alejandro Cerrudo** in response to Marc Chagall's *America Windows* at the Art Institute of Chicago.

Season 2016–17 subscriptions are \$90–\$306 and on sale now at the Hubbard Street Ticket Office, by phone at 312-850-9744 or online at <u>hubbardstreetdance.com/subscribe</u>. Thursday performances begin at 7:30pm, Friday and Saturday performances begin at 8pm, and Sunday matinée performances begin at 3pm. **Single tickets** for the Spring Series, Summer Series and *danc(e)volve: New Works Festival*, as well as **Ticket Trio** subscriptions for all three Season 39 engagements in 2017, will be available at later dates. All programming is subject to change.

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago extends special thanks to its Season 39 Sponsors Athletico, Official Provider of Physical Therapy; and Chicago Athletic Clubs, Official Health Club. Bill and Orli Staley are the Leading Supporters of New Choreography Development. Season 39 at Hubbard Street is supported by the Sandra and Jack Guthman Fund through the *Imagine* campaign at the Harris Theater. The 2017 revival of *The 40*s is sponsored by Charles Gardner and Patti Eylar. The World Premiere by Alejandro Cerrudo is sponsored by Marc Miller and Chris Horsman, and Richard and Barbara Silverman. *One Thousand Pieces* was created with funds from the Prince Prize for Commissioning Original Work, which was awarded to Alejandro Cerrudo and Hubbard Street Dance Chicago in 2012.

About Hubbard Street's International Commissioning Project

As part of Hubbard Street's mission to identify and nurture young choreographers, it initiated a National Choreographic Competition in 1999, renamed the International Commissioning Project for its 15th anniversary in 2014. Each year, the IC Project provides residencies to choreographers, offering each of them the opportunity to create an original work and to conduct master classes. The IC Project has gained an esteemed reputation and international recognition, producing 45 works to date by notable choreographers including Bryan Arias, Robert Battle, Aszure Barton, Camille A. Brown, Gregory Dolbashian, Shannon Gillen, Alex Ketley, Gabrielle Lamb, Edwaard Liang, Andrea Miller, Ihsan Rustem, Katarzyna Skarpetowska, Samar Haddad King, Dominic Walsh, Yin Yue and Edgar Zendejas.

About Julia Rhoads

Julia Rhoads is the founding artistic director of Lucky Plush Productions, for which she has created more than 25 original works, several of which have toured extensively throughout the U.S., and has received competitive creation, residency, and touring grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Dance Project, and the National Performance Network. Additional choreography credits include Lookingglass Theatre Company's The Great Fire, Walkabout Theater Company's Mama: A Play for Voices, Redmoon Theater's Project Y, and Oasis and Between Three for River North Dance Chicago, among others. Rhoads is the recipient of the 2013 Alpert Award in Dance, a fellowship from the Maggie Allesee National Center for Choreography, a Chicago Dancemakers Forum Lab Artist Award, the Cliff Dwellers Arts Foundation's Choreography Award, two Illinois Arts Council choreography fellowships, a Jacob K. Javits fellowship for graduate studies, and a 2014 Fractured Atlas Arts Entrepreneurship Award for spearheading Creative Partners, an innovative nonprofit financial model shared by Lucky Plush Productions, eighth blackbird, and Blair Thomas & Company. Rhoads is a former member of San Francisco Ballet and ensemble member of XSIGHT! Performance Group. She received her BA in History from Northwestern University, her MFA in Performance from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and she has taught in the dance and theater programs of several Chicago-area colleges and universities. She is currently a lecturer and dance advisor at the University of Chicago's Department of Theater and Performance Studies. Visit luckyplush.com to learn more.

About Penny Saunders

Penny Saunders graduated from the Harid Conservatory in 1995, then began her professional career with the American Repertory Ballet under the direction of Septime Webre. She went on to join Ballet Arizona and MOMIX, was a founding member of Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet (then Cedar Lake Ensemble), and joined Hubbard Street's main company in 2004. She was selected as a guest choreographer for Hubbard Street 2 through its International Commissioning Project in 2011, advancing her creative career which now includes works for both of Hubbard Street's ensembles, Neos Dance Theatre, the Nexus Project, Owen/Cox Dance Group, SFDanceworks and Whim W'Him. In 2015 Saunders returned to Hubbard Street's main company, is honored to be choreographer in residence at Grand Rapids Ballet with support from the New York Choreographic Institute's Commissions Initiative, and she is the recipient of a 2016 Choreography Fellowship from the Princess Grace Foundation–USA.

About Robyn Mineko Williams

Robyn Mineko Williams began her career at River North Dance Chicago, followed by twelve seasons as a member of Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, during which she performed choreography by renowned artists including Ohad Naharin, Jiří Kylián, William Forsythe and Johan Inger, and originated roles in new works by Jorma Elo, Sharon Eyal, Twyla Tharp and Lar Lubovitch, among others. She began making her own work in 2001 through Hubbard Street's Inside/Out Choreographic Workshop and, in 2010, co-choreographed with Terence Marling Hubbard Street 2's Harold and the Purple Crayon: A Dance Adventure, designed for young audiences. She has since created multiple premieres for Hubbard Street's main company including scenes in its collaboration with The Second City, The Art of Falling, and has made work for Atlanta Ballet, Grand Rapids Ballet, Visceral Dance Chicago and The Nexus Project, presented at the Kennedy Center, the American Dance Festival, the Joyce Theater and other venues. Named one of Dance Magazine's "25 to Watch" for 2014, Williams was one of Northwest Dance Project's 2012 International Choreography Competition winners, received a 2013 Princess Grace Choreographic Fellowship, and was selected as an E-choreographer for Springboard Danse Montréal the same year. In 2015 she completed a Princess Grace Foundation-USA Works In Progress Residency at the Baryshnikov Arts Center, and recently received a Choreography Mentorship Co-Commission Award from the Princess Grace Foundation-USA in support of Hubbard Street 2 + Manual Cinema's Mariko's Magical Mix: A Dance

Adventure. In 2016, Williams was named among *Newcity*'s Players 50 list of local leaders in the performing arts. Visit robynminekowilliams.com to learn more.

About Alice Klock

A native of Whidbey Island, Washington, Alice Klock began dancing at age 11. She trained at Interlochen Arts Academy from 2003–07, and in Alonzo King LINES Ballet and Dominican University of California's joint BFA program from 2007–09, in addition to dance studies at Canada's National Ballet School, Miami City Ballet School, San Francisco Ballet School, the San Francisco Conservatory of Dance and Springboard Danse Montréal. Klock joined Hubbard Street 2 in September 2009 and was promoted to the main company in September 2011, originating roles in works by choreographers including Kyle Abraham, Alejandro Cerrudo, Andrea Miller and Robyn Mineko Williams, and performing repertoire by artists such as Nacho Duato, Mats Ek, Sharon Eyal, William Forsythe and Jiří Kylián. Multiple works created by Klock through Hubbard Street's annual *Inside/Out Choreographic Workshop* include men's duets *Raphael and Everest Have an Adventure* and *A Winter's Tale; ...and other stories of imperfection* and *Days of Decipherment*, both to music by Clint Mansell; and a collection of vignettes set to fight songs from World War I, inspired in part by 1939 military adventure film *Gunga Din*, advertisements for "Victory Girls," and Liberty Bonds. An accomplished visual artist, Klock creates original works in watercolor and mixed media. Visit klockonian.tumblr.com to learn more.

About Hubbard Street

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago's core purpose is to bring artists, art and audiences together to enrich, engage, educate, transform and change lives through the experience of dance. Celebrating Season 39 in 2016–17, under the artistic leadership of Glenn Edgerton, Hubbard Street continues to innovate, supporting ascendant creative talent while presenting repertory by internationally recognized living artists. Hubbard Street has grown through the establishment of multiple platforms alongside the Lou Conte Dance Studio — now in its fifth decade of providing a wide range of public classes and pre-professional training — while extensive Youth, Education, Community, Adaptive Dance and Family Programs keep the organization deeply connected to its hometown. Visit hubbardstreetdance.com for artist profiles, touring schedules and much more.

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago

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