

ARC DANCE

Marie Chong, Artistic Director

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ARC DANCE OPENS 16th PERFORMANCE SEASON WITH ***SUMMER DANCE AT THE CENTER***

ARC Dance returns to the Leo K. Theatre at Seattle Center for two weekends
Thursday through Saturday, July 16-18 and July 23-25

SEATTLE, WA: ARC Dance Company opens Thursday, July 16 with six performances at Seattle Center's Leo Kreielsheimer Theatre. The program offers three world premiere dances by dance makers Ilana Goldman (Lines Ballet), Travis Guerin (Kansas City Ballet), and Edwaard Liang (NYCB and Nederlands Dans Theater), along with tantalizing favorites by Jason Ohlberg (Hubbard Street Dance) and Marie Chong (ARC Director).

ARC has presented mixed repertory work since 1999, specializing in producing a wide variety of dance programming by different choreographers. Marie Chong, Artistic Director, has offered accessible and evocative productions to Seattle audiences for the past 16 years. She has fostered collaborations with other artists, combined aerial dance with classical ballet, and merged various performing arts medias, making ARC Dance a prominent contributor to Seattle's dance community.

ARC's annual *Summer Dance at the Center* has been a Seattle fixture since 2008. The dance performances are intriguing, entertaining, and engaging and take place in the beautiful and intimate Leo K. Theatre. The technical diversity of the dancers combined with the eclectic curating of each program showcases an art form full of surprises and beauty. Come see grace and athleticism in *Summer Dance at the Center* and be moved through the intimacy of live performance.

Summer Dance at The Center: Two weekends, July 16 - 18 and 23 - 25, 2015; (Thursday – Saturday) at 8:00 PM Leo Kreielsheimer Theatre 155 Mercer Street | Seattle, WA 98109
Tickets: All reserved seating. \$30 in advance; \$40 door (Adult) \$15 in advance; \$25 door (Student/Senior 65+)
www.arcdance.org and 206.352.0798

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Marie Chong, Director and Choreographer is an accomplished dancer, director, teacher, and choreographer and has worked in parts of Europe, Asia, Canada, and the US. After her work as a professional dancer in both classical ballet and contemporary dance with companies such as Pacific Northwest Ballet, Eugene Ballet, Atlanta Ballet, and Spectrum Dance Theater, Chong founded ARC Dance Productions in Seattle in 1999 and opened Arc School of Ballet in 2004. She was the Artistic Director of Cirque du Soleil's big top touring show *KOOZA* in Japan and the US in 2011-2012 and also integrated new artists into the show at Cirque du Soleil's headquarters in Montreal. In 2014 she began working for Walt Disney Theatricals, based in New York City.

Chong is an active and well-respected director, mentor, and coach. Her choreography has been critically acclaimed and she continues to produce and create regular professional dance performances locally and abroad.

Ilana Goldman, Choreographer received her B.F.A. from the Juilliard School, where she was awarded the John Erskine Prize for Artistic and Academic Excellence, and her MFA in Dance from the University of Washington. Ilana trained at the Maryland Youth Ballet and studied in the summers at the Ailey School, Jacob's Pillow, Boston Ballet, Ballet Met, Perry Mansfield, and Pennsylvania Ballet. She danced professionally as a principal dancer with Oakland Ballet and Sacramento Ballet, as a guest artist with Alonzo King's LINES Ballet, and most recently as a dancer with Trey McIntyre Project. She has performed in works by George Balanchine, Marius Petipa, Agnes de Mille, Eugene Loring, Bronislava Nijinska, Ruth St. Denis, Twyla Tharp, Martha Graham, José Limón, Paul Taylor, Donald McKayle, David Parsons, Ron Cunningham, Bebe Miller, Susan Marshall, Margaret Jenkins, Dwight Rhoden, Igal Perry, Helen Pickett, Sidra Bell, and Amy Seiwert, among others. Her choreography has been performed by Sacramento Ballet, New York Theatre Ballet, Black Rock City Ballet, Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre, and University of Washington undergraduates. Ilana taught at Berkeley City Ballet and at the Sacramento Ballet's Dance Education Training Program in addition to company classes and master classes across the country with Trey McIntyre Project.

Travis Guerin, Choreographer is from Spokane, Washington and trained with Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre's Graduate Program and San Francisco Ballet School. He was a member of Cincinnati Ballet and currently dances with Kansas City Ballet. Along with his passion for dance and performance, Guerin loves to compose his own music, and to choreograph contemporary movement to his own compositions. His choreography has been performed by Kansas City Ballet, Motion Dance Theatre in Asheville, NC, Shut Up & Dance Festival in Philadelphia, PA, and Quixotic Dance Fusion in Kansas City. You can find his music available for free download at soundcloud.com/travisguerin.

Edwaard Liang, Choreographer a former dancer with New York City Ballet and Nederlands Dans Theater, Liang has built an international reputation as a choreographer. Over the last decade, he has created work for the Bolshoi Ballet, Houston Ballet, Joffrey Ballet, Kirov Ballet, New York City Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, Shanghai Ballet, Singapore Dance Theatre and Washington Ballet. Born in Taipei, Taiwan and raised in Marin County, California, Liang began his dance training at age five with Marin Ballet. After studying at the School of American Ballet, he joined New York City Ballet in 1993. That same year, he was a medal winner at the Prix de Lausanne International Ballet Competition and won the Mae L. Wien Award. By 1998, he was promoted to Soloist. In 2001, Edwaard joined the Tony Award® winning Broadway cast of *Fosse*. His performance in *Fosse* was later televised nationally on PBS' Great Performances series – "Dance in America: From Broadway: *Fosse*," and subsequently released on DVD. By 2002, Liang was invited by Jiri Kylian to become a member of the acclaimed Nederlands Dans Theater 1. While dancing with NDT 1, Liang discovered his passion and love for choreography. Since establishing himself as a choreographer, dance companies around the world have performed his works and he has won numerous awards for his choreography including the 2006 National Choreographic Competition. In 2013, Liang was named Artistic Director at BalletMet where he continues to choreograph new works for companies both domestically and abroad.

Jason Ohlberg, Choreographer is originally from Fresno, CA. He received his training from State University NY at Purchase. His professional credits include Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Jan Erkert and Dancers, and Dance Kaleidoscope where he served as choreographer in residence for two years. In 1997, Mr. Ohlberg founded Same Planet Different World Dance Theater in Chicago, IL where he continues a working relationship. He has served on the faculty of Barat College, the School of Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Spectrum Dance Theater, Dance Fremont, University of Washington, Arc School of Ballet, and Cornish College of the Arts. He is currently working towards his MFA from the University of Washington.