



# american dance festival

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### HAITIAN CONTEMPORAY DANCE COMPANY COMES TO DURHAM

#### Compagnie de Danse Jean-René Delsoin Residency hosted by American Dance Festival, Haiti Lab at Duke University, and Duke University Dance Program

Durham, NC, October 11, 2012. The **American Dance Festival (ADF)** is partnering with the **Duke University Dance Program** and **Haiti Lab** at Duke University for a two-day residency of Haitian contemporary dance company **Compagnie de Danse Jean-René Delsoin**, on tour as part of Center Stage. The company will present a **free masterclass** and **informal showing** followed by a Q&A on **Friday, October 26** and **free masterclasses** on **Saturday, October 27**. (See below for times and locations.)

Compagnie de Danse Jean-René Delsoin is a compelling Haitian contemporary dance company that captures the incredible spirit of Haiti through their bold and energetic choreography. Their work draws from strong backgrounds in ballet and modern dance techniques and fuses them with Haiti’s native rhythms and sounds to create a sophisticated perspective into the Haitian culture. As a teacher, Delsoin has worked for the past 25 years to bring dance education to the people of Haiti. In 1987 he founded and co-directed the Archo Danse Repertoire and its school, and in 2004 opened the Jean-René Delsoin Dance Center where he continues to make dance accessible to everyone in his community.

“The Duke Dance Program is delighted to partner with the ADF to co-sponsor this residency of Compagnie Jean Delsoin, as both Duke Dance and ADF are committed to increasing the visibility and vibrancy of dance as an art form in this region. And its also thrilling to work with the Haiti Lab at Duke, whose expertise is helping to design a residency grounded in the rich artistic and cultural traditions of Haiti,” said Director and Associate Professor of Duke University Dance Program, Keval Khalsa.

Residency activities free and open to the public include:

#### Friday, October 26

12:00pm - 1:30pm.....Community Masterclass at Hull Avenue Dance Studio at Duke University’s East Campus

7:00pm.....Informal Showing in the Ark Dance Studio at Duke University’s East Campus

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[american dance festival.org](http://americandancefestival.org)

Saturday, October 27

1:00pm – 2:00pm.....Community Masterclass for youth (9yrs – 12yrs) at ADF’s Samuel H. Scripps Studios,  
721 Broad St., Durham

1:00pm – 2:30pm.....Community Masterclass for adults at ADF’s Samuel H. Scripps Studios, 721 Broad St., Durham

For questions please contact ADF’s Director of Performances and Community Programs Sarah Tondu at 919-684-6402. For press inquiries please contact Corin Kane at 919-684-6402.

The residency is part of Center StageSM, an initiative of the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, administered by the New England Foundation for the Arts, in cooperation with the U.S. Regional Arts Organizations, with additional support from the Robert Sterling Clark Foundation, the Asian Cultural Council, and the Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art. General Management for Center StageSM is provided by Lisa Booth Management, Inc.

About ADF:

*Founded in 1934 in Bennington, Vermont, the ADF remains an international magnet for choreographers, dancers, teachers, students, critics, musicians, and scholars to learn and create in a supportive environment. The ADF’s wide range of programs includes performances, artist services, educational programs and classes, community outreach, national and international projects, archives, humanities projects, publications, and media projects. The ADF has been presenting the best in modern dance for over 79 years. [www.americandancefestival.org](http://www.americandancefestival.org).*

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