



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DALLAS BLACK DANCE THEATRE'S DBDT: *ENCORE!*

RISING EXCELLENCE PERFORMANCE

PRESENTS A WORLD PREMIERE ON RESILIENCE

OF THE WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT

Dallas, TX – **Dallas Black Dance Theatre's DBDT: *Encore!*** presents a new work that explores the women's suffrage movement in the world premiere of *Nineteenth* choreographed by **Nycole Ray**. **The Kaleta A. Doolin Foundation** is the presenting sponsor of the performance, and the choreography sponsors are **Nancy A. Nasher and David J. Haemisegger** and **The 19th Amendment Centennial Fund**. The virtual performance is available to view On-Demand from Saturday, April 17, 2021, 7:00 pm CDT through Sunday, April 18, 2021, 11:50 CDT.

The highlight of the program is *Nineteenth*, which was originally scheduled for April 2020 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Nineteenth Amendment. It was rescheduled because of the pandemic. This work vividly captures the triumphant struggle waged by women for equality in the suffrage movement. This work, created by Nycole Ray, explores the personal struggles of women as they balance families, work, and other commitments with their pursuit of equality in today's world.

Joshua L. Peugh restages his romantic comedy *Slump* that traces the trials and tribulations of courtship. The *Broad Street Review* describes it as, "Movements are simultaneously strenuous and fluid, harsh and delicate, serious and amusing. Floppy. Flumpy. Slumpy." Peugh is the founder and artistic director of **Dark Circles Contemporary Dance** in Dallas.

Shedding Skin will sing your emotions as the dancers move through the strenuous and athletic work by **Jess Hendricks** of New York. Hendricks' credits include choreographing

the New York musicals “The Shaggs,” “The Book of the Dun Cow,” as well as the movie musical “Free Fall.”

DBDT: *ENCORE!* RISING EXCELLENCE PERFORMANCE DETAILS

Saturday, April 17, 2021, 7:00 pm CDT – Sunday, April 18, 11:59 CDT

On-Demand Virtual Performance - \$30 per household.

Group tickets are also available.

Details at www.DBDT.com

2020-2021 | DBDT Season Sponsors

Legacy Sponsor: Simmons Sisters Fund at Texas Women’s Foundation

Season Sponsors: Office of Arts and Culture – City of Dallas, Texas Instruments, NBC 5, Texas Metro News, The Dallas Morning News, NorthPark Center, TACA, American Airlines, The Shubert Foundation Inc., DART, and The Dallas Weekly.

2020 – 2021 | DBDT Season Supporters

Texas Commission on the Arts, National Endowment for the Arts, Lexus, Elite News, FYI-50+, The Dallas Examiner, The Dallas Post Tribune, Oversee My IT, Trendy Africa, and Arts+Culture.

2020-2021 | DBDT COVID Resilience Sponsors

Anonymous, LKS Foundation, Mid-America Arts Alliance United States Regional Arts Resilience Fund, Office of Arts and Culture – City of Dallas Coronavirus Relief Fund, National Endowment for the Arts CARES Act, Oversee My IT, Dallas Black Dance Theatre Board of Directors, Henry C. Beck, Jr. Donor Advised Fund at Texas Women’s Foundation, Kate Wilson Davis Fund at Texas Women’s Foundation, The Eugene McDermott Foundation, PNC, Wells Fargo, Anonymous, Communities Foundation of Texas/North Texas Giving Day, Chase, Deedie Rose, TACA Emergency Arts Relief Fund, Sally Pian & Ira Silverman, Lucy and Henry Billingsley Fund at Texas Women’s Foundation, Ford Reynolds Fund of the Southwest Community Foundation, Keron Wright.

ABOUT DALLAS BLACK DANCE THEATRE: Dallas Black Dance Theatre is an internationally recognized professional dance company that engages the cross-cultural community through contemporary modern dance presented from the African American experience. The National Endowment for the Arts designated the 44-year-old company as an American Masterpiece Touring Artist in 2008. The company also received the Texas Medal of Arts Award for Arts Education in 2017. As Dallas’ oldest and largest

professional dance company, DBDT ranks as the 10th largest minority arts organization in America and the fourth largest black dance company in the nation.

Ann Williams founded Dallas Black Dance Theatre in 1976. **Melissa M. Young** took over the helm as Artistic Director in 2018 after starting at the company as a dancer in 1994. **Zenetta S. Drew** has led the administrative side of the company since 1987 as Executive Director.

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. The virtuosic dancers of Dallas Black Dance Theatre have mesmerized 5 million arts patrons across 16 countries, including two Olympic Cultural events.

Five performing companies comprise Dallas Black Dance Theatre 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 six artists of rising excellence from across the nation who support DBDT's growing local and regional educational outreach. 2.7 million students, grades K-12, have experienced the dance company's performances and educational outreach programs.

Dallas Black Dance Academy, the official school of Dallas Black Dance Theatre, celebrates 47 years of delivering dance instruction to a community of diverse backgrounds. The academy was the first in the nation to train a student who received the Presidential Scholar Award in Dance in 1980. More than 500 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 students ages four to adult. The academy has three performing ensembles: **Allegro Performing Ensemble**, DBDT's premier academy ensemble, **Senior Performing Ensemble**, and **Junior Performing Ensemble**.

Dallas Black Dance Theatre's permanent home in the historic Moorland YMCA building in the Dallas Arts District includes dance studios, training facilities, and administrative offices. Dallas Black Dance Theatre is a resident company of the **AT&T Performing Arts Center** and its performance home is the **Dee and Charles Wylie Theatre**.

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



Photograph of DBDT: Encore! dancers Bianca Melidor and Terrell Rogers by Brian Guillaux.



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