



Hubbard Street Dance Chicago Devotes Spring Series to Work by Resident Choreographer Alejandro Cerrudo

March 23-24 Co-Presentation with Auditorium Theatre Marks First
Return to the Venue in 20 years

For immediate release: January 22, 2018

Media contact • Francesca Kielb/Alyssa Larkin/Nick Harkin, Carol Fox and Associates, 773.327.3839 • francescak@carolfoxassociates.com • nickh@carolfoxassociates.com • nickh@carolfoxassociates.

CHICAGO – This spring, <u>Hubbard Street Dance Chicago</u> will return to the <u>Auditorium Theatre's</u> historic stage (50 E. Congress, Chicago) for the first performance in 20 years. This special two-night engagement, co-presented with the Auditorium Theatre, is devoted entirely to work by Hubbard Street's beloved and critically acclaimed Resident Choreographer Alejandro Cerrudo. The program weaves together both audience favorites from his past ten years choreographing for the company as well as an exciting world premiere created specifically with the grandeur of the Auditorium in mind. The performances will take place at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, March 23 and Saturday, March 24 at the <u>Auditorium Theatre</u>. Tickets for the engagement, priced from \$29 -\$110, are on sale now.

"During our 40th anniversary season I wanted to highlight and celebrate the talent and longevity of Alejandro's achievements as a choreographer during his ten years as resident choreographer," said Artistic Director **Glenn Edgerton**. "The return to the Auditorium seemed an ideal occasion to showcase Alejandro's work, an artist who has helped shape the aesthetic of the company for a decade."

"We are thrilled to welcome back Hubbard Street Dance Chicago to the Auditorium after too-long of an absence," said Auditorium Theatre CEO **Tania Castroverde Moskalenko**. "This company epitomizes the highest level of dance not only here in Chicago but nationally and internationally. We are excited to add them this year to our popular 'Made in Chicago' Series with a full evening of Alejandro Cerrudo's work, which I have admired for many years."

The program features works that span Cerrudo's career as a choreographer including selections from the sensual *Lickety-Split*, thematic *Off Screen*, celebrated *Silent Ghost*, and a brand-new world premiere.

"The evening will encapsulate the progression of my choreography throughout my career, starting with early pieces like *Lickety-Split* and *Off Screen* and concluding with the Chicago premiere of *Silent Ghost*, as well as a world premiere," remarked **Alejandro Cerrudo**. "The evening will balance both works that have not been performed by the company in many years with an exciting new piece that seeks to push the boundaries of the stage for Hubbard Street's return to the Auditorium Theatre."

About the Works in Hubbard Street's March Performances

Lickety-Split

Originally performed in 2006 at the Harris Theater as part of the Inside/Out Choreographic Workshop, this is the first piece Cerrudo choreographed for Hubbard Street's main company. *Lickety-Split* combines a sensual and fluid movement with playful gestures. Danced by three couples enveloped in the unpredictable layers of love, *Lickety-Split* is a contemporary work performed to the sounds of renowned Bay Area songwriter **Devendra Banhart**. It is a showcase for the multifaceted talent of the company's artists. The piece features lighting design by Hyan J. O'Gara and costume design by Rebecca Shouse.

"Not only has Cerrudo devised a complete, self-contained, highly original, slinky-meets-sensual language of dance and gesture for his rapid-fire work," wrote Hedy Weiss for Chicago Sun-Times, "but he has demonstrated an unusually sophisticated sense of patterning in his deployment of its three couples."

Off Screen

This piece premiered in April of 2009, and was Cerrudo's third work created for Hubbard Street. Staged for seven dancers, this piece features costume design by Branimira Ivanova and lighting design by Nicholas Philips. The music is comprised of 16 passages from a variety of movie scores.

"Off Screen is a testament to his [Alejandro Cerrudo's] deliciously wiggly aesthetic," wrote William Scott for Newcity. "But more important, it is a testament to his ability to make us laugh."

Silent Ghost

This piece originally premiered in July of 2015 at the Aspen Santa Fe Ballet with original music by Dustin Hamman, King Creosote & John Hopkins, Ólafur Arnalds and Nils Frahm. This engagement will mark its Chicago premiere.

"Spanish choreographer Alejandro Cerrudo's *Silent Ghost* is the indie love story," wrote Christina Campodonico for the Los Angeles Times. "Sad, somber and set to the strains of angsty-alternative quitar, the piece is a melancholy meditation on love and loss."

World Premiere

The evening will culminate in the world premiere of a piece created specifically for this performance series, with the space of the Auditorium Theatre in mind.

Hubbard Street's Season 40 Spring Series is presented at the Auditorium Theatre (50 E. Congress Parkway) in Chicago, and the complete performance schedule is as follows:

- Friday March 23, 2018 at 7:30pm
- Saturday March 24, 2018 at 7:30pm

Free Balcony Talks, available to all performance ticket-holders, begin one hour prior to the start of each performance.

Single tickets are priced at \$29 - \$110 and can be obtained online at hubbardstreetdance.com//
AuditoriumTheatre.org or by phone at 312-635-3799 / 312.341.2300. Discounted rates and add-on experiences are available for groups of 10 or more patrons; visit hubbardstreetdance.com/groups or call 312-850-9744 ext. 164 or 312.341.2357 for more information.

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago Spring Series Sponsors: Meg and Tim Callahan, Barbara and Richard Silverman, and Exelon.

Auditorium Theatre Engagement Sponsors: Joyce Chelberg and Patti Eylar & Charlie Gardner.

About Alejandro Cerrudo

Alejandro Cerrudo was born in Madrid, Spain and trained at the Real Conservatorio Profesional de Danza de Madrid. His professional career began in 1998 and includes work with Victor Ullate Ballet, Stuttgart Ballet and Nederlands Dans Theater 2. Cerrudo joined Hubbard Street Dance Chicago in 2005, was named Choreographic Fellow in 2008 and became the company's first Resident Choreographer in 2009. Fifteen works choreographed to date for Hubbard Street include collaborations with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Nederlands Dans Theater. These pieces and additional commissions are in the repertory at companies around the U.S. as well as in Australia, Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands; touring engagements have brought his work still further abroad, to audiences in Algeria, Canada, Morocco and Spain. In March 2012, Pacific Northwest Ballet invited Cerrudo to choreograph his first work for the company, Memory Glow, upon receiving the Joyce Theater Foundation's second Rudolf Nureyev Prize for New Dance. Additional honors include an award from the Boomerang Fund for Artists (2011), and a Prince Prize for Commissioning Original Work from the Prince Charitable Trusts (2012) for his acclaimed, first evening-length work, One Thousand Pieces. Cerrudo is one of four choreographers invited by New York City Ballet principal Wendy Whelan to create and perform original duets for Restless Creature, and he was recently announced the 2014 USA Donnelley Fellow by United States Artists.

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 40 in 2017–18, 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 preprofessional 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.

About Auditorium Theatre

The Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University, located at 50 E Congress Pkwy in Chicago, is an Illinois, not-for-profit organization committed to presenting the finest in international, cultural, community, and educational programming to all of Chicago and beyond as The Theatre for the People. The organization also is committed to the continued restoration and preservation of the National Historic Landmark.

The Auditorium Theatre 2017-18 Season is made possible in part with support from the **MacArthur Foundation**, the **Illinois Arts Council**, and the **Palmer House Hilton**. **Michigan Avenue** is the official magazine sponsor. For more information about programming, volunteer, and donor opportunities or theatre tours, call 312.341.2310 or visit <u>AuditoriumTheatre.org</u>. For a complete listing of events at the Auditorium Theatre, please click <u>here</u>.

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago

1147 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60607 • 312-850-9744 • <u>hubbardstreetdance.com</u>
<u>Facebook</u> • <u>Twitter</u> • <u>YouTube</u>
<u>Instagram</u> • <u>Pinterest</u> • <u>Spotify</u>

• • •