

**Media Advisory: May 15, 2009**

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**WESTWAVE DANCE FESTIVAL CELEBRATES 18<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
SEASON OF CONTEMPORARY CHOREOGRAPHY AND DANCE  
FILM**

*Bay Area choreographers Patrick Makuakane, Amy Seiwert, Benjamin Levy, Katie Faulkner, Manuelito Biag, and Kim Epifano present one night show*

**WHO:** **WestWave Dance Festival**, a choreography festival presented in a shared-program format in San Francisco each July

**WHAT:** The 18<sup>th</sup> annual summer festival of contemporary choreography and dance film featuring the work of leading Bay Area choreographers including:

**Patrick Makuakane:** Director Kumu Hula and winner of a lifetime achievement award from the San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival (2006) to present a world premiere.

**Amy Seiwert:** Smuin Ballet Choreographer in Residence and director of im'ij're, a contemporary ballet company in San Francisco. Named one of 25 to watch by *Dance Magazine* (2005).

**Benjamin Levy:** Artistic Director of LEVYdance and its home studio, Studio Gracia has been awarded the honors of "Top 25 Choreographers to Watch" by *Dance Magazine*, and a Goldie Award by the *San Francisco Bay Guardian*.

**Katie Faulkner:** Founder of *little seismic dance company*, ODC Theater Artist-in-Resident and winner of an Isadora Duncan award for dance film.

**Manuelito Biag:** Artistic Director of SHIFT>>> Physical Theater. Mr. Biag is collaborating with Bay Area dancer-choreographers Kara Davis and Alex Ketley for WestWave. He was also named one of the "Top 25 Choreographers to Watch" by *Dance Magazine* in 2009.

**Kim Epifano:** Founder of Epiphany Productions Sonic Dance Theater, recipient of several Isadora Duncan Dance Awards and nominations. Ms.

Epifano's most recent international collaborations have been in Ethiopia, China, India, and Ireland. Collaborating artists will be musician Stephen Kent and Aerial Design Artist Richard Kittle.

**WHEN:**        **One night only – Sunday, July 12, 8 pm**

**WHERE:**       Cowell Theater, Marina Boulevard and Buchanan Street

**TICKETS:**    \$20 General Admission --- in advance  
                  \$25 General Admission --- at the door  
                  \$20 General Admission at the door with donation to Food Bank  
                  \$18 Students and Seniors --- in advance and at the door  
                  Contact Cowell Theater box office: 415-345-7575 or website:  
                  www.westwavedancefestival.org

**About WestWave Dance Festival**

WestWave Dance Festival is a choreography 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 is a project of DanceArt, Inc. [www.danceartsf.org](http://www.danceartsf.org). DanceArt, Inc. programs have been funded in part by Grants for the Arts / San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund, San Francisco Arts Commission, National Endowment for the Arts, The Zellerbach Family Foundation, The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, The Wallace Alexander Gerbode Foundation, The Phyllis C. Wattis Foundation, and the ODC Theater Shotgun Residency Program.

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