

American Masterpieces: Dance Reconstruction Projects, 2007-2008

September 2006

NEA



AMERICAN MASTERPIECES



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE ARTS



New England
Foundation
for the Arts

American Masterpieces: Dance (AMD) is generously funded by the National Endowment for the Arts.

www.nefa.org

New England Foundation for the Arts, 145 Tremont Street, 7th Floor, Boston, MA 02111

American Masterpieces: Dance

American Masterpieces: Dance (AMD) is the dance component of a major initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to acquaint Americans with the best of their cultural and artistic legacy. The AMD project, administered by New England Foundation for the Arts (NEFA) for the NEA, celebrates the extraordinary and rich evolution of dance and choreography in the United States. Launched in 2006, AMD activities will extend at least through the 2007-08 season and it looks promising that the project will continue into the future. Stay tuned for an update later in the Fall.

Through the AMD project the NEA will sponsor select performances, tours and educational programs that will reach large and small communities throughout the United States.

AMD Reconstruction Grants provide funding for the reconstruction or restaging of American Dance works that are artistically, historically, and culturally significant. **AMD Touring Grants** support the presentation and distribution of the work created by Reconstruction Grant recipients and a limited number of other nominated tours each touring season.

The NEA and NEFA are delighted to bring you the first round of American Masterpieces: Dance (AMD) reconstruction grant recipients. (see pages 3-7) Because AMD views touring to U.S. communities as essential, AMD reconstruction grants are awarded to projects alongside allocations of AMD support for each project to tour. AMD funding will support the presentation and distribution of the work created by reconstruction grant recipients and a limited number of other nominated touring projects each season.

For information on How to Apply for an AMD Touring Grant or How to Nominate a Project for Tour Only Support, see page 8.

Information about AMD Grants is also available on NEFA's website www.nefa.org.

AMD College Component (AMDCC): AMD funding is also available to colleges and universities, through a program administered by Dance/USA, to support the restaging, performance, and documentation of significant dance choreography in order to provide dance students with access to the rich, but often inaccessible, legacy of American dance history. For information on AMDCC, go to www.danceusa.org/programs_publications/American_Masterpieces.htm.



Photo: Paul Kolnik

Artist: ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER (AAADT)
Origin: New York, NY
Project title: Talley Beatty's *Road of the Phoebe Snow*

Tour Coordinator:
 Byron Gustafson
 Executive Vice President
 ICM Artists, Ltd.
 40 W. 57th Street
 New York, NY 10019
 P: (212) 556-6867
 F: (212) 556-5677
 bgustafson@icmtalent.com

Artistic fee: \$215,000 to \$220,000 per week (estimate), not including transportation, hotel, or per diem.
Dates available to tour: February - June 2008
Special technical requirements: Venue capacity ranging from 1,200 to 3,500 seats, with a proscenium stage and facilities that meet AAADT's technical needs, including a performing area of 44 feet wide by 40 feet deep; stage floor must be a sprung wood floor. AAADT travels with its own floor, lighting, sound equipment, and operators.

AAADT will reconstruct Talley Beatty's *Road of the Phoebe Snow* (cast of 12 dancers) for its 2007-2008 season. Beatty had a profound influence on Alvin Ailey, and this work stands as one of his enduring masterpieces. Set to American jazz music by Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn, the work weaves a turbulent and gripping love story of young Americans from "the wrong side of the track" – literally, as the title refers to the name of a train on the Erie-Lackawanna Railroad.

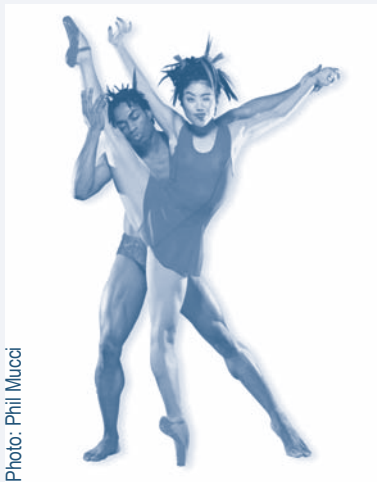


Photo: Phil Mucci

Artist: COMPLEXIONS CONTEMPORARY BALLET
Origin: New York, NY
Project title: *Ulysses Dove's Dancing on the Front Porch of Heaven, Odes to Love and Loss*

Tour Coordinator:
 Margaret Selby
 President
 Columbia Artist Management, Inc.
 165 West 57th Street
 New York, NY 10018
 P: (212) 841-9554
 F: (212) 841-9770
 mselby@cami.com
<http://www.cami.com>

Artistic fee: \$40,000 per performance week including housing (8 rooms), share of domestic transportation, and share of visa/insurance costs. Single performance fee (TBD) is negotiable within minimum of one week touring context.
Dates available to tour: June 1st 2007 to August 31st 2008
Special technical requirements: Marley floor

Complexions, led by Artistic Directors Dwight Rhoden and Desmond Richardson, will reconstruct *Ulysses Dove's Dancing on the Front Porch of Heaven, Odes to Love and Loss* (1993). This 20 minute work, which Dove said he created as a "poetic monument over people I loved", involves 6 dancers and is set to *Cantus in Memoriam Benjamin Britten* by Estonian composer, Arvo Part. We believe that the beauty and emotional pulse revealed in this work will spread the appeal of Dove's choreography to new dance audiences.



Photo: Gerald S. Ackerman

Artist: DAVID GORDON, PICK UP PERFORMANCE CO (S.)
Origin: New York, NY
Project title: *Trying Times*

Tour Coordinator:
 Alyce Dissette
 Producer
 Pick Up Performance Co(S.)
 520 Eighth Ave., 3rd Floor, Room 303
 New York, NY 10018
 P: (212) 244-7622
 F: (917) 591-8452
pickupperformance@earthlink.net

Artistic fee: \$38,000 week all inclusive for a traveling co. of 13 including airfare, hotel, per diem and production shipping
Dates available to tour: 2007 - 2008 Season

Presenter Partner:
 Dance Theater Workshop, New York, NY

Trying Times was made in 1982 after many viewings of Balanchine's *Apollo*. The Pick Up Co. included three women/muses - Susan Eschelbach, Margaret Hoeffel and Valda Setterfield. Philip Sandstrom, resident designer, lit. Artist Power Boothe designed frames/cloths/boards called "visual devices." DTW will produce the 25th anniversary of this work. Phil and Power will collaborate with me again. I watched the record tape and was impressed (yes, I was) with range of movement, design, dialogue and response to Stravinsky's glorious music in the fragmented narrative journey culminating in a mock trial - I'm indicted for making dancers talk and abandoning post modern aesthetics. This piece was/is an example of piercing boundaries between disciplines and pursuing positive movement relationships between aesthetic forms. -David Gordon

4 - AMD RECONSTRUCTION GRANT RECIPIENTS



Photo: Jay Anderson

Artist: DAYTON CONTEMPORARY DANCE COMPANY
Origin: Dayton, Ohio
Project title: *Las Desenamoradas*, choreography by Eleo Pomare

Artistic fee: \$45,000 including housing (13 rooms), for full week with up to five performances and residency activities. Single performance fee \$15,000.

Dates available to tour: June 1, 2007 - May 31, 2008

Tour Coordinator:
Harold Norris II
H-Art Management
308 West 103rd Street, 5E
New York, NY 10025
P: (212) 666-0337
F: (917) 504-3229
<http://www.h-artmanagement.com>

Presenter Partner:
American Dance Festival Durham, NC

At the 40th anniversary of its creation, Dayton Contemporary Dance Company will engage choreographer Eleo Pomare to refurbish his 1967 master work, "Las Desenamoradas," which has been called "a splendid piece of dance theater...powerful...grand-scaled." Based on Federico Garcia Lorca's "The House of Bernarda Alba," with music by John Coltrane, this 17-minute piece with 10 dancers is a dramatic, tension-filled story of a tyrannical widow and her daughters, in a house where heartless pride and sterile convention destroy love and life. Outreach and education activities will be available.



Photo: Robert Kaupū IV

Artist: HŌKŪLANI HOLT / PA`U O HI`IAKA
Origin: Maui, Hawai`i
Project title: *Kahekihi*

Artistic fee: \$18,000 - \$20,000 with residency (excludes housing and travel, can include multiple performances)

Dates available to tour: October 1, 2007 - February 28, 2008; Summer 2008

Tour Coordinator:
Pali Ahue
Halau Na Maile Ku Honua
1342 Kahoma Street
Lahaina, Maui, HI 96761
P: (808) 264-0660
cliffahue@gmail.com

Presenter Partner:
Maui Arts & Cultural Center,
Kahului, Maui, Hawai`i

Celebrating *Kahekihi*, one of Hawaii's most influential chiefs, this hula drama includes original choreography, chant, and music by native Hawaiian kumu hula (hula master) Hōkūlani Holt. This work transports audiences into pre-contact Hawai`i through the earthbound movements and gestures of *kahiko*, ancient hula, accompanied by live traditional percussion instruments and chant, as well as ceremonies and cultural practices rarely performed on stage today. Through educational services and master classes, this project shares authentic Hawaiian culture through the dance protocols and cultural practices of Kahekihi's time.



Photo: Paul Antico

Artist: JAZZ TAP ENSEMBLE
Origin: Los Angeles, CA
Project title: *American Tap Masterpieces: The Hollywood Journey-Dance, Music, Film*

Artistic fee: Weekly \$75,000 plus housing (16) rooms. Single performance fee (TBD) is negotiable within minimum of one week touring context.

Dates available to tour: June 1, 2007 - August 31, 2008

Special technical requirements: Sprung hardwood floor (not directly on concrete), baby grand piano, Six (6) Sennheiser shotgun microphones for tap perimeter, Three (3) 7000-10,000 lumen video projectors, cyclorama and black scrim, minimum stage size 32' wide x 24' deep (prefer 40' wide).

Tour Coordinator:
Gayle Hooks
Managing Director
Jazz Tap Ensemble
1416 Westwood Blvd. #207
Los Angeles, CA 90024
P: (310) 475-4412
F: (310) 475-4037
jtensemble@aol.com

Tap dance pioneer Lynn Dally celebrates American rhythm tap with a company of five musicians and seven dancers including legendary tap master Arthur Duncan. This evening length program of re-creations and new inventions brings to life famous tap dances from the heyday of the 30's and 40's film musicals (Bill 'Bojangles' Robinson, Fred Astaire, Eleanor Powell, Gene Kelly, Ann Miller, Coles & Atkins and the Nicholas Brothers), along with contemporary masterworks by legendary artists Gregory Hines and Jimmy Slyde, in a vivid, highly entertaining, ever changing action portrait.

Photo: John Lindquist



Artist: JOSÉ LIMÓN DANCE FOUNDATION
Origin: New York, NY
Project title: *The Quartet Project*

Artistic fee: \$25,000 - 28,000 (As a part of repertory program)
Dates available to tour: June 1, 2007 - August 31, 2008
Special technical requirements: The floor of the stage must be wood laid over wood sleepers with some give. Concrete or cement floors are not acceptable. A floor covering is required and must be supplied by presenter. The floor covering must be black marley or equivalent. Possibility of needing equipment for projected images.

Tour Coordinator:
 John Claassen
 General Manager
 307 West 38th Street
 New York, NY 10018
 P: (212) 777-3353 x15
 jclaassen@limon.org

This work will be a restaging of *The Traitor and Lament for Ignacio Sanchez Mejias* choreographed by our founders, José Limón and Doris Humphrey, respectively. *Lament for Ignacio Sanchez Mejias* was choreographed by Doris Humphrey in 1946 and draws its inspiration from the famous poem of the same name by Federico Garcia Lorca. Choreographed in 1954 to Gunther Schuller's Symphony for Brasses and Percussion, *The Traitor* uses Sholem Asch's novel, *The Nazarene*, as the impetus for re-telling of the Christ and Judas story.

Federico Garcia Lorca. Choreographed in 1954 to Gunther Schuller's Symphony for Brasses and Percussion, *The Traitor* uses Sholem Asch's novel, *The Nazarene*, as the impetus for re-telling of the Christ and Judas story.



Photo courtesy of Martha Clarke

Artist: MARTHA CLARKE
Origin: Durham, NC
Project title: *The Garden of Earthly Delights*

Artistic fee: \$100,000-\$125,000 per week; amount will depend on the number of commissioners that are secured
Dates available to tour: June 1, 2007 - August 31, 2008
Special technical requirements: Tour will travel with its own aerial rig to fly 7 actors, which will have specific requirements in terms of fly space, load, etc. An early provisional plan was to have 5 track systems (50-60 feet wide) and 1 vertical lift system. These specifications are TBD.

Tour Coordinator:
 Thomas Pearson
 International Creative Management, Inc. (ICM)
 40 West 57th Street
 New York, NY 10019-4001
 P: (212) 556-6656
 F: (212) 566-5794
 tpearson@icmtalent.com

Presenter Partner:
 American Dance Festival Durham, NC

Choreographer and director Martha Clarke will reconstruct her seminal work, *The Garden of Earthly Delights*. This critically acclaimed piece, based on the painting by Hieronymus Bosch, is designed for the proscenium stage and incorporates aerial dance work. The cast of 13 will include ten dancers and three musicians who perform as part of the cast. The evening-length work consists of four sections: Eden, The Garden, The Seven Sins and Hell and captures the essence of Bosch's painting through movement and live music.

perform as part of the cast. The evening-length work consists of four sections: Eden, The Garden, The Seven Sins and Hell and captures the essence of Bosch's painting through movement and live music.

Photo: Paul Palmero



Artist: PAUL TAYLOR DANCE COMPANY
Origin: New York, NY
Project title: *Book of Beasts/Airs/Roses/Sunset/Av Ovo Us-que Ad Mala (From Soup to Nuts)*

Artistic fee: \$35,000 to \$80,000
Dates available to tour: Oct 15, 2007 - Jan 13, 2008; March 17, 2008 - June 30, 2008
Special technical requirements: Standard proscenium configuration

Tour Coordinator:
 John Tomlinson
 General Manager
 Paul Taylor Dance Foundation
 552 Broadway
 New York, NY 10012
 P: (212) 431-5562
 jt@paultaylor.org

Paul Taylor will reconstruct a landmark work from his half-century as a dance innovator. The reconstruction will draw on the knowledge of current and former company members, as well as materials from the works' original creation.

This work will be available for touring as part of evening-long programs that will include additional Taylor repertory. Performances can be accompanied by residency activities which can help provide an insight as well as a historical context for Mr. Taylor's work.

6 - AMD RECONSTRUCTION GRANT RECIPIENTS



Photo: Fred Hayes

Artist: RIRIE-WOODBURY DANCE COMPANY
Origin: Salt Lake City, UT
Project title: Alwin Nikolais' "Tent"

Artistic fee: Single performances = \$25,000;
Two performances in one location = \$30,000;
One week (6 full days on site) = \$45,000;
(travel and housing for 15 people an additional cost)

Dates available to tour: October - November 2007; February 11 - March 4, 2008; May 5 - 30, 2008

Special technical requirements: Standard Nikolais light plot and a small number of additional specials. 5 available batons to hang the "Tent" (2 in wing one, 1 midstage, 2 upstage), 10 slide projectors provided by Ririe-Woodbury

Tour Coordinator:
Jena Woodbury Thompson
Associate General Manager/Tour Director
Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company
138 West Broadway
Salt Lake City, UT 84101
P: (801) 297-4237
C: (801) 856-2334
touring@ririewoodbury.com
www.ririewoodbury.com

In a collaborative project with the Nikolais/Louis Foundation, Alwin Nikolais' 1968 multimedia ballet "Tent" will be reconstructed and added to a substantial repertory of reconstructed works being kept alive for a new generation of audience members. Cited among Nikolais' most celebrated works, "Tent" includes 10 dancers who erect a canopy, which is continually manipulated to architecturally transform the stage for the dancers to move in, under, over, around, and through it. The 35-minute dance is illuminated by original slides and set to Nikolais' original electronic score.



Photo: John Dean

Artist: THE MARTHA GRAHAM CENTER OF CONTEMPORARY DANCE
Origin: New York, NY
Project title: Martha Graham's *Ardent Song*

Artistic fee: Single performance: \$45,000, Half and full weeks available

Dates available to tour: September 20 - October 30, 2007; February 1 - March 31, 2008; Other dates by arrangement

Tour Coordinator:
Rena Shagan
Rena Shagan Associates
16A West 88th Street
New York, NY 10024
P: (212) 873-9700
www.shaganarts.com
rena@shaganarts.com

The Martha Graham Dance Company will reconstruct Graham's 1954 ballet, "Ardent Song." The work illustrates the phases of the moon from moonrise through dawn as personified by the goddesses Aphrodite, Hecate, and Aurora, as it invokes the imagery of Minoan, Greek, and Hindu cultures. Following the premiere of

"Ardent Song," critic John Martin said, "It may well be the richest and the most consistently beautiful of all of Graham's rituals." Renowned choreographer Anthony Tudor commented at the time of its creation that it "transcended all her other dance works."



Photo: Deborah Boardman

Artist: THE PHILADELPHIA DANCE COMPANY, PHILADANCO!
Origin: Philadelphia, PA
Project title: Reconstruction of "Southern Landscapes" by Talley Beatty

Artistic fee: \$15,000 - \$45,000 per engagement, plus transportation and lodging for 20

Dates available to tour: July 2007 - June 2008. The company's home seasons are in November and May of each year, and the company is based in Philadelphia during those months.

Special technical requirements: 30'x40' minimum Marley dance floor (not over concrete); wireless lapel mike

Tour Coordinator:
Kim Bears-Bailey
Assistant Artistic Director
kbb@philadanco.org
OR
Vanessa A. Thomas
Managing Director
vthomas@philadanco.org
Philadelphia Dance Company
9 N. Preston Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104
P: (215) 387-8200
F: (215) 387-8203

Presenter Partner: American Women's Heritage Society

The Philadelphia Dance Company will reconstruct the Talley Beatty classic "Southern Landscapes." This extraordinary work, one of the first choreographed by the late Mr. Beatty, has stood the test of time and has been found instructive and dynamic for both audiences and dance historians alike. Mr. Beatty and Philadanco have had a mutually beneficial relationship spanning decades. The company will remount the work using the artistry of their current dancers under the direction of veteran dancers who were involved in the initial piece. Philadanco will revitalize both the visual and musical vision created by Mr. Beatty in order to expose new generations to his genius.



Photo: Tristan Vales

Artist: TRISHA BROWN DANCE COMPANY
Origin: New York, NY
Project title: *Trisha Brown: Early Works*

Tour Coordinator:
 Nicole Taney
 General Manager
 Trisha Brown Dance Company
 625 West 55th Street
 New York, NY 10019
 P: (212) 977-5365 ext. 25
 n.taney@trishabrowncompany.org

Artistic fee: Will vary depending on the pieces chosen for presentation
 - Please contact Tour coordinator.

Dates available to tour: 2007-2008 season

Special technical requirements: Work intended for non-traditional spaces; pieces have varying tech requirements and are site specific. Please contact the tour coordinator for more information.

Trisha Brown Dance Company presents five works from Trisha Brown's groundbreaking early repertory: *Accumulation* (1971), *Group Primary Accumulation* (1973), *Spanish Dance* (1973), *Spiral* (1974), and *Walking on the Wall* (1971). Challenging the conventions of early modern dance, these works draw on natural human movement and gesture, the choreographic maxims of the time they were created. The five works vary broadly in scale, some requiring only one dancer and others necessitating many dancers, extensive equipment, or alternative performance spaces.



Photo: Antoine Tempe

Artist: URBAN BUSH WOMEN
Origin: Brooklyn, NY
Project title: "Chicken Soup," by Blondell Cummings

Tour Coordinator:
 Julia Glawe
 IMG Artists
 Carnegie Hall Tower
 152 West 57th Street, 5th Floor
 New York, NY 10019-1111
 P: (212) 994-3500
 F: (212) 994-3550
 jglawe@imgartists.com

Artistic fee: \$18,000 per performance as part of a repertory evening

Dates available to tour: January 2007 - August 2008

Special technical requirements: black Marley floor, video projection

Created in 1981, *Chicken Soup* is a portrait of lifetime domesticity set to music by Brian Eno, Meredith Monk, and Colin Walcott; text by Grace Paley and Pat Stein; and a recipe from *The Settlement Cookbook*. This 12 minute solo will be restaged by Ms. Cummings working with Urban Bush Women to illuminate the political, social, and personal issues that surrounded the creation of the work. The highly theatrical Cummings was one of the first artists to integrate film into her choreographic explorations.

AMD Staff

Jane Forde, Program Manager

Vanessa Sweeney, Program Associate
vsweeney@nefa.org

Jane Preston, Director of Programs

Rebecca Blunk, Executive Director

New England Foundation for the Arts

145 Tremont Street, 7th Floor

Boston, MA 02111

P: 617/951-0010

F: 617/951-0016

www.nefa.org

How to Apply for an AMD Touring Grant

Every project reconstructed with an AMD Reconstruction Grant will receive an allocation of touring support to assist with the national tour of the reconstructed work.

Performing arts presenters are encouraged to book any of the projects from the current list of AMD tours (see pages 3-7). Presenters booking any of these projects are eligible to receive fee subsidy grants for their presentation. Grants of up to 30% of the contracted artist's fee are available.

Interested presenters should contact the listed Tour Coordinator(s) immediately to discuss a preliminary agreement. After speaking with the Tour Coordinator(s), presenters must submit a Letter of Intent to the Tour Coordinator by early February. This letter must include agreed-upon artist's fees, dates, and a description of the engagement.

Tour Coordinators will add the information from each Letter of Intent to an overall tour plan, which must be submitted to AMD for review and funding consideration. Once tour plans are reviewed and funding is allocated (February), each presenter will receive a letter from AMD that includes a grant allocation and official application forms. Completed forms are due to AMD by April 2, 2007.

Further details and copies of all forms and materials are available on the NEFA website at www.nefa.org under Grant Programs/American Masterpieces: Dance.

How to Nominate a Project for Tour Only Support

AMD also awards Tour Only support to artists who already have what could be considered an American dance masterpiece ready for touring. Note: Due to limited funds, Tour Only support will be awarded no more than five tours.

Tour Only support is awarded to dance projects based on nominations AMD receives from presenters, artists, artist managers and/or agents. Projects considered are those that meet the listed criteria and that are seen to enhance the list of tours currently being supported in the same season (see pages 3-7). When selecting projects, AMD considers historical and cultural significance of the work and in the aggregate, scale, geography and the representation of diverse ethnicities and artistic forms.

Projects nominated for AMD Tour Only support should:

- Be fully developed and available for touring;
- Involve artists of regional or national significance;
- Enhance the range of AMD-supported projects with regard to scale, potential for geographic reach and/or representation of diverse artistic styles;
- Have a minimum of three presenters committed to booking the tour.

To nominate a project for AMD Tour Only support, please complete the AMD Tour Only Support Application Form available at www.nefa.org for submission to the New England Foundation for the Arts by November 1, 2006.

Send completed forms to:

New England Foundation for the Arts

Attn: Vanessa Sweeney, Program Associate

145 Tremont Street, 7th floor

Boston, MA 02111