



american dance festival

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2013 SAMUEL H. SCRIPPS/AMERICAN DANCE FESTIVAL AWARD
PRESENTED TO LIN HWAI-MIN

Durham, NC, February 20, 2013 -- The American Dance Festival (ADF) will proudly present the 2013 Samuel H. Scripps/American Dance Festival Award for Lifetime Achievement to choreographer, director, and educator Lin Hwai-min. Mr. Lin's fearless zeal for the art form has established him as one of the most dynamic and innovative choreographers today. The award, established in 1981 by Samuel H. Scripps and ADF, is the most prestigious of its kind and celebrates choreographers who have dedicated their lives and talents to the creation of modern dance. The Scripps/ADF Award presentation will take place on Friday, July 26th at 8:00pm, prior to the evening's performance at the Durham Performing Arts Center as part of the ADF's 80th anniversary season, June 13-July 27.

"Lin Hwai-min is an extraordinary choreographer whose work has been featured at ADF and around the world to high acclaim. Mr. Lin's earliest ADF experience was as a talented student. He went on to create his renowned company Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan, and now it is an honor to welcome him back to ADF to receive the prestigious Scripps/ADF Award," said ADF Director, Jodee Nimerichter.

Lin Hwai-min's illustrious career as a choreographer has spanned over four decades and has earned him international praise for his impact on Chinese modern dance. He is the founder, choreographer, and artistic director of both Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan (founded in 1973) and Cloud Gate 2 (founded in 1999), and his choreography continues to be presented throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia. While his works often draw inspiration from traditional elements of Asian culture and aesthetics, his choreographic brilliance continues to push boundaries and redefine the art form.

Among Lin Hwai-min's 86 choreographic works, 20 have been made into dance films, and most recently, Mr. Lin was the subject of three full-length television documentaries including the Discovery Channel's Portraits Taiwan: Lin Hwai-min. In 1983, Mr. Lin founded the Department of Dance at Taipei National University of the Arts and served as its Chairman for five years.

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He was also the Founding Dean of the university's graduate dance program from 1993 to 1994. Since 2000 he has served as the Artistic Director of the Novel Dance Series at the Novel Hall for Performing Arts, introducing Taipei audiences to renowned artists including Eiko & Koma, Elizabeth Streb, Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, and Susanne Linke, among many others. He is also currently serving as the Mentor of Dance for the Rolex Mentor and Protégé Arts Initiative where he helps guide the career of a beginning choreographer.

In 2005, Mr. Lin was celebrated by Time magazine as one of "Asia's Heroes," and in 2009 was recognized with the Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Movimentos Dance Prize in Germany. Other honors include honorary doctorates from six universities in both Taiwan and Hong Kong, the Taiwan National Award for Arts, the Ramon Magsaysay Award, the John D. Rockefeller 3rd Award, and the award for Best Choreographer at the Lyon Dance Biennial Festival. Additionally, he was given the Chevalier de l' Ordre des Arts et des Lettres from the French Ministry of Culture.

Past recipients of the Samuel H. Scripps/American Dance Festival Award include Martha Graham, Merce Cunningham, Paul Taylor, Hanya Holm, Alwin Nikolais, Katherine Dunham, Alvin Ailey, Erick Hawkins, Twyla Tharp, Anna Sokolow, Donald McKayle, Talley Beatty, Trisha Brown, Meredith Monk, Anna Halprin, Fayard and Harold Nicholas, Pina Bausch, Pilobolus Dance Theatre, Garth Fagan, Maguy Marin, Eiko and Koma, Bill T. Jones, Murray Louis, Mark Morris, Laura Dean, Ohad Naharin, Martha Clarke, Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker, William Forsythe, and posthumously in honor of Doris Humphrey, Charles Weidman, José Limón, Pearl Primus, and Helen Tamiris.

Performances during the ADF's 80th anniversary season will be presented June 13-July 27, 2013 at the Durham Performing Arts Center and Duke University's Reynolds Industries Theater. For detailed information about ADF's programs, please visit www.americandancefestival.org.

About ADF:

Founded in 1934 in Bennington, Vermont, ADF remains an international magnet for choreographers, dancers, teachers, students, critics, musicians, and scholars to learn and create in a supportive environment. ADF's wide range of programs includes performances, artist services, humanities projects, publications, community outreach, educational programs and classes, archives, media projects, and national and international projects. ADF has been presenting the best in modern dance for over 78 years. www.americandancefestival.org.

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