

DANCE @ THE WALLIS

Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts Launches New Season of Dance on October 12 – 14 with the Debut of Dorrance Dance

L.A. Dance Project Named First Company-In-Residence for 2017/18 Season

Two Additional LA-based Dance Companies—Lula Washington Dance Theatre and BODYTRAFFIC—enhance season

South Africa's Dada Masilo Rounds Out Dance @ The Wallis

(Beverly Hills, CA August 31) Since its opening in Fall 2013, the **Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts (The Wallis)** has presented several of the world's top dance companies including Martha Graham, Matthew Bourne, Twyla Tharp, Paul Taylor, Jessica Lange, José Limón, Daniel Ezralow and many more. This season, The Wallis welcomes the return of **L.A. Dance Project** and adds four more dance companies to this illustrious roster as The Wallis' reputation as a prime West Coast home for dance continues to flourish. **Dorrance Dance**, South Africa's **Dada Masilo** and Los Angeles' **Lula Washington Dance Theatre**, **BODYTRAFFIC** and **L.A. Dance Project** will bring a wide range of innovative dance programs during the 2017/18 season.

"Our dance programming showcases local, national, and international artists, bringing remarkable performances to our stages," said Paul Crewes, the institution's Artistic Director. "The Wallis is a home for artists and audiences alike who want to explore, celebrate and embrace creativity, and we strive to attract and reflect the diversity of the city of Los Angeles. I am extremely proud to welcome these new dance companies and extend a warm welcome to Benjamin Millepied and L.A. Dance Project as our first Company-in-Residence."

The Wallis continues to deepen its relationship with L.A. Dance Project, which made its debut on the Bram Goldsmith Theater stage during the 2015/16 season. Under the artistic leadership of Benjamin Millepied, L.A. Dance Project has quickly established itself on the international stage and will present two programs at The Wallis, one in the fall and one in spring, as well as participate in other education and outreach activities with GRoW @ The Wallis throughout the season. "I am thrilled to find a new home in Los Angeles at The Wallis, one of the most exciting new performing arts centers," said Millepied. "This is a wonderful opportunity for L.A. Dance Project to extend its reach to a larger community and continue its path towards becoming a major dance company in America."

Single tickets ranging from \$45 – \$125 are available for all Dance @ The Wallis performances. Visit TheWallis.org, call 310.746.4000, or stop by in person at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts Ticket Services Office located at 9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90210.

The Wallis also offers three different options to subscribe to the 2017/18 season: the Premium Subscription Series; the Design-Your-Own option; and the new 3-show Flex Pass for \$99, created for busy young professionals—39 and younger—giving the most flexibility to join The Wallis family of subscribers. Learn more at TheWallis.org/Subscribe.

Dance @ The Wallis Programs:

Dorrance Dance

October 12 – 14, 2017 | Bram Goldsmith Theater

Under the guidance of artistic director Michelle Dorrance, a 2015 MacArthur “Genius” and Alpert Award fellow, Dorrance Dance is known for connecting tap’s history to contemporary urban culture and infusing the art form with brilliant theatricality that is laced with cutting-edge humor. Dorrance Dance honors tap dance’s unique and powerful history in a new and dynamic context by upholding its tradition while simultaneously pushing it rhythmically, technically and conceptually. *Myelination* premiered at New York City Center’s 2015 Fall for Dance Festival. Gia Kourlas of *The New York Times* responded: “Ms. Dorrance has choreographed a glittering closer that needs to have a second life...please, someone, make that happen.” In October, Dorrance Dance brings a new, fully extended version of *Myelination* with original live music to The Wallis, along with the rarely-seen Bessie Award-winning *Three to One*, and a revival of the whimsical *Jungle Blues*, illustrating the great range for which the company is known.

Program:

Jungle Blues

Three to One

Myelination

“Ms. Dorrance, a brilliant conductor, pushes the boundaries of tap while exposing its true nature: that it is music.” – *The New York Times*

L.A. Dance Project

November 2 – 4, 2017 and April 5 – 7, 2018 | Bram Goldsmith Theater

Collaborating with the company’s Artistic Director Benjamin Millepied, The Wallis welcomes L.A. Dance Project, the institution’s first Company-in-Residence, in a series of programs in both the fall of 2017 and the spring of 2018, as well as other education and outreach activities.

Fall Program:

MinEvent, choreography by Merce Cunningham

Closer, choreography by Benjamin Millepied (L.A. Dance Project Los Angeles Premiere)

Orpheus Highway, choreography by Benjamin Millepied (West Coast Premiere)

In Silence We Speak, choreography by Benjamin Millepied (West Coast Premiere)

“L.A. Dance Project delivers mesmerizing debut at The Wallis.” – *Los Angeles Times*

“Benjamin Millepied’s L.A. Dance Project has thrown down the slipper in declaring the city’s standing in the ballet world.” – *The Hollywood Reporter*

Lula Washington Dance Theatre

January 11 – 13, 2018 | Bram Goldsmith Theater

Los Angeles-based company Lula Washington Dance Theatre celebrates the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. by offering Wallis audiences three different programs of dance over the holiday weekend. Not to be missed, all programs are performed with Marcus L. Miller and his Freedom Jazz Movement.

Program Schedule:

January 11: Program A: *African-American Male Voices*

January 12: Program B: *Dave, Live Jazz & Social Meaning*

January 13: Program C: *Movement For The Soul Of It*

“Infectiously enthusiastic performances.” – *The New York Times*

Dada Masilo’s Giselle

April 12 – 14, 2018 | Bram Goldsmith Theater

Co-commissioned by The Joyce Theater’s Stephen and Cathy Weinroth Fund for New Work; the Hopkins Center, Dartmouth College; la Biennale de la danse de Lyon 2018, and Sadler’s Wells, with music composed by Philip Miller.

A young girl dies after having been betrayed by a man. She cannot rest in peace and is transformed into a wili, a ghost with a desire for dance—and revenge. Acclaimed South African choreographer Dada Masilo, who stunned audiences around the world with her feminist revisions of *Carmen*, *Romeo & Juliet* and *Swan Lake*, takes on another classic in her distinctive style of African dance and classical ballet performed at astonishing speed. Mature content, language and nudity. Recommended for ages 14+.

BODYTRAFFIC

May 31 – June 2, 2018 | Bram Goldsmith Theater

For the past 10 years, BODYTRAFFIC has traveled the globe as Los Angeles’ most invigorating dance ambassadors. To celebrate its 10th Anniversary Season, BODYTRAFFIC comes home for its anticipated debut at The Wallis.

Education and Free Programming @ The Wallis:

In addition to its mainstage programming, The Wallis presents the third year of **Dance Sundays with Debbie Allen & Friends**, a series of free outdoor dance events with Emmy Award-winning choreographer/director Debbie Allen. Beginning October 8 and running through August 12, 2018, Dance Sundays has proved wildly popular for the whole family to enjoy as they learn how to dance salsa, jazz, hip-hop, tango, African and more.

GRoW @ The Wallis, the performing arts center’s educational wing, also has a major dance programming component. Through its many education and community partner programs, GRoW @ The Wallis offers opportunities for participants to engage with visiting artists via Master Classes, a variety of choreography courses for young artists and several different musical theater programs.

For the complete listing of all Dance @ The Wallis programs visit TheWallis.org/Dance.

About the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts

Since opening its doors in October 2013, The Wallis has produced or presented more than 150 dance, theater, opera, classical music and family programs to an ever-expanding audience. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Paul Crewes and Managing Director Rachel Fine, The Wallis brings audiences world-class theater, dance and music, performed by many of the world's most talented and sought-after artists. Featuring eclectic programming that mirrors the diverse landscape of Los Angeles and its notability as the entertainment capital of the world, The Wallis offers original and revered works from across the U.S. and around the globe.

The mission of The Wallis is to create, present and celebrate unique performing arts events and educational programs that reflect the rich cultural diversity of our community. Nominated for 28 Ovation Awards, four L.A. Drama Critic's Circle Awards and the recipient of six architectural awards, The Wallis is a breathtaking 70,000-square-foot venue that celebrates the classic and the modern and was designed by Zoltan E. Pali, FAIA of Studio Pali Fekete architects. The building features the restored, original 1933 Beverly Hills Post Office (on the National Register of Historic Places) that serves as the theater's dramatic yet welcoming lobby, and houses the 150-seat Lovelace Studio Theater, GRoW at The Wallis: A Space for Arts Education (a gift of Gregory Annenberg Weingarten and Family and the Annenberg Foundation) and the contemporary 500-seat, state-of-the-art Bram Goldsmith Theater. Together, these structures embrace the city's history and its future, creating a performing arts destination for L.A.-area visitors and residents alike.

For more information about The Wallis, please visit: TheWallis.org.

For downloadable photos, please visit TheWallis.org/Press.

Like The Wallis on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com), and follow us on [Twitter](https://twitter.com) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com).

TICKET INFORMATION:

What: **Dance @ The Wallis Programming**
Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts
Bram Goldsmith Theater
9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd, Beverly Hills, CA, 90210

Tickets: Single tickets: \$45 – \$95 (prices subject to change)
Online – TheWallis.org
By Phone – 310.746.4000
Box Office – Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts Ticket Service
9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd, Beverly Hills, CA, 90210

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