



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Dallas Black Dance Theatre's *Encore!* Rising Excellence Series

Features Japanese Choreographer Takehiro Ueyama

Dallas, TX - **Dallas Black Dance Theatre's** Rising Excellence Series features the debut of *In the Sea of Heaven*, by Japanese choreographer, **Takehiro "Take" Ueyama**. Inspired by the 2011 earthquake and tsunami that devastated Japan as well as the 2017 hurricanes, Ueyama describes the dance as a fairytale that pays tribute to the victims who are transformed into angels. **DBDT: *Encore!*** performs the powerful work April 6-7, 2018, 7:30 p.m., at the Moody Performance Hall, located in the Dallas Arts District. Texas Ballet Theater Professional Division will perform a world premiere as special guest artist in the series. **Macy's** is the presenting sponsor.

Born and raised in Tokyo, Ueyama moved to the United States in 1991 to study dance at **The Juilliard School** in New York City. After touring the world as a dancer with the **Paul Taylor Dance Company**, he started **TAKE Dance** in New York City in 2005.

In the Sea of Heaven features *Encore!* dancers in sustained motion and embraces their collective strength. "In Japan, there is a word called 'Ma.' It's a powerful silence," explained Ueyama. "Sometimes silence can be very powerful. And sometimes physicality and a lot of activity can be very powerful, so I am combining both of them." *In the Sea of Heaven* is supported by the **Japan Foundation** through the Performing Arts JAPAN program.

Nine members of the **Texas Ballet Theater (TBT) Professional Division** will join the Rising Excellence Series as special guest artists in the world premiere of *Wavelength*. TBT dancer

Andre Silva choreographed the contemporary ballet. Silva's inspiration for the work stems from currents in the depths of the ocean where small waves lengthen into large waves. Silva says, "Within all body movements exists a current that senses the flow in the depths of one's soul." Silva is from Brazil. He was the first recipient of the Booz Hamilton International "Rising Star Award" for excellence in dance.

Chasing Shadows is also on the program. **Jennifer Archibald**, founder and artistic director of New York City-based **Arch Dance Company**, is restaging this intimate duet that explores the relationship between shadows and human instinct. Archibald is the first female resident choreographer in the 40-year history of the **Cincinnati Ballet**.

Encore! will dance *Phoenix*, an action-packed contemporary ballet based on the mythical Greek firebird character. **Zach Law Ingram** first created it for DBDT in 2008. His career includes dancing with **DBDT** and **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater**. Since 2011, Ingram has been a soloist in *The Lion King* on Broadway. He is the Founder and Artistic Director of the **6 o'Clock Dance Theatre** in Dallas with a satellite branch in Miami, Florida.

DAY AND TIME

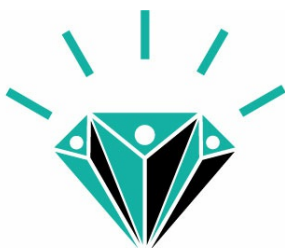
The Rising Excellence Series will be held Friday and Saturday, April 6-7, in the Moody Performance Hall, 2520 Flora, Dallas, Texas, 75201. For tickets details call 214-880-0202 or visit www.ATTPAC.org.

SodexoMAGIC, Hattie Mae Lesley Foundation and Louise W. Kahn Endowment Fund of The Dallas Foundation are sponsoring the April 6 student matinee at 10:30 a.m. Contact academy@DBDT.com for details.

For information regarding Dallas Black Dance Theatre, visit www.DBDT.com.

DBDT: *Encore!*

RISING



EXCELLENCE

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About Dallas Black Dance Theatre

*Founded in 1976 by **Ann Williams**, Dallas Black Dance Theatre (DBDT) is the 10th largest minority arts organization in America, the fourth largest black dance company in the nation and the oldest continuously operating professional dance company in the city of Dallas.*

The mission of Dallas Black Dance Theatre is to create and produce contemporary modern dance at its highest level of artistic excellence through performances and educational programs that bridge cultures and reach diverse communities. In its 41-year history, Dallas Black Dance Theatre, the nationally and internationally recognized modern dance company, has performed on five continents, in 15 countries and 31 states, including two Olympic Cultural events. During that time, more than 4 million arts patrons and 2.6 million students, grades K-12, have experienced the dance company's performances and educational outreach programs.

*Dallas Black Dance Theatre is comprised of five performing companies and its training Academy. **DBDT**, consists of 12 full-time salaried dancers performing a mixed repertory of modern, jazz, African and spiritual works by national and international choreographers. **DBDT: Encore!** features eight artists of rising excellence from across the nation who support DBDT's growing local and regional educational outreach.*

***Dallas Black Dance Academy**, the official school of Dallas Black Dance Theatre, celebrates 44 years of delivering dance instruction to a community of diverse backgrounds. More than 550 students participate weekly in 50 dance classes, which include ballet, jazz, tap, modern, and African. Classes are held at DBDT's studios and are open to children starting at age four and adults. The academy has three performing ensembles: **Allegro**, DBDT's premier academy ensemble, **Senior Performing Ensemble**, and **Junior Performing Ensemble**.*

*Located in a historic facility at the eastern end of the thriving downtown **Dallas Arts District**, Dallas Black Dance Theatre is a nationally and internationally recognized professional modern dance company. DBDT engages the cross-cultural community through contemporary modern dance presented from the African-American experience.*

For more details visit www.DBDT.com and www.dbdt.com/academy.

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Takehiro Ueyama, founder of TAKE Dance. Photograph by Anna Ablogina.



DBDT: Encore! company photo by Steven Ray.



Andre Silva, Texas Ballet Theater dancer and choreographer. Photograph by Lea Rhea Capote.



Jennifer Archibald, founder and artistic director Arch Dance Company.



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