

PRESS RELEASE: Contemporary Dance Theater announces its 45th Guest Artist Season

July 27, 2017

CINCINNATI, OHIO — Southwest Ohio's presenter of contemporary dance, Contemporary Dance Theater, is delighted to announce its 2017-18 season.

This season will include two concerts from companies touring nationally and the Area Choreographers Festival concerts. The performances will take place at the Aronoff Center for the Arts in downtown Cincinnati. Subscription and single tickets will be available in September at the Aronoff Ticket Office.

The first concert of our 45th Season will be the presentation of VTDance, a young company from Washington, DC, in their dance tribute to Marvin Gaye entitled "What's Going On: Life, Love and Social Justice". This work features the choreography of Vincent Thomas, Artistic Director of VTDance, Sylvia Soumah and Ralph Glenmore. Originally produced by Dance Place in Washington, DC the work brings together connections between Dance Place's Carla Perlo, who went to UC, Sylvia Soumah, who grew up in Cincinnati, Jefferson James and Contemporary Dance Theater. This residency offers CDT a delightful opportunity to share this work and the work of these amazing artists.

"What's Going On?" is an interesting and organic collaboration of three choreographers and a combination of three different styles of dance, modern, jazz and West African dance. The music of Marvin Gaye evokes the 60's and 70's, the social unrest and war fatigue, as well as the social dances and melancholy introspection of that time, but there is some solace in the end of the work with images of people coming together.

What's Going On is a National Performance Network (NPN) Creation Fund Project co-commissioned by Dance Place in partnership with RestonCenterStage and NPN. The presentation and touring of this work and VTDance, is supported by the NPN, of which Contemporary Dance Theater is a partner. Baltimore Magazine has just awarded Best Artistic. These concerts will take place on November 3 & 4 at 8:00 pm at the Aronoff Center for the Arts in the Jarson-Kaplan Theater.

In the second presentation of its 2017-18 Guest Artist Season Contemporary Dance Theater is partnering with The Mayerson JCC and The Jewish Federation of Cincinnati in celebration of Israel at 70. The three Cincinnati-based organizations, which are all committed to bringing more of the arts to the public in engaging ways, are delighted to collaborate in another presentation of the acclaimed Koresh Dance Company of Philadelphia.

These performances will take place Saturday, March 10, 2018 at 8:00 pm and Sunday, March 11 at 3:00 pm in the Jarson-Kaplan Theater.

Accolades for Koresh include – The New Yorker "Earthy, folk-dancey, emotionally direct, physically intense, and ostentatiously eccentric", and Philly is Dancing "Koresh finds the thin line between 'safe' beauty and real innovation and boldly, knowingly dances on it."

At the Aronoff Center, Koresh Dance Company will present an eclectic evening of choreography from the company's repertory. That repertory includes works presented during the 25 years of

the company's existence. The program will include excerpts from, "The Heart," "Deconstructing Mozart" choreographed to Mozart's 23rd piano concerto, works from "Out/Line" and Koresh's highly acclaimed "Bolero" set to Maurice Ravel's well-known score.

In 1991, Artistic Director Mr. Roni Koresh founded Koresh Dance Company in Philadelphia. More than twenty-five years later, the company has become one of the city's most respected dance companies, with a vast repertoire of work and has been celebrated locally, nationally and internationally. Roni's Israeli heritage continues to differentiate the company and the raw passion that is infused into his movement leaves audiences dazzled year after year. With a gift for movement creation, Roni refuses to settle on a technique, instead defining himself by a signature style of ever evolving movement and an exciting and emotional blend of ballet, modern and jazz. Roni says of his style, "If a movement fits, I use it. It is about using movement to communicate, not about adhering to a particular style.

Contemporary Dance Theater is pleased to offer meaningful and unique opportunities for the public to interact with both guest companies. Patrons are invited to a meet-the-artists Q&A reception after the opening nights of Friday, November 3 and Saturday March 10. There will also be an in-theater Q&A following the closing performances of Saturday evening, November 4, and Sunday afternoon, March 11, and for both concerts in June. Students of dance are also invited to the rare opportunity to take class with the companies on Saturday, November 4 and March 10, from 10:30-12:00pm at Contemporary Dance Theater's studios in College Hill.

Contemporary Dance Theater's 2017-18 Season will conclude with its presentation of the Area Choreographers Festival on June 8 and 9, 2018. Because this is an adjudicated concert, we do not know who the choreographers will be for this event but it will be a varied and exciting evening of dance and dancers from the area. Don't miss this opportunity to support the dancers and choreographers working in our hometown.

The Contemporary Dance Theater Guest Artist Series is supported by the thousands of people who give generously to the ArtsWave Community Campaign. Support also comes from the National Endowment for the Arts, a public agency dedicated to supporting excellence in the arts, both new and established; bringing the arts to all Americans; and providing leadership in arts education. The Mayerson JCC and The Jewish Federation of Cincinnati's Israel at 70 celebration is generously sponsored by Dr. and Mrs. Stephen N. Joffe. Activities for these concerts are also supported in part by the P&G Fund of the Greater Cincinnati Foundation. Contemporary Dance Theater is also supported by The Ohio Arts Council, a state agency that supports public programs in the arts, the National Performance Network (VTDance), the Wohlgemuth-Herschede Foundation, the Crosset Family Fund, the Greater Cincinnati Foundation, and the William O Purdy Foundation, as well as generous support from numerous individual donors.

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High-resolution images for the presentation of VTDance, Koresh Dance Company, and Area Choreographers Festival will be available for download at <http://flickr.com/photos/contemporarydancetheater/sets>.

This press release and other information for the press are available on cdt-dance.org/press.

QUICK SUMMARY FOR CALENDAR LISTINGS

EVENT: VTDance, presented by Contemporary Dance Theater in "What's Going On?"
an evening of dance to the music of Marvin Gaye.

DATES: Friday and Saturday, November 3 & 4, 2017 at 8 pm

EVENT: Koresh Dance Company, presented by Contemporary Dance Theater and
The Mayerson JCC Wolf Center for Arts & Ideas

DATES: Saturday, March 10 at 8 pm and Sunday, March 11, 2018 at 3 pm

EVENT: Area Choreographers Festival, presented and produced by Contemporary Dance
Theater

DATES: Friday and Saturday, June 8 & 9, 2018 at 8 pm

VENUE: Aronoff Center for the Arts' Jarson-Kaplan Theater,
650 Walnut Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202

TICKETS: Subscriptions for all three concerts will be available for
renewals and subscribers beginning Friday, September 8.
Single tickets \$29-34 (discounts for students and seniors) go on sale on Monday,
September 25.

Call the Aronoff Center Ticket Office (513) 621-ARTS (2787)
or go online to cincinnatiarts.org.

MORE INFO: www.cdt-dance.org