

For Immediate Release:

February 9, 2017

Media Contact:

Allison Alsup, Public Relations and Partnerships Specialist

University of Florida College of Fine Arts

Office: 352.273.1489

aalsup@arts.ufl.edu

***Dance 2017: Rounding the Corner Pays Homage to its Past Successes and Moves
Toward the Future February 23-25, 28 and March 1-2, 2017***

Gainesville, Fla., February 9, 2017 – The University of Florida (UF) School of Theatre + Dance (SOTD) is excited to invite patrons to experience a performance featuring work from both a guest artist and esteemed faculty in *Dance 2017: Rounding the Corner*, coordinated by Ric Rose. The show will feature works by guest artist Daniel Gwirtzman and new faculty member Elizabeth Johnson as well as veterans Isa Garcia-Rose, Mohamed DaCosta, Trent D. Williams, Jr. and *Dance 2017* coordinator Ric Rose. Performance times are 7:30 p.m. February 23-25, 28 and March 1-2 in the Constans Theatre at the Nadine M. McGuire Theatre and Dance Pavilion on UF's campus.

“The title of this year’s concert offering to the Gainesville community is intended to pay homage to where the internationally recognized UF dance program has come from and where it is going,” said Rose. “This year’s repertory concert builds on the work of guest artist Daniel Gwirtzman along with a unique variety of UF dance faculty working along with the finest SOTD lighting, set and costume designers to fully realize what waits for you, the audience, just around the corner.”

This year’s concert will feature Rose’s “Poor Richard’s Guide to Redeption,” a new dance theatre piece that explores the choreographer’s remembrance of silent, but engaged protestors of the 1970 era Vietnam War outside of a federal building from his hometown. Isa Garcia Rose’s “Fuerza De Mujer,” is an inspiring salsa piece about the strength of women and their ability to

stand together and express their opinions through movement. Williams, Jr. and DaCosta are reviving “Journey to the Mediterranean” back from *Agbedidi* in order for new audiences to experience the journey of people crossing the Mediterranean to get the Americas. Williams, Jr.



School of Theatre + Dance dancers
Michale Marfori and Lynette Fisher.
Photo by TF Guntrup.

School of THEATRE + DANCE

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA / COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

will also be debuting a new work entitled, “between these lines,” which explores the racial and gender divide currently going on in our country.

Additionally, Elizabeth Johnson, visiting assistant professor of dance, will bring two of her works “Psalms of Mass Destruction (Or: Lost)” and “Impulsive Minors.” The latter is a 7-minute dance that has evolved from its original 35-minute piece created by Johnson and her company, *Your Mother Dances*. The piece explores “stream of consciousness” movement impulses mixed with inorganic phrases and partnering to result in sometimes awkward and sometimes beautiful transitions, much like a child’s movement. “Psalms” delves into the exploration of a world in perpetual conflict and grief peppered with images Johnson viewed from the news regarding disasters in both Turkey and Aleppo.

Our guest artist Daniel Gwirtzman will be gracing the program with his piece, “Encore,” which evokes a Jazz sensibility in both movement and music. The piece revolves around Broadway dancers getting ready to go out on tour. Gwirtzman takes an excerpt of the original and place it on to a group of fantastic UF student dancers for the public to see.

Patrons should expect to experience a full range of emotions when they come to view the performance. Each of the choreographers has expressed that they want the audience to feel and to take something away from the experience that will inevitably change the way they feel about what’s going on in both their personal worlds and the world at large.

Tickets for the UF production are \$18 for the general public, \$15 for UF faculty/staff and seniors, and \$13 for students. Season and group prices are also available. Tickets are available through the University Box Office located at Gate 1 of the Stephen C. O’Connell by calling 352-392-1653 or at [ticketmaster.com](https://www.ticketmaster.com). The University Box Office is open Tuesdays through Fridays 12-5:30 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., Tickets can also be purchased at the Constans Theatre Box Office starting 45 minutes prior to the performance.

The Nadine McGuire Theatre and Dance Pavilion is located at 687 McCarty Drive, Gainesville, FL 32611. On-campus parking is available at the Reitz Union garage and the Museum Road parking lot. Guests are strongly encouraged to pick up tickets early, as shows run the risk of being sold out.

About the School of Theatre + Dance

The School of Theatre + Dance is one of the University of Florida College of the Arts’ institutionally-accredited schools. Undergraduate students can pursue a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in acting, dance, musical theatre, theatre production—including costume design, lighting design and scenic design—or a Bachelor of Arts degree in dance studies or general theatre. Minors are also offered in dance and theatre as well as certificates in arts in medicine and dance in healthcare. Student organizations showcase programs and other intensives provide students with invaluable professional experiences. UF is home to three School of Theatre + Dance performance venues, including the Constans Theatre, Black Box Theatre and G-6 Studio. To learn more about the School of Theatre + Dance, including upcoming performance dates and ticket information, visit www.arts.ufl.edu/theatreanddance.

About the College of the Arts

The College of the Arts is one of the 16 colleges and more than 150 research centers and institutes at the University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida. The College of the Arts offers

School of **THEATRE + DANCE**

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA / COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

baccalaureate, master's and Ph.D. degree programs in its three institutionally accredited schools — the School of Art + Art History, School of Music and School of Theatre + Dance. The college is home to the Center for Arts in Medicine, Center for Arts and Public Policy, Center for World Arts, Digital Worlds Institute, University Galleries and the New World School of the Arts in Miami. More than 100 faculty members and approximately than 1,200 students work together daily to engage, inspire and create. The college hosts more than 300 performances, exhibitions and events each year. Faculty and students also exhibit and perform at other local, national and international venues. To learn more, visit www.arts.ufl.edu.

#