

---

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact:**

January 27, 2023

Ramona Logan  
972-346-0034

---

**Dallas Black Dance Theatre's Cultural Awareness  
Highlights World Premieres and Timeless Classics by  
Master Choreographers**

In-Person + Live Streaming + On-Demand

Dallas, TX – **Dallas Black Dance Theatre (DBDT)** celebrates Black History Month by performing works that share slices of life, culture, and history in its Cultural Awareness Performance Series. The performances feature two world premieres by **Gregory Dolbashian** and **Sean J. Smith** and two modern dance classics by master choreographers **Donald McKayle** and **Matthew Rushing**.

**Santander Consumer USA Foundation** is the **Black History Month Sponsor** for all of DBDT's events during the month of February. DBDT's Cultural Awareness Performance Series is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, February 17-18, 2023, at the Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora, Dallas, Texas in the Dallas Arts District.

The nostalgia of childhood is played out in *Games* by master choreographer **Donald McKayle**. You will flashback with your own childhood memories as the plot unfolds amid the serious business of child's play for the audience to experience pure joy and the terror that wipes away innocence. The dance is set to the a cappella voices of two DBDT dancers who sing throughout the work as dancers add layers of rhythm with their footwork and movements. The 68-year-old work is timeless. **Dance Heritage Coalition** named the award-winning choreographer Donald McKayle as "one of America's irreplaceable Dance Treasures." *Games* is supported in part by a grant from the **National Endowment for the Arts**.

**Matthew Rushing**, Associate Artistic Director for the **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater**, choreographed *Tribute* for DBDT in 2016. Set to an original music score, the work is a collective testimonial that pays homage to the decades of generosity and inspiration by these extraordinary dance mentors who shouldered the foundation of modern dance.

Tribute takes you back through 100 years of African American dance masters like **Donald McKayle, Talley Beatty, Pearl Prius, Katherine Dunham,** and *Alvin Ailey*.

Described by *The New York Times* as a "fluid and inventive" choreographer, **Gregory Dolbashian** creates a unique movement language that strives to uncover the body's inherent wisdom and its affinity for expression in the world premiere of *Shatter*. Dolbashian's work will explore human behavior and connection in audacious and vibrant ways.

The world premiere of *Swipe Left* by DBDT veteran dancer **Sean J. Smith** looks at the complicated mindset of a woman desperately trying to find love in all the wrong places. The solo dramatizes a series of regrettable romantic misfortunes that force her to look inward to figure out why she can't find "the one." *Swipe Left* takes a hard look at the veneer of online dating and social media combined with the unachievable relationship standards set by society. Let the swiping begin!

## **DBDT | CULTURAL AWARENESS SERIES**

February 17-18, 2023 - 7:30 pm Wyly Theatre Dee & Charles Wyly Theatre 2400 Flora St. Dallas, TX

In-person + Live streaming + On-demand

## **NO DISCOUNTS FOR THE 46TH SEASON**

Dallas Black Dance Theatre limits seating capacity to allow for social distancing in all performance venues. Because of the limited in-person ticket availability, DBDT will not offer discounts to groups.

**DBDT encourages the use of masks at its performances.**

In-person tickets, \$45 - \$65.

Live streaming tickets, \$25 per household.

## **VIRTUAL OPTIONS**

**Watch a live stream of the performance at 7:30 PM CST on Saturday, February 18, 2023, or on-demand from 10:30 PM CST Saturday - Monday, February 20, 2023, at 11:59 PM CST.**

For more performance details, visit [www.DBDT.com](http://www.DBDT.com).

## **2022-2023 | Legacy Sponsor**

Harold Simmons Foundation 2022-2023| Catalyst Sponsors The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Ford Foundation, Texas Instruments, The Eugene McDermott Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, Anonymous

## 2022 - 2023 | DBDT Season Sponsors

City of Dallas Office of Arts and Culture, NBC 5, The Dallas Morning News, Texas Metro News, American Airlines, Oversee My IT, Shubert Foundation, Inc., DART, TACA, Dallas Weekly, and Texas Commission on the Arts

## 2022- 2023 | DBDT Season Supporters

The Rea Charitable Trust, Lexus, fyi50+, The Dallas Examiner, The Dallas Post Tribune, Elite News, Trendy Africa, and Arts+Culture

**ABOUT DALLAS BLACK DANCE THEATRE:** **Ann Williams** founded Dallas Black Dance Theatre in 1976. The dance company is now under the direction of **Melissa M. Young**. Dallas Black Dance Theatre's mission is to create and produce contemporary modern dance at the highest level of artistic excellence through performances and educational programs that bridge cultures and reach diverse communities. As the largest and oldest professional dance company in Dallas, DBDT is the fourth-largest Black dance company in the nation, the ninth-largest contemporary modern dance company, and ranked 40th among the nation's leading ballet companies. Located in the thriving downtown Dallas Arts District, DBDT has performed worldwide for over 4.5 million arts patrons and 2.7 million students in 32 states and 16 countries on five continents. The performances include two Olympics (1996 & 2012), the nation's most prestigious venues (**Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center, Broadway, Jacob's Pillow**), and for such luminaries as **Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II** and **South African President Nelson Mandela**. Since the pandemic began in 2020, DBDT performances have also been viewed virtually in 34 countries. The Company has been recognized by the **National Endowment for the Arts** as an American Masterpiece Touring Artist (2008) and received the **Texas Medal of the Arts Award** for Arts Education (2017).





*Photograph of DBDT dancers McKinley Willis and Sean J. Smith by Kent Barker.*



*Tribute photograph by Sharen Bradford - The Dancing Image.*



[Unsubscribe](#) | [Forward](#) | [View in browser](#)

You are receiving this email because you have signed up for our email list. Click on the Unsubscribe link in this email if you no longer wish to receive emails from us.

Dallas Black Dance Theatre 2700 Ann Williams Way, Dallas, TX 75201