

Artistic Director John Schmitz

DANCE
chicago



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Whirlwind *Premières* & Exciting Performances On Tap For Dance Chicago's 18th Season

More Than 200 Premières, 3,000 Artists and 300 Individual Acts

CHICAGO, IL, October 11, 2012 – Dance Chicago launches its 18th annual festival on November 3rd through December 1st. In addition to its triumphant return to the Athenaeum Theatre, the Festival opens at the Carl Sandburg Theatre in Orland Park and is followed by over a dozen other unique performances at the Athenaeum Theatre and Stage 773.

Recognized as the largest Festival of its kind, Dance Chicago 2012 showcases a diverse variety of Chicago's dance companies. The festival is a cornerstone of the city's fall dance season and features over 300 individual dynamic acts performed by more than 3,000 dancers and choreographers from some of Chicago's best dance groups.

Dance Chicago 2012 kicks off with the *First Night* performance in Orland Park on November 3rd. This showcase features a multitude of styles ranging from urban, tap, aerial, ballet, break dancing, jazz and more. Curated by John Schmitz, opening night presents: *Stick & Move Dance Crew*, fresh from *America's Got Talent* season première, *Jump Rhythm Jazz Project*, *Mexican Dance Ensemble*, *NoMi Dance Company*, *Tre Dumas' Jus' LisTeN*, *Full Effect Dance Theatre*, *Aerial Dance Chicago*, *Kate Jablonski* and more.

In addition to their performance at *First Night*, *Jump Rhythm Jazz Project*, the Emmy Award-winning company, showcases their unique talents at Stage 773, from November 8 – 11. Choreographer of the Year, in 2011, Billy Siegenfeld and *Jump Rhythm Jazz Project* will present three Chicago premières as well as two revised works.

The Festival moves to the Athenaeum Theatre on November 10 with the popular *Dance Slam* competition. It's the largest dance competition in the city, with high-energy acts from hip-hop, ballet, tap and jazz to contemporary and more, all competing for the grand

prize. Dance Slam is a festival favorite with an interactive element for Dance Chicago. Winners are selected based on audience votes as well as votes from a panel of judges.

The audience will also be able to experience several works created by new and seasoned choreographers in the *New Moves* showcase. Taking place November 13-15 and November 27-29 in Studio One at the Athenaeum Theatre, *New Moves* features six different unique performances that dance aficionados will treasure.

The action moves back to the Athenaeum's main stage on November 16 when Inaside Chicago Dance presents a "something for everyone" program. This riveting performance features both world premières and crowd favorites that capture Inaside's unique style of artistry and athleticism.

Next comes *Dance Carnival*, a festival classic that showcases astounding acts featuring dancing, singing, special effects, live music and comedy. *Dance Carnival*, curated by John Schmitz, includes three exciting performances in Studio One at the Athenaeum Theatre November 16, 17 and 30. Also taking place November 17 on the main stage at the Athenaeum Theatre is Dance Chicago *Future Stars*. This inspiring program features the next generation of Chicago's Dance stars, with performances from some of the best and brightest young dancers and choreographers. Also curated by John Schmitz, *Future Stars* creates a forum for these young artists to show the world they are the future of dance.

A special highlight is the thrilling *Chicago Streets* show, featuring the freshest and hottest crews in the city showcasing hip hop, urban tap, jazz, rhythmic percussion, break dancing, foot working, stepping and more. Chicago Streets storms the main stage on November 23. Curated by Chris Nasadowski and John Schmitz, *Chicago Streets* is also a festival favorite presenting heart-pounding works from some of the masters of urban dance.

NoMi Dance returns to this year's festival presenting the highly anticipated "Three Parts of One", created by critically acclaimed Chicago choreographer Eddy Ocampo, accompanied by a stunning light design by Jared Moore and Josh Weckesser. Three Parts of One" on November 24th serves as *NoMi's* first collaborative show and will include the popular Paul Christiano's "Done and Done", a performance that promises to have audiences on the edge of their seats.

Dance Chicago 2012 climaxes with the highlight of the festival – *Choreography Showcase* – on December 1 at the Athenaeum Theatre. This show features some of the

newest and the best Chicago choreographers as well as national guest choreographers who showcase their art, discipline and ingenuity. Also curated by John Schmitz, *Choreography Showcase* is an audience and media favorite. The best choreographer will receive the Cliff Dwellers' Arts Foundation Dance Chicago 2012 Choreographer of the Year Award (COTY) and a \$1,000 prize.

John Schmitz, Curator and Artistic Director of Dance Chicago, continues to present audiences with rich talent from the city's dance companies and the festival continues to serve as a platform to unify Chicago's dance community.

Featuring more than 200 premières, this festival is considered to be the ultimate showcase for the city's burgeoning dance scene. For full program descriptions as well as more information about Dance Chicago 2012 visit www.dancechicago.com.

Dance Chicago 2012 Festival Schedule

Dance Chicago 2012 First Night - *Dance Chicago presents its classic Opening Night showcase in Orland Park at the Carl Sandburg Theatre. Sample the high energy of urban, tap, aerial, ballet, break dancing, jazz and more. See Stick & Move Dance Crew, fresh from America's Got Talent season première, Jump Rhythm Jazz Project, Mexican Dance Ensemble, NoMi Dance Company, Tre Dumas' Jus' LisTeN, Full Effect Dance Theatre, Aerial Dance Chicago, Kate Jablonski and others. Curated by John Schmitz*
November 3 at 8:00pm (Carl Sandburg Theatre, Orland Park)

Dance Slam – *Dance Chicago's interactive dance competition with a non-stop beat! Works are five minutes or less and the audience votes for the winners! Many choreographers and dancers got their start here, including just seen Stick & Move Dance Crew on America's Got Talent! Who is providing the next generation of star power? Come and decide for yourself. This is the biggest Chicago dance competition of the season - from breaking to ballet! FAST AND FURIOUS! We return to the Athenaeum, first time since 2008. Curated by John Schmitz*
November 10 at 8:00pm (Athenaeum Theatre)

Jump Rhythm Jazz Project – *Led by Dance Chicago's 2011 "Choreographer of the Year," JRJP artistic director Billy Siegenfeld, celebrates the opening season of its 23rd year with five premières, two premières by guest choreographers Jeff Hancock and Kevin Durnbaugh, three revised premières by artistic director Billy Siegenfeld, and, from the repertory, excerpts from Siegenfeld's audience-rocking tribal celebration, 'God of Dirt'. (Stage 773 Theater)*

November 8 at 8:00pm
November 9 at 8:00pm

November 10 at 8:00pm
November 11 at 3:00pm

New Moves - *New Moves brings you brave new unseen works conjured up by new and seasoned choreographers. Future classics spring up. Dance aficionados will treasure this program!* (Studio One at Athenaeum Theatre)

An all-NEW program every night!

Program A: November 13 at 8:15pm

Program D: November 27 at 8:15pm

Program B: November 14 at 8:15pm

Program E: November 28 at 8:15pm

Program C: November 15 at 8:15pm

Program F: November 29 at 8:15pm

Inside Chicago Dance - *Inside Chicago Dance showcases an entertaining, family-friendly, "something for everyone" program. The evening is full of meaningful, thoughtful, heartfelt artistry and athleticism. World premières and crowd favorites that are sure to provide spectacular impressions to take home!*

November 16 at 8:00pm (Athenaeum Theatre)

Dance Carnival – *Live on our stage, dancing, singing, special effects, live music and comedy- a program that defies description. You'll see! This is Madness! Curated by John Schmitz* (Studio One at Athenaeum Theatre)

Program A: November 16 at 8:15pm

Program B: November 17 at 8:15pm

Program C: November 30 at 8:15pm

Future Stars - *Fantastic young dancers and choreographers from the Chicago area are showcased. Future Stars creates a forum for these young artists to show the world they are the future of dance. We pick the best and brightest - a real crowd-pleasing event. (Note: This is not a dance competition - See Dance Slam for that event.) Curated by John Schmitz*

November 17 at 8:00pm (Athenaeum Theatre)

Chicago Streets – *Hippin' Hoppin, Poppin' Lockin'...There's no stoppin the masters of urban dance. Come see the freshest and hottest crews in the city showcasing hip hop, urban tap, jazz, rhythmic percussion, break dancing, foot working, stepping and more. Hundreds of artists and a full house - buy early. Curated by Chris Nasadowski and John Schmitz*

November 23 at 8:00pm (Athenaeum Theatre)

NoMi Dance Company - *NoMi Dance Company (formerly NoMi LaMad) opens its sixth season with one of the most ambitious self-produced concerts to date, a first time ever shared performance with critically acclaimed Chicago choreographer Eddy Ocampo accompanied by the breath-taking and brilliant light design of Jared Moore and Josh Weckesser. It will be an evening of exciting premières including an exciting, athletic, intricate and witty new work by the award-winning Chicago artist Paul Christiano, Artistic Director Laura Kariotis, guest choreographer Laura Wade, and NoMi principle dancer Sarah Robinson. NoMi continues to surprise, entice, entertain, and inspire audiences of all tastes. This collaboration is one show not to be missed! Curated by Laura Kariotis*

November 24 at 8:00pm (Athenaeum Theatre)

Choreography Showcase - *The newest and the best Chicago choreographers and national guest choreographers showcase their art, discipline and ingenuity...Then set their works on*

accomplished dancers. This pairing is consistently an audience and media favorite. The best choreographer receives the Cliff Dwellers' Arts Foundation Dance Chicago 2012 Choreographer of the Year Award (COTY) and \$1,000 prize. Curated by John Schmitz
December 1 at 8:00pm (Athenaeum Theatre)

Tickets (Tickets can be purchased at www.athenaeumtheatre.org)

- \$30 Adults
- \$22 Students/Seniors
- \$17 Children under 10

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Dance Chicago 2012 Festival Locations

Athenaeum Theatre
2936 N. Southport Ave
Chicago, IL 60657
(773) 935-6875

www.athenaeumtheatre.org

Carl Sandburg Theater
13300 S. LaGrange Rd.
Orland Park, IL 60462
(708) 403-6140

Stage 773 Theater
1225 W. Belmont Ave
Chicago, IL 60657
(773) 327-5252

www.stage773.com

PHOTOS

Photos are available by contacting Dana Lynch at dlynch@h-a-intl.com or 312-332-4650, ext. 10

ABOUT DANCE CHICAGO

In 1995 Artistic Director and Curator John Schmitz and Fred Solari of the Athenaeum Theatre created Dance Chicago with generous donations from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Philip Morris Companies Inc. and WPWR Channel 50 Foundation. Now celebrating its eighteenth season, Dance Chicago offers the city's broadest range of dance styles from over 350 choreographers. Dance Chicago focuses on the development of Chicago-area choreography. We have featured major artists from such companies as the Joffrey Ballet, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, the Dutch National Ballet, and a host of national and international companies, as well as the most talented Chicago area choreographers, small dance troupes and independent artists. For more information on Dance Chicago, visit www.dancechicago.com. (Dance Chicago is a program of Emergence Dance Theatre)

DANCE CHICAGO SPONSORS

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The Waldman Family Foundation

Cliff Dwellers Arts Foundation (Exclusive sponsor of the Dance Chicago 2012 Choreographer of the Year Award – COTY)