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Hubbard Street Dance Chicago Caps Season 40 with Ohad Naharin Program and Spotlight Ball at the Harris Theater

Season 40 Summer Series will Present Reimaginings of Two of Naharin's Most Celebrated Pieces, "Minus 16" and "Deca Dance"

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CHICAGO – <u>Hubbard Street Dance Chicago</u> and Artistic Director Glenn Edgerton are excited to present a program of the work of acclaimed Israeli choreographer **Ohad Naharin** for its Summer Series, June 7 – 10, 2018 at the <u>Harris Theater for Music and Dance in Millennium Park</u> (205 East Randolph Street). The renowned director of Batsheva Dance Company has been recognized worldwide for decades for the ineffable quality of his choreography, a composition of pure movement and theatrical elements that consistently catches the audience by surprise. Tickets for the engagement, priced \$25-\$110, are currently on sale.

The program will feature two of Ohad's best known works, reimagined for Hubbard Street's current company: *Minus* 16 and *Deca Dance*.

Minus 16 was first premiered in 1999 by the Nederlands Dans Theater and made its US debut performed by Hubbard Street in 2000, at which time it was described by the Chicago Tribune as "sensational." It features an eclectic score ranging from Dean Martin to mambo, techno and traditional Israeli music and offers a non-stop tour de force of wildly contrasting sequences, in both tempo and content, as well as audience participation and interviews with company dancers.

Deca Dance features excerpts from a number of Naharin's previous pieces and is recreated every 10 years. This version, which is a company premiere of the work and will become the sixth piece by Naharin in Hubbard Street Dance Chicago's repertoire, is expected to include elements from KYR (1990), Mabul (1992), Anaphase (1993), Zachacha (1998), Naharin's Virus (2001), Three (2005), George and Zalman (2006), Max (2007), Seder (2007) and Sadeh21 (2011). Describing Deca Dance, Naharin said "it was like I was telling only either the beginning, middle or ending of many stories, but when I organized it the result became as coherent as the original, if not more."

"Ohad Naharin's return to Chicago is the perfect conclusion to our fantastic 40th season, which featured the stellar work of some of the most innovative voices in contemporary dance," said Hubbard Street Dance Chicago Artistic Director **Glenn Edgerton**. "Minus 16 had its U.S. premiere with our company in 2000. Pairing a new version of this masterpiece with a company-specific version of *Deca Dance* will showcase both Ohad's tremendous creativity and the dancers' immense technique and talent."

The New York Times has described Naharin's signature style as "distinguished by stunningly flexible limbs and spines, deeply grounded movement, explosive bursts and a vitality that grabs a viewer by the collar."

About Ohad Naharin

Ohad Naharin was born in Israel and was raised in an artistic environment - his mother taught dance and composition, and his father was a doctor of Psychology and an actor. Naharin began his training as a dancer with Batsheva Dance Company and continued his studies at Julliard. He danced for one season in the Martha Graham Company and with Maurice Bejart. Between 1980 and 1990 Naharin was active in the New York dance scene and worked with various companies. Jirí Kylián of the Nederlands Dance Theater (NDT) saw Naharin's work, which began a long partnership between the two and NDT. In 1990 Naharin became Artistic Director of Batsheva Dance Company and created *KYR*, a full-length work commissioned by the Israel Festival, Jerusalem, for which he composed the music with Israeli rock group The Tractor's Revenge. *KYR* was a first landmark in the succession of pieces which gave birth to the "new" Batsheva – bold, sweeping, and physically sensual. Naharin's work is also in the repertoire of Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, The Cullberg Ballet, Lyon Opera Ballet, Frankfurt Ballet, Nederlands Dans Theater, Le Ballet du Grand Theatre de Geneve, Compania Nacional de Danzade Madrid, and Opèra National de Paris.

Hubbard Street's Season 40 Summer Series is at the Harris Theater for Music and Dance in Millennium Park, located at 205 East Randolph Street in Chicago, and the complete performance schedule is as follows:

Thursday June 7, 2018 at 7:30pm
 Friday June 8, 2018 at 8pm
 Saturday June 9, 2018 at 8pm
 Sunday June 10, 2018 at 3pm

Free Balcony Talks begin one hour prior to the start of each performance, and are free. No advance reservations are required.

Single tickets are priced at \$25-\$110 and can be obtained online at hubbardstreetdance.com or by phone at 312-635-3799. 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 for more information. Tickets can also be obtained at the Harris Theater box office.

The 40th Anniversary Spotlight Ball on June 6, 2018 will begin with a special performance of Hubbard Street's Summer Series at the Harris Theater at 6pm. The performance will be followed by a dinner and celebration at the Fairmont Chicago beginning at 7:30pm honoring Naharin. All proceeds go towards Hubbard Street's performances, education and community programming.

The Spotlight Ball Honorary Co-Chairs include Mikhail Baryshnikov, Mayor Rahm Emmanuel, and the Consulate General of Israel.

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 Harris Theater for Music and Dance

The Harris Theater, opened in 2003 in Chicago's Millennium Park, is the first multi-use performing arts venue to be built in the Chicago downtown area since 1929. The Theater hosts the most diverse offerings of any venue in Chicago, featuring the city's world-renowned music and dance institutions and the <u>Harris Theater</u> Presents series of acclaimed national and international artists and ensembles.

The Harris's mission is to make the arts relevant and accessible to audiences of all ages and communities, and through its partnerships with an array of Chicago's music and dance performing arts organizations, has earned national recognition as a distinctive model for collaboration, performance, and artistic advancement.

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago

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