

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Shannon Atlas, Publicist
650-269-0052
shannon_atlas@hotmail.com

THE 16TH ANNUAL WESTWAVE DANCE FESTIVAL RETURNS TO SAN FRANCISCO'S PROJECT ARTAUD THEATER JULY 19-29, 2007

Twenty-five choreographers present ALL WORLD PREMIERES

SAN FRANCISCO – May 30, 2007. **The WestWave Dance Festival** celebrates its **16th season** at **San Francisco's Project Artaud Theater July 19-29, 2007**. This year's Festival features **lighting design** by **Matthew Antaky**, a program line-up of **ALL WORLD PREMIERES** and **25 choreographers** including: **2007 Fullbright award recipient Mark Foehringer, Amy Seiwert, Nancy Karp, Lisa Townsend, Kate Weare, and Christopher K. Morgan**, among others. The 2007 Festival runs for two weeks.

In its 16 years, the Festival has showcased more than 500 choreographers producing new and emerging work. Bay Area dance critic Mary Ellen Hunt says of the (WestWave Dance Festival): "The WestWave Dance Festival has become one of the best places to see what the Bay Area's dance choreographers are up to in the long summer months between one season and the next."

WEEK ONE: 4x4 - - Thursday, July 19-Sunday, July 22 features four artists over the course of four nights (one artist per night)

Opening Night: Thursday, July 19, 8 pm: Bay Area native Kate Weare and her New York-based company, Kate Weare Company presents an evening of six dances engaged with the body's form of truth telling: our need for safety, our longing to connect, our desire to be seen and our irrepressible intelligence about who we are as individuals. Relationships create a framework for investigating contemporary themes of power, sexuality and emotional authenticity.

Burn, a solo for a man with three women watching, explores a desire to be seen behind the borders of masculinity. *Dig, Dirt & Foregone*, three short dances for women, explore the urgent need for safety within a driving quest for power. *Reign* is an unusual glance into the female psyche with a tribe of three bouncing, slapping and sparring through tests of honor and hierarchy. *Drop Down* (2006) is a duet in which lovers negotiate proximity, physical strength and erotic intensity. All six dances chart the surprising rhythms of human relations and celebrate the visceral pleasure of the body in motion.

Friday, July 20, 8 pm: Christopher K. Morgan, a New York-based choreographer and Artistic Director of Muse has been called by *The Washington Post* "hypnotizing... technically and artistically strong, simply excellent." **Christopher K. Morgan/Muse** will present four works including the premiere of *Elusive Lucidity*, a duet with music composed by Michael Gordon; an excerpt of the *Ties That Bind*; *The Measure of a Man* (2004), and a solo work.

Saturday, July 21, 8 pm: Berkeley native Monica Bill Barnes and her New York-based company Monica Bill Barnes & Company will present *Suddenly Summer Somewhere*. Deborah Jowitt of *The Village Voice* describes Barnes as "one of the wittiest young choreographers around--she can stir your heart as well as make you laugh."

Sunday, July 22, 8 pm: Smuin ballet dancer and San Francisco choreographer Amy Seiwert/im'ij-re will present an evening of four works including: *The Melting* (Smuin Ballet, 2005), *Monopoly* (American Repertory Ballet, 2001), a short pas entitled *Push* (2004), and a premiere performed to Kevin Volan's "White Man Sleeps."

WEEK TWO: Thursday, July 26-Sunday, July, 29 features four nights of four different dance forms including Ballet, World Forms, Dance Theater, and Modern Dance.

Thursday, July 26, 8 pm The WestWave Dance Festival opens week two of the Festival with a **Ballet program** featuring **five world premieres** including: *Rogue Conviviality* by **Martt Lawrence** with music by pianist **Monica Paqual** and costumes by **Lisa Claybaugh**; a new work by **2007 Fullbright award recipient Mark Foehringer** and collaborator/composer **Jack Perla**; *Episodes of . . .* by **Viktor Kabaniaev** with live music by **Nicolas Van Krijdt**; *Beneath Your Sheltering Hand* by **Christopher Burns** (co-founder and Associate Director of the Foundry) in collaboration with video artist **Anthony Discenza**; and *Digression* by **Alex Ketley** in collaboration with **Les Stuck of SF Conservatory of Dance**.

Friday, July 27, 8 pm features a **World Forms** program (contemporary choreography based in traditional or classical dance forms) with **five world premieres** including: **Paco Gomes & Dancers** with set design by **Chimene Pollard**; *We*, a butoh dance by **Christina Braun** with music by **Jason Ditzian**; *Fire Diary* by **Samantha Giron** of **Samantha Giron Dance Project**; a duet entitled *Aine* by **Kerry Parker**, and *Object* by choreographer **Lisa Parra** in collaboration with set designer **Julia Nitsberg**.

Saturday, July 28, 8 pm features a **Dance Theater** program with **five world premieres** including: *Corps de Co* by **Brittany Brown Ceres** in collaboration with choreographer and videographer, **Austin Forbord**; *Collateral Mind-Sets* by performance artist, filmmaker and choreographer **Catherine Galasso** in collaboration with San Francisco videographer **Bryan Boyce**; *Are You Emotionally Involved* by **Kerry Mehling** of **Talismanic Physical Theatre** and music by **Paul**

Mehling; Randee Paufve/Paufve Dance; and *Odd Times* by Lisa Townsend and music by composer Piro Patton.

Sunday, July 29, 8 pm features a **Modern Dance** program with **five world premieres** including: *Dancing to Disability* by **Marina Fukushima in collaboration with composer Daniel Berkman**; *Cross Talk* by **Nancy Karp with live music by pianist Marja Mutru**; *Side Seeing* by **Eric Lorico and John Medina of Dance Paradigm in collaboration with artist Jon Rajkovich**; *Birds, Bees and Other Metaphors* by **Stacey Printz of Printz Dance Project in collaboration with composer Matthew Kratz**; and a new piece by **Ryan Smith and Wendy Rein of RAWdance.**

Performance Information

Tickets for all performances are \$20 General Admission; \$18 for Students/Seniors; UniformSeriesPass: 4x\$16=\$64; 4x4 SeriesPass: 4x\$16=\$64; and 2007 Festival Pass: 8x\$15=\$120. **Tickets go on sale June 1** and may be purchased via phone at 415-863-9834 or online at www.odctheater.org. All performances are at Project Artaud Theater, 450 Florida Street between 17th & Mariposa Streets, in the Mission District of San Francisco.

About WestWave Dance Festival

WestWave Dance Festival is a dance festival presented in a shared program format in San Francisco each July. The Festival's mission is to provide veteran and newly-established choreographers of all cultures and disciplines, in and beyond the Bay Area, an opportunity to present their work in a professional venue in order to experiment, develop, and refine their repertoires, and to build audiences without the burden of self-producing.

WestWave Dance Festival, 2007 is a project of DanceArt, Inc. www.danceartsf.org. DanceArt, Inc. 2006-2007 programs are funded in part by San Francisco Grants for the Arts/Hotel Tax Fund, San Francisco Arts Commission, National Endowment for the Arts, Zellerbach Family Foundation, The Wallace Alexander Gerbode Foundation, The Phyllis C. Wattis Foundation, and The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation.

###