

### **Booking Dance Festival Educational Outreach Packet**

Jodi Kaplan, Executive Producer

August 15-19, 2012

Out of our six world-renowned dance companies, three companies are offering individualized educational workshops available to schools, studios, community centers and the general public in conjunction with their performances at The Fringe.

Within this packet are the detailed class descriptions.

To book classes, contact bookingdancefestival@gmail.com

Special Educational Day Thursday, August 16th 1pm-4:30pm

1:15-1:45pm Panel Discussion 2:15-3:45pm Performance

4pm-4:30pm Meet the Artists + Q&A

For a complete Booking Dance Festival Performance Schedule visit: www.bookingdance.com















### Booking Dance Festival Educational Outreach | August 15-19, 2012 Overview



### **Kim Gibilisco Dances**

Class title: Media + Dance

Level: Adult

Class title: Modern Dance Technique (in the Nikolais/Louis Tradition)

Level: Adult, Professional **Class title**: *Improvisation* 

Level: Adult

Class title: Composition Level: Adult, Professional Class title: Pilates Mat

Level: Adult



### **Daniel Gwirtzman Dance Company**

Class title: Warming

Level: Children/Primary Grades

Class title: Learning

Level: Children/Primary Grades

Class title: Creating

Level: Children/Primary Grades

Class title: Creative Movement

Level: High School

Class title: Creative Movement

Level: Adult

Class title: Creative Movement

Level: Professional



### **Dallas Black Dance Theatre**

Class title: Modern-Lester Horton technique

Level: Adult

Class title: Jazz

Level: Adult

Class title: African

Level: Adult



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### **Kim Gibilisco Dances**

### Interactive Classes: Media + Dance, with Kim Gibilisco and Eric Dunlap

Learn how to work with Live Image Capture Technology from both the sides of the equation: that of the dance performer and the Video Jockey performer. This workshop will include labs where students learn how to dance using a camera that imports their movement in real time using the Modul8 software program. This data is then manipulated live by the Video Jockey artist and then projected onto the performance space. Students will have an opportunity to choreograph and improvise movement as well as work as the Video Jockey.

### **Modern Dance Technique**

Gibilisco teaches modern dance technique in the Nikolais/Louis Tradition and like her mentors, as a performance technique. Through her classes, she explores the concepts of time, space, shape and motion to help students illuminate their intention, personal movement style and to help them develop their performance quality. Gibilisco's classes are also influenced by her extensive Pilates and Yoga training. Classes begin with a meditation or an improvisation on the class theme followed by a floor barre where students develop their core strength, flexibility, control and upper body power. Proper alignment and understanding the biomechanics of dance are infused into every class. Upper level classes are designed to include exercises that develop improvisational skills used to problem solve during performances and partnering skills with emphasis on mounting and dismounting fluidly, safely and quietly.

### **Improvisation**

Gibilisco's improvisation classes are influenced by her Nikolais/Louis mentors, Murray Louis, Claudia Gitelman and Alberto del Saz as well as her post-modern mentors, Douglas Dunn and Janet Lilly. Morphing a traditional meditational approach of the modern dance era with a post-modern skill set, she uses her history to inform her process. Peer observation and feedback loops are an integral part of her improvisation classes.

### Composition

Gibilisco draws on her own choreographic experiences as well as her years of study in composition and creative work with Murray Louis and her work with post-modern mentors, Janet Lilly and Simone Ferro. She incorporates Liz Lerman's approach to developing feedback for choreographers which places her students "at the wheel" of discussion and analysis in an objective manner. Classes are often conducted as workshops where the dancers work on a problem either indepedently or in small groups. Gibilisco assigns class partners for the semester or term so that each dancer develops a strong relationship with another choreographer. Class partners function not only as supports to one another, but as peer mentors and coaches and often work outside of the class setting as well for consistency. Classes conclude with a showing by each choreographer and a feedback session.



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### **Pilates Mat**

With an extensive background in working with professional dancers from companies such as: Paul Taylor Dance Company, Merce Cunningham Dance Company, American Ballet Theatre, FOSSE, CHICAGO, MOVIN' OUT and THE PRODUCERS. Gibilisco's Pilates Mat classes cover a wide range of approaches from injury prevention and cross training techniques to pre and post surgical protocols. Her classes are theme oriented to suit the needs of the students and to better facilitate mastery of a particular concept or idea. Gibilisco is versed in using various different props in mat class including: magic circle, thera-bands, thera-ball and foam roller.





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### **Daniel Gwirtzman Dance Company**

Having worked as an educator, company director, choreographer, and dancer consistently the last eighteen years in New York Daniel Gwirtzman is a dynamic teacher with a breadth of qualifications and experiences.

As an educator, highlights include a fourteen-year partnership with the NYC Department of Education, resulting in long-term teaching residencies in schools and workshops for students and dance educators; consulting on the Department's Blueprint For Teaching and Learning in the Arts: Dance, the arts curriculum mandated by Mayor Bloomberg; and receiving two unsolicited Performing Arts Recovery Initiative grants from George Soros's Open Society Foundation for the years 2010-2012 because of his educational programming and track record.

Operating with the philosophy that everyone can join the dance, the programming seeks to captivate the greatest common denominator among a diverse population. Daniel excels at reaching students. Over 15,000 students, as well as parents, teachers, administrators, and dance educators, have been taught by Daniel and the Company. The curriculum presents dance as an art of self-expression and supreme physical control.

Workshop offerings (Classes are divided into three components: warming, learning and creating.)

### Warming

Level: Primary Grades (Kindergarten through 6th grade)

Warming the body thoroughly is a necessary daily ritual for all dancers. Through this we introduce a healthy, intelligent way to prepare for the athleticism of dance, and to prevent injuries. Our warm-ups build strength, increase endurance, flexibility, and coordination, and introduce essentials of dance technique. Students gain an awareness of their entire body through the identification and exploration of body parts, shapes, space, directions, levels, rhythms, and time.

#### Learning

Level: Primary Grades (Kindergarten through 6th grade)

Learning set dances, such as folk dances from around the world, and choreography by Daniel, allows our students to become aware of the specificity required in dance. When learning a set dance, details such as the number of steps, or which foot to use are paramount. Our classes impart the skills students need to amass movement into phrases, learn patterns, memorize sequences, increase musicality, and dance in time with others. Dance is presented in a social, historical context that also highlights cultural connections

### Creating

Level: Primary Grades (Kindergarten through 6th grade)

Creating is the heart of our program. We teach students how to create, not what to create. The focus of this component is on improvisation and exploration. Students create dances based on spatial concepts (positive and negative space; attachments; pathways), movement invention, feelings, actions, images, words, poems, songs, stories, and their own experiences and ideas. Everyone's abilities are validated in the class. Students learn to create independently, with a partner and as part of a group. All teaching residencies finish with performances.



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### **Training the Whole Dancer**

Level: Pre-professionals (high school and university-level)

Rooted in Gwirtzman's modern choreography, the aims are to cultivate coordination, stamina, strength and speed in a way that creates total body awareness, conditioning and control. It's also a kick-butt and brain workout! The ultimate outcome is to cultivate the physicality of the athlete with the energetic flow of dance and the expressivity of an individual toward becoming an artist. The meat and potatoes and spinach, or tofu and beans if vegetarian, are characterized by a manipulation of speed and a rewiring of the body to gain comfort in unexpected shifts of weight and changes of direction; the virtuosity comes through the manipulation of a certain neutrality and pedestrianism of the body; rhythmic work, specifically polyrhythmic work, and coordination are designed to challenge the student both physically and intellectually. Expression and charisma are also addressed in the class.

### Power, Rhythm, Motion, Speed

Level: Professional

The class is focused on stretching the body and mind and strengthening all skills fundamental to dance. A codified technique that is rooted in dance fundamentals, the class does not hew to one specific technique, but reflects Gwirtzman's eclectic career as a teacher/choreographer and the synthesis of years of research, discovery, and practical application. Dancers will learn Gwirtzman's signature style, which blends "casualness with precision," as dance critic Deborah Jowitt has characterized the aesthetic. Skills-based work and expressive work are presented in equal measure. Partnering and improvisation are also woven into the class. The objectives are to gain a total awareness of the entire body at all times, a stripping away of idiosyncrasy, not as a judgment, but as an ability of being in control, of cultivating complete versatility to aid in the development and proficiency of dance for a professional regardless of genre. Of his penchant to push the envelope of speed.

### **Daniel Gwirtzman Dance Company**

### Workshops for HIGH SCHOOL AGE STUDENTS:

Daniel has an extensive history teaching high school students. Most recently, from 2008-2010 he was a guest teacher and choreographer at the La Guardia High School for the Performing Arts; last year a guest at the School of the Arts, an arts high school in Rochester, NY. This academic year he has been a guest choreographer at the Frank Sinatra High School for the Performing Arts, in Astoria, Queens and at Talent Unlimited High School, in Manhattan.

### **Daniel Gwirtzman Dance Company**

#### **Workshops for ADULTS:**

Daniel excels at reaching a large, general population without compromise, or dumbing anything down, and is known for an infectious energy and simplicity in presenting dance programming. His master classes and workshops are both physically and mentally challenging, rigorous and fun. The programming is a mixture of teaching set social and folk dances from around the world and introducing contemporary dance through creative explorations and a variety of dance-based exercises. Be prepared to sweat, have fun, and exercise your creativity! Classes are tailored for a range of populations, from the true beginner to the advanced practitioner.



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### **Daniel Gwirtzman Dance Company**

### **Workshops for: PROFESSIONALS**

With two decades of experience teaching dance to professionals a master class or workshop (offered in technique, repertory and composition) with Daniel Gwirtzman provides a challenge and insight into the fun complexity of this renowned dance artist. Blending precision with casualness, Daniel's classes are characterized by a manipulation of speed, rewiring the body to gain comfort in unexpected shifts of weight and changes of direction; the virtuosity comes through the manipulation of a certain neutrality and pedestrianism of the body; rhythmic work, specifically polyrhythmic work, and coordination are designed to challenge the student both physically and intellectually. The ultimate outcome is to cultivate the physicality of the athlete with the energetic flow of dance and the expressivity of an individual toward becoming an artist.





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### **Dallas Black Dance Theatre**

### Residencies/Master Classes/Assembly Performances

Celebrating its 36th Season the mission of Dallas Black Dance Theatre (DBDT) is to create and produce contemporary modern dance at its highest level of Artistic excellence through performances and educational programs that bridge cultures and reach diverse audiences. With an ever expanding national and global audience, the company employs a diverse, multi-ethnic troupe of dancers performing for audiences of all ages and backgrounds. DBDT is a contemporary modern dance company consisting of 12 professional full-time dancers (11 month contract) performing a mixed repertory of modern, jazz, ethnic and spiritual works by nationally and internationally known choreographers. DBDT's proudest joy is its dancers who are college graduates and professionally trained at many of the finest schools on the east and west coasts.

#### **Arts Education/Residencies**

DBDT has a history of promoting excellence in arts education. Student Matinees, Outreach Programs and In-School Residencies are designed to build critical thinking skills, connect youth to culture and invigorate the educational process by building connections between the construction and execution of dance as an art form and traditional learning techniques. The company is equipped to present a residency of any length, suited to the needs of any age group. The residency can or may include student matinees, master classes, lecture demonstrations and a full evening performance.

Each year DBDT serves over 150,000 persons including 20,000 plus youths. Residencies are held yearly in California (Bay Area), Cheverly, Maryland and San Antonio, El Paso, Fort Worth and Dallas, Texas School Districts.

### **Dallas Black Dance Theatre**

### **Student Matinees Programs**

"Dance Let's Move" is a 45 minute Lecture Demonstration program where dancers enjoy demonstrating and describing the four types of dance, ballet, modern, jazz and ethnic. The Artistic Director or Associate Artistic Director moderates the program focusing on promoting a healthy lifestyle, increasing physical activity and stimulating dance movement. Audience participation is a part of this program.

"Gotta Dance" is a one hour matinee program designed for students of all ages or senior citizens. Selected modern dance solos, duets and ensemble works from DBDT's current repertory are performed by company members in full costume and staging. Modern dance works include Spirituals, music from Ray Charles, Michael Jackson, Nina Simone, Marvin Gaye and others.



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### **Dallas Black Dance Theatre**

### "Master Classes"

Dancers in DBDT's company are equipped to offer classes in any of the following:

**Modern** – Lester Horton technique – the technique of DBDT and the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater.

**Jazz** – A mixture of fast paced technique including head rolls, shoulders and hip movements plus a great three minute combination learned and perfected in class for students to remember.

**African** – A two hour class consisting of West African movement with all of DBDT dancers participating. Drums will be used as accompaniment and a combination will be taught to end the class.

