For Immediate Release

American Dance Festival Announces Its 2019 Season Lineup

3 World Premieres
25 Companies/Choreographers
Performances in 5 Venues

The 2019 Season is Dedicated to Paul Taylor.

Durham, NC, March 15, 2019—The American Dance Festival (ADF) today announced the schedule for its 86th season, running June 13–July 20, 2019. The summer includes 38 performances featuring 25 companies and choreographers in 5 different venues. The 2019 season is dedicated to Paul Taylor.

“For ADF’s 86th season, we are thrilled to present both new and treasured works of dance. We will shine a light on the classic works of legendary choreographers Martha Graham, Merce Cunningham, and Paul Taylor in the ICONS program as well as in the Footprints program. New works include ADF commissioned world premieres by Eiko, Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Ensemble, and North Carolina’s Murielle Elizéon & Tommy Noonan. It will be a summer of looking at history while also looking forward on this dynamic, evolving art form,” said ADF Executive Director, Jodee Nimerichter.

ADF 2019 will honor one of the most accomplished artists this nation has ever produced, the late choreographer Paul Taylor. The 2019 season will be dedicated to Paul Taylor prior to the opening night performance of the ICONS program on June 13. The Paul Taylor Dance Company will present two different programs of classic Taylor masterpieces over three nights, while Taylor 2 is set to open the 2019 season with Piazzolla Caldera as a part of the shared ICONS program. Michael Trusnovec, longtime Paul Taylor Dance Company member, will be an artist-in-residence setting Esplanade on ADF students as a part of the Footprints program. The 2019 Balasaraswati/Joy Anne Dewey Beinecke Endowed Chair for Distinguished Teaching will be awarded to celebrated Paul Taylor Dance Company rehearsal director Bettie de Jong in a ceremony during the opening night performance of the Paul Taylor Dance Company on June 27. Lastly, a photo exhibit of Paul Taylor will hang in the lobby of Reynolds Industries Theater June 13–July 20.

Additional season highlights include the return of Mark Morris Dance Group to Durham Performing Arts Center with the ADF co-commissioned blockbuster Pepperland celebrating the 50-year anniversary of the Beatles revolutionary album Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band. Cuba’s Malpaso Dance Company makes its ADF debut with an evening of repertory including a piece by the renowned choreographer Ohad Naharin.

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ADF continues its partnership with the Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University to present Eiko’s *The Duet Project: Distance Is Malleable*, a collaboration with artists Beverly McIver, Alexis Moh, DonChristian Jones, and Mark McCloughan at the von der Heyden Studio Theater at the Rubenstein Arts Center.

ADF fan favorite Pilobolus returns to the renovated Page Auditorium with an evening of classic, one-of-a-kind dance. A.I.M by Kyle Abraham is back with an program of work including the first full-length solo choreographed and performed by Kyle Abraham in nearly a decade.

Returning to ADF for the first time since 2001, Rennie Harris Puremovement will perform Funkedified, a celebration of funk music and street dance of the 1970s, with live music by Invincible at The Carolina Theatre.

Chapel Hill native and MacArthur "Genius" award winner Michelle Dorrance brings her company Dorrance Dance to present SOUNDspace at Reynolds Industries Theater. North Carolina-based Murielle Elizéon and Tommy Noonan have both performed solos at ADF, and this season they return together to present They Are All.

The 2019 festival performances will take place at Duke University's Reynolds Industries Theater, Page Auditorium, and the von der Heyden Studio Theater in the Rubenstein Arts Center, and the Durham Performing Arts Center, and The Carolina Theatre. Single tickets and subscriptions go on sale Tuesday, April 30th, and prices range from $12 to $74 with many savings options available. Tickets can be purchased through the ADF website at americandancefestival.org. More detailed information about ticket prices and performing companies, including photos, videos, and press reviews, are also available on the website.

**ICONS**

*Three Timeless Works By Three Master Artists!*

**Reynolds Industries Theater**

**Thursday, June 13 and Friday, June 14 | 8:00pm**

**Saturday, June 15 | 7:00pm**

Three giants of American modern dance, Martha Graham, Merce Cunningham, and Paul Taylor, will share a program of works, two of which originally premiered at ADF. Graham 2 will perform Martha Graham's *Diversion of Angels* (1948) with a romantic score by Norman Dello Joio and themes from the infinite aspects of love. Stephen Petronio Company will appear in Merce Cunningham's *Tread* (1970). With decor designed by Bruce Nauman, *Tread* is a playful dance filled with unexpected partnering, human entanglements, and all of the choreographic complexity that defines Cunningham's work. Lastly, Taylor 2 will dance Paul Taylor's *Piazzolla Caldera* (1997), Taylor's exploration of the sizzling, sultry culture of tango.

**Mark Morris Dance Group**

*A.DF Co-Commission!*

**Durham Performing Arts Center**

**Wednesday, June 19 | 7:00pm**

**Thursday, June 20 | 8:00pm**

Mark Morris returns to Durham with Pepperland, a unique tribute to the 50th anniversary of The Beatles’ groundbreaking album *Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band*, accompanied live by an unprecedented chamber music ensemble of voice, soprano saxophone, two keyboards, theremin, and percussion. Ethan Iverson’s original score intermingles arrangements of the songs “Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band,” “With a Little Help From My Friends,” “A Day in the Life,” “When I’m Sixty-Four,” “Within You Without You,” and “Penny Lane” with six Pepper-inspired original pieces intended especially for Morris’ profound understanding of classical forms: Allegro, Scherzo, Adagio, and the blues. This is a must-see for dance and Beatles fans alike.

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Dorrance Dance
ADF Debut!
Reynolds Industries Theater
Friday, June 21 | 8:00pm
Saturday, June 22 | 7:00pm
Sunday, June 23 | 3:00pm
Chapel Hill native Michelle Dorrance brings her troupe to ADF with SOUNDspace. Originally a site-specific work that explored the unique acoustics of New York City’s St. Mark’s Church through the myriad sounds and textures of the feet, SOUNDspace has been adapted and continues to explore what is most beautiful and exceptional about tap dancing—movement as music. “Ms. Dorrance makes full use of tone, timbre, volume, tempo and, of course, rhythm, constructing patterns that lock together thrillingly… The main emotion that SOUNDspace produced was excitement: excitement about sounds, and about the development of this talented choreographer, the most promising one in tap right now.”—The New York Times

Murielle Elizéon & Tommy Noonan/Culture Mill
ADF Commission!
von der Heyden Studio Theater at the Rubenstein Arts Center
Tuesday, June 25 and Wednesday, June 26 | 8:00pm
In They Are All North Carolina choreographers Murielle Elizéon and Tommy Noonan interweave the combined expertise of professional dancers, neuroscientists, people with Parkinson’s disease, and data informaticists. The multi-generational work explores the relationship between cognitive engagement, interpersonal relationships, and movement. At once an artistic and research project, They Are All probes the ways in which artistic technologies and perspectives can be useful to medical research, as well as the ways in which medical, technological, and experiential expertise in movement disorders can generate new artistic perspectives in dance.

Paul Taylor Dance Company
Two Different Programs of Classic Paul Taylor Dance!
Reynolds Industries Theater
Thursday, June 27 | 8:00pm (program A—all ADF premieres)
Friday June 28 | 8:00pm (program B)
Saturday, June 29 | 7:00pm (program A—all ADF premieres)
Children's Matinee | Saturday, June 29 | 1:00pm
The Paul Taylor Dance Company, established in 1954, is one of the world's most highly respected and sought-after ensembles. Dancemaker Paul Taylor first presented his choreography with five other dancers in Manhattan on May 30, 1954. That modest performance marked the beginning of 60 years of unrivaled creativity, and in the decades that followed, Mr. Taylor became a cultural icon and one of history's most celebrated artists, hailed as part of the pantheon that created American modern dance. The Paul Taylor Dance Company first appeared at ADF in 1961, and the 2019 season is the 50th appearance of the company on the ADF stage. This season, in honor of Paul Taylor's vast canon of artistic masterpieces, ADF will present two different programs of classic works, Program A (all ADF premieres): Aureole, Scudorama, and Promethean Fire and Program B: Airs, Dust, and Company B. A photo exhibit of Paul Taylor will hang in the lobby of Reynolds Industries Theater June 13-July 20.

Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Ensemble
ADF Commission!
Reynolds Industries Theater
Tuesday, July 2 | 8:00pm
Wednesday, July 3 | 2:00pm & 8:00pm
Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Ensemble is internationally esteemed as one of America’s foremost modern dance companies. Under the direction of Cleo Parker Robinson, the ensemble performs a dynamic body of works inspired
by the African American experience and rooted in ethnic and modern dance traditions worldwide. The company will bring both old and new works to ADF 2019 including Donald McKayle's last work, *Uprooted*, a piece that deals with undocumented immigrants, *Mourner's Bench* by Talley Beatty, *Barrelhouse Blues* by Katherine Dunham, *Catharsis* by Garfield Lemonius, and a new ADF-commissioned work by Micaela Taylor, a Los Angeles choreographer included on *Dance Magazine*’s 2019 “25 to watch” list.

**Pilobolus**

*ADF Returns to Page Auditorium with an All Classics Program!*

**Page Auditorium**

**Thursday, July 4 and Friday, July 5 | 8:00pm**

**Saturday, July 6 | 7:00pm**

**Children’s Matinee | Saturday, July 6 | 1:00pm**

Everything old is new again! Pilobolus joins ADF in its homecoming to Page Auditorium, presenting four timeless pieces that highlight the surreal, playful, and athletic approach to dance and theater that Pilobolus is known for. *Untitled* is a Victorian-era, Alice-in-Wonderland-like fantasy that follows the lives of two young women. After being interrupted in the garden by a pair of unexpected men, two girls give birth to a new pair of men. The subsequent interaction of all six characters explores the divergent symmetry of the women's lives, from innocent youth to nostalgic old age. *Gnomen*, a quartet for men, is a lyrical exploration of relationships that emerge from an unusually inventive physical vocabulary. In *Rushes*, Co-Artistic Director Robby Barnett and world-renowned dance-theater makers Inbal Pinto and Avshalom Pollak discover hybrid terrain in a remarkable exploration of the range and intensity of deep collaboration. The result—an isolated community of broken dreams. *Day Two*’s tribal atmosphere enacts the second day of the creation of the world, from its earliest forms of life to the moment at which creatures of the earth take flight into the air. One of the company’s most amazing works, set to a soundtrack from Brian Eno and Talking Heads, *Day Two* captures the awe of evolution and the wonder of existence.

**Eiko**

*The Duet Project: Distance Is Malleable*

A collaboration with Beverly McIver, Alexis Moh, DonChristian Jones, and Mark McCloughan

*ADF Commission!*

**von der Heyden Studio Theater at the Rubenstein Arts Center**

**Monday, July 8-Wednesday, July 10 | 8:00pm**

**Co-presented by Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University**

Eiko’s performance will be an interdisciplinary, inter-generational work that interweaves various duets with an eclectic mix of collaborators including Durham’s celebrated painter Beverly McIver. The theme of this ADF-commissioned work focuses on how distance is malleable, as demonstrated through select encounters between Eiko and her collaborators. In addition to McIver, these include visual artist, rapper, singer/songwriter DonChristian Jones, dancer/poet Mark McCloughan, and filmmaker Alexis Moh.

**Rennie Harris Puremovement**

*American Street Dance Theater*

**Presented in association with The Carolina Theatre**

**The Carolina Theatre**

**Wednesday, July 10 | 2:00pm & 8:00pm**

**Thursday, July 11 | 8:00pm**

Rennie Harris Puremovement American Street Dance Theater brings *Rennie Harris Funkedified* to downtown Durham. A multi-media work that celebrates funk music and street dance of the 1970s is set against the

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landscape of a video montage of African American communities of that era. Inspired by the political turmoil and atmosphere of Rennie Harris’ childhood, *Rennie Harris Funkedified* will feature live funk band Invincible who will highlight a unique funk sound. *Rennie Harris Funkedified* will not only feature dancers from Rennie Harris Puremovement but also one of the most seminal locking groups since Don Campbell and The Campbell Lock Dancers—The Hood Lockers. Narrated by Rennie Harris, *Rennie Harris Funkedified* is a visual motif of the political, economic, and social state of the 1970s.

**Malpaso Dance Company**

*ADF Debut!*

**Page Auditorium**

Friday, July 12 | 8:00pm
Saturday, July 13 | 7:00pm

**Children's Matinee | Saturday, July 13 | 1:00pm**

Since its establishment in 2012, Malpaso Dance Company has become one of the most sought-after Cuban dance companies with a growing international profile. Emphasizing a collaborative creative process, Malpaso works with top international choreographers while also nurturing new voices in Cuban choreography. The company tours with 11 dancers and is led by its original three founders: resident choreographer and Artistic Director Osnel Delgado, Executive Director Fernando Sáez, and dancer and co-founder Daileidis Carrazana. Malpaso will present Azure Barton's *Indomitable Waltz*, Ohad Naharin's *Tabula Rasa*, and and *Ocaso* by Osnel Delgado.

**A.I.M by Kyle Abraham**

**Reynolds Industries Theater**

Tuesday, July 16-Thursday, July 18 | 8:00pm

The mission of A.I.M, under the artistic direction of choreographer Kyle Abraham, is to create an evocative interdisciplinary body of work. Born into hip-hop culture in the late 1970s and grounded in Abraham’s artistic upbringing in classical cello, piano, and the visual arts, the goal of the movement is to delve into identity in relation to a personal history. The company will present *Show Pony*, an energetic work choreographed by Kyle Abraham for Tamisha Guy and Marcella Lewis (Princess Grace Award Recipients 2016 and 2018, respectively), *state* a new trio created by the “marvelously daring” choreographer Andrea Miller (Deborah Jowitt), and *INDY*, a new work that marks the first full-length solo choreographed and performed by Kyle Abraham in nearly a decade. The company will also present *Meditation: A Silent Prayer*, an ensemble work featuring voice-over recording by Carrie Mae Weems and visual artwork by Titus Kaphar, and *Drive*, a high energy, propulsive work set to thumping club beats.

**Footprints**

*Featuring works by Martha Graham, Merce Cunningham, and Paul Taylor!*

**Page Auditorium**

Friday, July 19 | 8:00pm
Saturday, July 20 | 7:00pm

Footprints delivers an outstanding presentation of three modern dance classics, performed with impeccable technique and infectious energy by ADF students. *Martha Graham's Dark Meadow Suite* is made up of highlights from a much longer work by Martha Graham, *Dark Meadow*, which premiered in 1946. The suite, created in 2016, is designed to feature the exceptional choreography that Graham created for the ensemble of dancers in *Dark Meadow*. Both the unison dancing and the partnering have been recognized as some of Graham’s most architectural, ritualistic, and profound creations. They are clearly inspired by Graham’s love of the rituals of the natives of the American Southwest and Mexico, which she observed as a young woman. *Merce Cunningham's How to Pass, Kick, Fall and Run* has an athletic theme, without any specific references to

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games. The choreography keeps the dancers constantly in motion, never staying in a given place for very long, with two or three things simultaneously occurring on stage at all times. An esplanade is an outdoor place to walk; Paul Taylor, inspired by the sight of a girl running to catch a bus, created the masterwork *Esplanade* based on pedestrian movement. If contemporaries Jasper Johns and Robert Rauschenberg could use ordinary “found objects” like Coke bottles and American flags in their art, Taylor would use such “found movements” as standing, walking, running, sliding, and falling.

**Mark Dendy Pop Up Dances**

*Occurring Throughout the 2019 Season!*

ADF has commissioned award-winning choreographer Mark Dendy to create 15 minutes of site-adaptable choreography for ten Summer Dance Intensive scholarship students. The choreography will be performed in excerpts or in its entirety at various sites including business centers, parks, malls, retirement homes, baseball games, and beyond throughout Durham and the NC triangle during ADF’s 2019 season. Check the ADF website for times and locations.

**Additional performances and events**

Join the stellar staff of musicians from the ADF School as they share their considerable talent with the entire community at the **ADF Musicians Concert** on Monday, June 17 at 8:00pm in Reynolds Industries Theater.

The **2019 Balasaraswati/Joy Anne Dewey Beinecke Endowed Chair for Distinguished Teaching** will be awarded to celebrated Paul Taylor Dance Company rehearsal director **Bettie de Jong** in a ceremony during the opening night performance of the Paul Taylor Dance Company on Thursday, June 27 in Reynolds Industry Theater at Duke University.

Each year, the remarkable and talented ADF faculty present a concert of their own choreography, performed by ADF students and faculty. The **ADF Faculty Concert** will take place on Sunday, July 7 at 7:00pm in Reynolds Industries Theater at Duke University.

**ADF’s Movies by Movers** will screen films on Saturday, June 22 at 1:00pm at Page Auditorium and at the Nasher Museum of Art on Sundays, June 23, June 30, July 7, and July 14, all at 2:00pm. Moving images, moving bodies. Movement and film just go together. ADF’s Movies by Movers is a bi-annual festival dedicated to the celebration of the conversation between the body and the camera. All screenings are FREE! Please visit the ADF website for the full screening schedule.

ADF will continue to host **panel discussions** with visiting choreographers and companies, provide **free creative movement classes for youth**, offer **free tours of the ADF school**, and hold **post-performance discussions** moderated by Tina Vasquez throughout the course of the summer.

**Kids’ Activities**

The **Children’s Saturday Matinee series** presents performances by three of the acclaimed professional dance companies that perform during the season. These one-hour performances are specially curated to ignite and inspire the imaginations of children, and each one is followed by a FREE Kids’ Party in the theater lobby, complete with live music, face-painting, snacks, and additional activities. **Tickets for the Children’s**
Saturday Matinee series are $10 each. The 2019 Children’s Matinee series includes Paul Taylor Dance Company (June 29, 1:00pm, Reynolds Industries Theater), Pilobolus (July 6, 1:00pm, Page Auditorium), and Malpaso Dance Company (July 13, 1:00pm, The Carolina Theatre). ADF will also continue its Kids’ Night Out program, where all youth ages 6 to 17 receive one complimentary ticket to any evening performance with the purchase of an adult single ticket or subscription.

Dedication to Education
Each year, over 300 dance students and artists from around the world arrive on the campus of Duke University to discover a world of dance at the ADF school. Under the direction of Dean Leah Cox, the school hosts the Summer Dance Intensive (June 13-July 20), the Pre-Professional Dance Intensive for dancers ages 13-17 (June 29-July 20), and the Dance Professional Workshops (various dates available).

ADF’s Samuel H. Scripps Studios
ADF will offer ten dance camps this summer including ADF Dance Adventures Week A (ages 6-8), June 10-14, ADF Dance Adventures Week B (ages 6-8), June 17-21, ADF Dance Camp Week A (ages 9-12), June 17-21, ADF Dance Adventures Week C (ages 6-8), June 24-28, ADF Dance Camp Week B (ages 9-12), June 24-28, Shadow Camp with Pilobolus (ages 9-12), July 1-5, ADF Teen Dance Workshop Week A (ages 13-17), July 8-12, ADF Dance Camp Week C (ages 9-12), July 15-19, ADF Teen Dance Workshop Week B (ages 13-17), July 15-19, and ADF Dance Adventures Week D (ages 6-8), July 22-26.

ADF Go
The ADF Go program is designed to make modern dance more accessible and affordable for young arts lovers in our community. Audience members between the ages of 18 to 30 have the opportunity to purchase a $12 ticket to most ADF performances. Tickets may be purchased at the box office one hour prior to performances. Patrons must present a valid ID when picking up tickets.

Ticket Information
Single tickets and subscriptions to ADF performances will go on sale to the general public April 30, 2019 and may be purchased via one of the methods listed below. Tickets range in price from $12 to $74.

Tickets for Reynolds Industries Theater, Page Auditorium, and von der Heyden Studio Theater
americandancefestival.org
Duke University Box Office
919-684-4444
Bryan University Center
Duke University West Campus
Durham, NC
Monday-Friday 11am-6pm

Tickets for DPAC
americandancefestival.org
Durham Performing Arts Center Ticket Center, The American Tobacco District
919-680-2787
123 Vivian St.
Durham, NC
Monday-Saturday 10am-2pm
Promotional photographs and press reviews of performing companies available upon request.

About ADF:
Throughout its 86-year history, ADF has been a nationally recognized leader in our indigenous art form of modern dance. Generations of dancers and choreographers have come to ADF as students, taught as faculty, and created and performed work as professional artists. Each summer, ADF has been the beating heart of the dance world. The best companies in the world premiere work on ADF’s stage, much of it commissioned by the festival. Other festivals and season programs are measured against ADF. Over 25,000 people see performances by more than 30 companies each season. The festival has commissioned 427 works and premiered 689 pieces including dances by Martha Graham, Merce Cunningham, and Paul Taylor. Each summer at ADF, more than 300 students from some 25 countries and 42 states study with ADF’s 50 faculty members. They come as kids in leotards with as many doubts as dreams. They leave as dancers and artists—and sometimes even new members of companies. Lives change in those 5½ sweaty weeks. Beyond the summer, ADF maintains year-round dance studios offering movement classes to over 650 participants, provides over 180 free classes to almost 4,000 local dancers, and offers choreographic residences providing artists with the necessary space and time to create.

This season is made possible through the generous contributions of the SHS Foundation and Duke University.

Performance and Commissioning Credits (as of 2/22/19)
Dance Pop-ups choreographed by Mark Dendy are made possible by the 315 Fund. The ICONS Program is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts. Additional funding for the ICONS Program is provided by the Thomas S. Kenan Foundation and the SunTrust Foundation. Mark Morris Dance Group’s Pepperland is commissioned by ADF with support from the Doris Duke/SHS Foundations Award for New Works. Dorrance Dance’s performance is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts. Tommy Noonan & Murielle Elizéon’s They Are All is commissioned by ADF with support from the Doris Duke/SHS Foundations Award for New Works and the Mary Duke Biddle Foundation. They Are All is also supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts. Additional funding for They Are All is provided by RTI International. Performances by the Paul Taylor Dance Company are supported in part by the Thomas S. Kenan Foundation. New Work by Micaela Taylor for the Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Ensemble is commissioned by ADF with support from the Doris Duke/SHS Foundations Award for New Works. Eiko’s The Duet Project: Distance is Malleable is co-presented by ADF and the Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University. The Duet Project: Distance is Malleable is commissioned by ADF with support from the Doris Duke/SHS Foundations Award for New Works. Additional funding for The Duet Project: Distance is Malleable is provided by the Asian/Pacific Studies Institute of Duke University. Rennie Harris Puremovement’s Funkedified is presented in association with The Carolina Theatre. The Footprints Program is supported by the SHS Foundation.
and the Robert and Mercedes Eichholz Foundation. Additional funding for the Footprints Program is provided by the Thomas S. Kenan Foundation and the SunTrust Foundation. The Footprints Program performance of *How to Pass, Kick, Fall and Run* is presented as part of the Cunningham Centennial celebration.

**With heartfelt appreciation, ADF acknowledges contributions of $500+ received for the 2019 season (as of 2/22/2019) from the following sources:**


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