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URBAN BUSH WOMEN’S 30TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON COMES TO THE DANCE CENTER

CHICAGO—The Dance Center of Columbia College Chicago is participating in Urban Bush Women’s 30th anniversary celebration, presenting the company in a return engagement March 19–21, 2015 at The Dance Center, 1306 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago.

Artistic Director and Founder/Visioning Partner Jawole Willa Jo Zollar brings Hep Hep Sweet Sweet, a personal memoir of her upbringing in Kansas City, set in a fictional nightclub and drawing upon the music and culture of the African-American migration from south to north up the Mississippi River. Also on the program is guest choreographer Nora Chipaumire’s dark swan, an interrogation of how we present and represent African female bodies. And, in celebration of iconic moments in the company’s history, the company performs a “30th Anniversary Mash-Up.” (The previously announced Walking with ’Trane Part 2 is postponed until a future engagement.) Zollar said about the program, “I am so proud that UBW has sustained itself for 30 years, and that has been accomplished by community support.”

URBAN BUSH WOMEN

Urban Bush Women (UBW), founded in 1984 under the direction of choreographer Jawole Willa Jo Zollar, brings the untold and under-told histories and stories of disenfranchised people to light through dance. With a woman-centered perspective, and as members of the African Diaspora community, UBW seeks to create a more equitable balance of power in the dance world and beyond.

RESIDENCY ACTIVITIES

A post-performance conversation with the artists takes place Thursday, March 19, and a pre-performance talk with Zollar takes place Saturday, March 21 at 7 p.m., both free to ticket holders. Company dancers will participate in The Dance Center's FREE DanceMakers series, which features contemporary dance artists offering insight into their choreographic process, Monday, March 16, 7–8:30 p.m. at the American Rhythm Center, Fine Arts Building, 410 S. Michigan Avenue, 3rd floor, Chicago. Preregistration is required.

FUNDING

The Dance Center’s presentation of Urban Bush Women is funded, in part, by the National Endowment for the Arts. Additional funding is provided by the New England Foundation for the Arts’ National Dance Project, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew Mellon Foundation, with additional support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

THE DANACE CENTER

The Dance Center of Columbia College Chicago is the city’s leading presenter of contemporary dance, showcasing artists of regional, national and international significance. The Dance Center has been named “Chicago’s Best Dance Theatre” by Chicago magazine, “Best Dance Venue” by the Chicago Reader and Chicago’s top dance venue in 2014 by Newcity, and Time Out Chicago cited it as “…consistently offering one of Chicago’s strongest lineups of contemporary and experimental touring dance companies.” Programs of The Dance Center are supported, in part, by Alphawood Foundation, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, The MacArthur Fund for Arts and Culture at Prince, New England Foundation for the Arts, The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation, The Irving Harris Foundation, City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events, National Performance Network (NPN) Performance Residency Program and the Arts Midwest Touring Fund. Additional funding is provided by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Illinois Arts Council Agency. Special thanks to Friends of The Dance Center. For information, call 312-369-8330 or visit colum.edu/dancecenterpresents
TICKET INFORMATION
The Dance Center presents Urban Bush Women March 19–21, 2015, Thursday–Saturday at 8 p.m. at The Dance Center, 1306 S. Michigan Ave. Single tickets are $30. All programming is subject to change. The theatre is accessible to people with disabilities. For information, call 312-369-8330 or visit colum.edu/dancecenterpresents
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