

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, 6/7/17



WHAT: *Rhythmically Speaking 2017*
WHO: Choreographers: Karla Grotting, O'Calla Joslyn, Kaleena Miller, Erinn Liebhard, Jeffrey Peterson (PA-based), Laura Osterhaus & Abigail Whitmore
WHEN: August 17-19, 2017 at 7:30 pm and August 19 at 2:00pm
WHERE: The Illusion Theater, 528 Hennepin Ave. 8th Floor, Minneapolis, MN 55403
TICKETS: Purchase info at www.rhythmicallyspeakingdance.org
CONTACT: Erinn Liebhard at info@rhythmicallyspeakingdance.org or 612-419-5549
MEDIA: www.rhythmicallyspeakingdance.org/press

St. Paul – *Rhythmically Speaking 2017*, running August 17-19 at the Illusion Theater, marks the ninth installment of this unique annual production featuring the work of different local and national jazz and American vernacular choreographers. This year's show presents seven different perspectives on the experience of giving into rhythm and groove to both escape and connect, and features forward-thinking local choreographers Karla Grotting, O'Calla Joslyn, Kaleena Miller, Laura Osterhaus and Abigail Whitmore, and RS Artistic Director Erinn Liebhard. The show will also spotlight work by Jeffrey Peterson, a long-time Minnesota artist now based in Pennsylvania and showing work nationally and internationally. More information on this year's artists can be found at www.rhythmicallyspeakingdance.org/2017-show/.

From classic and modern jazz sensibilities to rhythm tap and an ode to television show *In Living Color*'s dance troupe *The Fly Girls*, the 2017 production will present seven uniquely personal yet widely relatable outlooks on jazz and American vernacular dance. While this year's choreographers work within an array of aesthetics, they have a mutual appreciation for two shared aspects of these dance forms: rhythm and groove, and how they serve as means for both escape and connection. Audiences are invited to experience seven original pieces of dance exploring ideas on joy, loneliness, discovery and community building, all tied together by original spoken word vignettes created and performed by local artist SEE MORE PERSPECTIVE.

The Rhythmically Speaking annual production has become a highly anticipated staple of the Twin Cities dance scene, bringing the community a taste of the best local and national jazz and American vernacular choreographers. Rhythmically Speaking is igniting and uniting creators, viewers and students of these dance forms in the Twin Cities, leading the charge to elevate their presence in our community and beyond. Touted by Dance Magazine as "revitalizing jazz dance in the Twin Cities area," the organization is proud to have presented 76 original and remounted works and engaged 350+ artists and thousands of audience members since our founding in 2009.

Rhythmically Speaking 2017 runs August 17-19, 2017 at the Illusion Theater in Minneapolis

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