

Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts Announces 2016/17 Season

**First Season with New Top Leadership Team in Place—
Artistic Director Paul Crewes, Managing Director Rachel Fine
and Board Chairman David C. Bohnett**

Highlights include:

THEATER: Stephen Sondheim's *Merrily We Roll Along*,
a new collaboration with Deaf West Theatre, LA's For the Record,
Peter Brook's *Battlefield*, Complicite/Simon McBurney's
The Encounter, Kneehigh's *946*, RSC/Filter Theatre's *Twelfth Night*,
Hershey Felder's newest work and Alexi Kaye Campbell's *The Pride*

DANCE: Matthew Bourne, Daniel Ezralow, Paul Taylor, Jose Limón, Jacob Jonas
and a Carmen de Lavallade 85th Birthday Celebration

JAZZ: Diane Schuur, Eddie Palmieri and The Brubeck Brothers

CHAMBER MUSIC: Zukerman Trio, Kirshbaum & Wosner, JACK Quartet,
Brooklyn Rider, Joyce Yang, Leif Ove Andsnes and Marc-André Hamelin

CONCERTS: Kyle Riabko's *Bacharach Reimagined*, Dan Zanes & Friends
and the Santa Cecilia Orchestra Trio

**Introducing "The Sorting Room," an intimate, custom-built club delivering the
hottest names in cabaret, comedy, contemporary music and more**

**Tony Award-nominated Director Michael Arden
Named First Artist-in-Residence @ The Wallis**

WelcomeFest Opens the Season with Weekend of Free Events, Sept 10-11

(Beverly Hills, CA May 11) Over 300 performances of more than 50 different programs of theater, dance and music featuring local and world-renowned talent are on tap for the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts' 2016/17 season. The Wallis' new Artistic Director Paul Crewes, joined by Managing Director Rachel Fine and Board Chairman David C. Bohnett, announced details of the company's robust fourth season at a press conference today held at The Wallis.

“In this, my first season as Artistic Director, I was keen to continue to present and produce work by world-class artists and companies, hailing not only from the U.S. and abroad, but also from the enormous pool of talent right here in Los Angeles,” said Crewes. “It is this vital blend of diverse performance and artistry that is building The Wallis’ fast-growing reputation, both nationally and internationally, as a center for creativity and excellence. We in the arts strive to entertain, educate and inspire communities and individuals to live, work and create together. Something that is particularly relevant and important at this time in America.”

The Wallis season will kick off with **WelcomeFest**, a weekend celebration of free theater, dance and music events on Saturday, Sept 10 and Sunday, Sept 11. Designed to enliven all corners of The Wallis’s unique performing arts campus, the festival brings exciting, diverse programming to the 500-seat Bram Goldsmith Theater, the intimate 150-seat Lovelace Studio Theater, GRoW @ The Wallis: A Space for Arts Education, the outdoor Promenade Terrace, the elegant Jamie Tisch Sculpture Garden and the Jim and Eleanor Randall Grand Hall of the U.S landmarked Beverly Hills Post Office. Detailed **WelcomeFest** programming to be announced this summer.

Michael Arden, who recently received Tony, Drama Desk and New York Outer Critics Circle Award nominations for Best Direction of *Spring Awakening*—the breakout hit co-produced by The Wallis—will be the institution’s first ever Artist-in-Residence. Arden will develop new work, conduct a Master Class and direct two new productions: including Steven Sondheim’s *Merrily We Roll Along* and Alexi Kaye Campbell’s *The Pride*.

“The Wallis is quickly becoming a vibrant cultural hub and resource, providing eclectic arts programming and a broad range of education programs to our community,” said Managing Director Rachel Fine. “We are extremely grateful to our loyal Board of Directors, who under David Bohnett’s visionary leadership, provide an invaluable service to our institution, and to the City of Beverly Hills, whose unwavering support has been instrumental to the growth of The Wallis.”

“This season features something for everyone, whether you are a seasoned classical music and theater lover or new to the live performance experience,” said The Wallis’ Board Chairman David. C. Bohnett. “Paul, Rachel and The Wallis’ team have curated a truly impressive lineup of programming for the upcoming season, one that truly reflects the diversity of Los Angeles, and we look forward to welcoming new audiences and old friends back to The Wallis.”

ABOUT THE 2016/17 SEASON:

THEATER @ THE WALLIS

The 2016/17 season features 12 theater productions—four of which will be produced by The Wallis and eight productions of which will be presented and featuring local and international companies—from the work of seminal artist Peter Brook to new productions of a Stephen Sondheim masterwork, directed by Artist-in-Residence Michael Arden, and an early Edward Albee classic, produced in collaboration with Deaf West Theatre. The season welcomes returning artist and company, Hershey Felder and Kneehigh, while welcoming Complicite, Simon McBurney, Filter Theatre and the Royal Shakespeare Company, as well as three productions created to delight young audiences and their families. The season kicks off on Sept. 21 with the return of Los Angeles’ own innovative musical ensemble company For the Record.



The Wallis and For The Record production of

Scorsese: American Crime Requiem

September 21 – October 16, 2016

For The Record returns to Los Angeles to celebrate legendary filmmaker Martin Scorsese. The acclaimed For The Record series is a unique, genre-bending form of live entertainment turning the soundtracks of iconic filmmakers into thrilling immersive theatrical concerts. *American Crime Requiem* explores more than 40 years of Scorsese's storytelling, his passion for music and the people who make it. The show stars an eclectic mix of artists from the worlds of music, stage and screen performing an epic set list from *GoodFellas*, *Casino*, *The Departed*, *The Wolf of Wall Street* and more. Part rock concert, part drama, part nightclub. All LEGENDARY!

"Fan favorites on L.A.'s indie theater scene." – *Variety*

This production is made possible by generous support from David C. Bohnett



The Wallis and Cody Lassen production of

Merrily We Roll Along

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Book by George Furth

Directed by Michael Arden

November 22 – December 18, 2016

Michael Arden, who brilliantly reimagined The Wallis' production of *Spring Awakening* with Deaf West Theatre that received rave reviews on Broadway and earned him Tony Award, Drama Desk and New York Outer Critics Circle Award nominations, directs this rarely staged Stephen Sondheim (*Into the Wood*, *Sweeney Todd*, *West Side Story*) musical. *Merrily We Roll Along* travels backwards in time to navigate the bumpy history between three friends—Franklin, Charlie and Mary—who begin their careers in show business together. The powerful and moving story, based on the Kaufman and Hart play, features some of Sondheim's most beautiful songs including "Good Thing Going," "Old Friends," "Our Time" and "Not a Day Goes By."

"An exceptional score... haunting melodies and dramatic ingenuity." – *The New York Times*

Kneehigh in association with Birmingham Repertory Theatre and Berkeley Repertory Theatre present

946: The Amazing Story of Adolphus Tips

Adapted by Michael Morpurgo and Emma Rice

February 9 – March 5, 2017

Imagine being twelve and having soldiers occupying your house and land, with only your cat to tell your secrets. Kneehigh Theatre, who wowed audiences at The Wallis with *Brief Encounter*, return with *946*, which was originally produced by The Wallis' new Artistic Director Paul Crewes. Kneehigh's signature sorcery of music, puppetry and foolishness will transport us to Slapton Sands, England in 1944. Based on the beloved book by *War Horse* author Michael Morpurgo, *946* explodes everything we thought we knew about the D-Day landings in this tender tale of love and war.

"[4 stars] A wonderfully life-affirming piece of theatre... touchingly and gloriously imaginative." – *The Times*



The Wallis and Deaf West Theatre production of

Edward Albee's At Home at the Zoo

Directed by Coy Middlebrook

March 7 – 26, 2017

The Wallis and Deaf West Theatre, the companies behind the hit revival of *Spring Awakening* in Los Angeles and New York, bring their sign language take to Albee's classic short play *The Zoo Story* (1959) and its acclaimed prequel, *Homelife* (2004). Together these short plays form *At Home at the Zoo*, the complete story of publishing executive Peter, his wife Ann, and Jerry, the volatile stranger Peter meets in the park. The Wallis' own Coy Middlebrook directs this new production featuring both deaf and hearing actors.

"Under Coy Middlebrook's direction, Albee's lacerating insights retain their delicious sting." – *Los Angeles Times* on the 2007 Deaf West Theatre production of *The Zoo Story*

Filter Theatre in association with the Royal Shakespeare Company present

Twelfth Night

By William Shakespeare

Created by Filter Theatre

Directed by Sean Holmes

March 14 – 19, 2017

Filter's explosive and irreverent new take on this beloved romantic comedy of mistaken identity combines dynamic narrative drive with a torrent of sound and music creating one of the most accessible Shakespeare productions of recent years.

"[4 stars] The most hard-hearted purists would melt at Filter's 90-minute reworking of this play, directed with passion, panache and precision. For newcomers to Shakespeare I can't think of a better introduction." – *The Sunday Times*

Complicite/Simon McBurney

The Encounter

Directed and Performed by Simon McBurney

Inspired by the Novel *Amazon Beaming* by Petru Popescu

April 6 – 16, 2017

In 1969, Loren McIntyre, a *National Geographic* photographer, found himself lost among the people of the remote Javari Valley in Brazil. It was an encounter that was to change his life: bringing the limits of human consciousness into startling focus. In this solo performance Simon McBurney traces McIntyre's journey into the depths of the Amazon rainforest, using binaural technology (3D audio) to build an intimate and shifting world of sound.

"This production from the genre-bending Complicite company is one of the most fully immersive theater pieces ever created." – *The New York Times*

A Complicite co-production with Edinburgh International Festival, the Barbican, London, Onassis Cultural Centre – Athens, Schaubühne Berlin, Théâtre Vidy-Lausanne and Warwick Arts Centre

Battlefield

Based on Mahabharata and the play written by Jean-Claude Carrière

Adapted and directed by Peter Brook and Marie-Hélène Estienne

May 24 – 28, 2017

The internationally renowned team of Peter Brook, Marie-Hélène Estienne and Jean-Claude Carrière together revisit the great Indian epic *Mahabharata* thirty years after Brook's legendary production took world theater by storm. The devastation of war is tearing the Bharata family apart. The new king must unravel a mystery: how can he live with himself in the face of the devastation and massacres that he has caused. An immense canvas in miniature, this central section of the ancient text is timeless and contemporary, asking how we can find inner peace in a world riven with conflict.

"[4 stars] Peter Brook's return to the *Mahabharata* is breathtaking – a dazzling piece of theatre." – *The Guardian*



The Wallis Production of

The Pride

By Alexi Kaye Campbell

Directed by Michael Arden

June 6 – 30, 2017

The Pride is a gorgeously-drawn drama alternating between two very distinct time periods and sets of characters whose fate is written by their eras. In 1958, Philip is married to Sylvia, but is secretly attracted to her colleague Oliver. In 2008, Philip lives with his boyfriend Oliver, who continually destroys their relationship with his addiction to casual sex and turns to their friend Sylvia for guidance and support. As the past and present worlds collide, *The Pride's* complex love triangle provides a provocative, humorous and insightful look at fidelity and forgiveness.

"A work of subtlety and sophistication. *The Pride* grabs you with its considerable intelligence and heart." – *Entertainment Weekly*

Hershey Felder

Our Great Tchaikovsky

Written and performed by Hershey Felder

Directed by Trevor Hay

July 19 – August 6, 2017

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky is Russia's most famous composer and one of the greatest composers of all time, known for his beautiful lilting melodies from the ballets *Romeo and Juliet*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Swan Lake*, *The Nutcracker* and the ferocious brilliance of his symphonic works. At the age of 53, Tchaikovsky conducted the premiere of his enigmatic Symphony No. 6, "Pathétique," of which he said, "Let them guess what it means..." Nine days later he was dead. To this day, how and why he died are still a mystery. The extraordinary Hershey Felder returns to The Wallis for the Los Angeles premiere of his newest work, *Tchaikovsky*, which unveils the life of one of the most beloved and tormented composers of all time.

Theater for Young Audiences

Theater Unspeakable presents

The American Revolution

September 30 – October 9, 2016

History in 50 minutes: seven actors, two feet off the ground, share 21 square feet of space to recreate the entire American fight for independence from Lexington to Yorktown. Using only the actor's bodies, voices and (pantomimed) cannons, the show evokes an epic time period in American history. Combining tongue-in-cheek humor with a dash of derring-do, *The American Revolution* displays the Chicago theater company's rowdy brand of bare-boned and imaginative physical theater. Recommended for ages 6+

"The mime-based choreography is revelatory, defamiliarizing the *American Revolution* largely through bodily movement and stunning lighting design." – *The Chicago Reader*

Morgan's Journey

Created by Robert Morgan

Directed David Craig

January 21 – 22, 2017

Morgan's Journey has been delighting children and their families around the world for nearly three decades. The play is a captivating exploration of joyous yet challenging childhood experiences and offers audiences a unique opportunity for active participation. From the moment of his birth, we follow Morgan the Clown on a journey of discovery. We delight in the presents he receives, especially his last one, a wise sock puppet who becomes his companion. Encountering inevitable growing pains, Morgan learns a valuable and moving lesson about love and the true meaning of friendship. Recommended for ages 4+

"A perfect gift of a show." – *The Scotsman*

The Kennedy Center Theater for Young Audiences present

Elephant & Piggie's "We Are in A Play!"

April 22 – 23, 2017

Get ready for a musical experience ripped from the pages of Mo Willems's beloved, award-winning, best-selling children's books that will leave audiences doing the "Flippy Floppy Floory" dance all night long! In this vaudevillian romp, Elephant and Piggie sing and dance their way through plenty of pachydermal peril and swiney suspense. Recommended for ages 4+

"A great way to introduce your child to theater." – *Broadway World*

MUSIC @ THE WALLIS

The Wallis' 2016/17 season presents remarkable chamber music concerts featuring world-class classical music artists, while expanding to showcase groundbreaking musicians fusing modern elements with the traditional art form. The Wallis also offers family-friendly and contemporary concerts, welcoming back audience favorites Dan Zanes & Friends, the Santa Cecilia Orchestra Trio and the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles, as well as introducing Kyle Riabko, who brings his highly acclaimed arrangements of Burt Bacharach. The season also offers captivating performances by renowned pianists and delivers the most-notable names in the world of jazz.

Concerts @ The Wallis

Kyle Riabko: *Bacharach Reimagined*

A Solo Concert

November 4 – 5, 2016

Kyle Riabko, star and creator of the hit West End and Off Broadway show *Close To You: Bacharach Reimagined* brings his highly acclaimed arrangements of the many hits Burt Bacharach—many of which Bacharach wrote with lyricist Hal David—to The Wallis for an intimate solo concert. Riabko, accompanying himself on guitar, will perform his versions of such classics as “Alfie,” “I Say a Little Prayer,” “Walk on By,” “I’ll Never Fall In Love Again,” “Raindrops Keep Fallin’ On My Head” and many more.

“It’s a love letter to me. Kyle has done something truly unique with my music, and he’s a beautiful singer and one hell of a guitar player. I loved it. It’s brilliant. I can’t say enough about it!” – *Burt Bacharach*

Dan Zanes & Friends

Family Concerts @ The Wallis

January 29, 2017

Dan Zanes & Friends return to The Wallis after wildly popular engagements the previous two seasons. Once again, the Grammy Award-winner will bring his friend Sonia de los Santos for a bilingual English and Spanish concert for kids and kids-at-heart.

“Zanes’ kids music works because it is now kids music; it’s just music—music that’s unsanitized, unpasteurized, that’s organic even.” – *New York Times Magazine*



Santa Cecilia Orchestra Trio

Sonia Marie De Leon de Vega, Conductor

April 29, 2017

Under the baton of the legendary Maestra Sonia Marie De Leon de Vega, the Los Angeles-based Santa Cecilia Orchestra breaks down barriers so that everyone can enjoy the beauty of classical music. After their sold-out concert last season, Santa Cecilia Orchestra returns with a trio performing family-friendly classics, including works of Latino composers, in the intimate Lovelace Studio Theater. Recommended for all ages.



Gay Men’s Chorus of Los Angeles

Pride @ The Wallis

June 3, 2017

For over 37 years, the Gay Men’s Chorus of Los Angeles has been bringing people together and serving as a voice of equality. The Wallis welcomes back GMCLA to the Bram Goldsmith Theater for a spirited concert in celebration of June Pride Month.

Chamber Music: Modern

Harlem Quartet with Aldo López-Gavilán

October 23, 2016

Harlem Quartet, praised for its “panache” by *The New York Times*, is “bringing a new attitude to classical music, one that is fresh, bracing and intelligent,” says the *Cincinnati Enquirer*. The quartet, comprised of violinists Ilmar Gavilan and Melissa White, violist Jaime Amador and cellist Felix Umansky, will be joined by the acclaimed Cuban pianist/composer Aldo López-Gavilán in a collaboration that bridges jazz, classical and traditional Cuban music through the works of Dizzy Gillespie, Antônio Carlos Jobim and Abelardito Valdés. The program also features several original works by López-Gavilán arranged specifically for this collaboration.

“Aldo López-Gavilán is not only a formidable virtuoso, but also exceeds in works that require extraordinary color and fascinating sounds. His natural talent never suffers and his original thinking as an artist assures a performance of amazing playing and individuality.” – *The London Times*

JACK Quartet

January 14, 2017

The JACK quartet will take you to the cutting edge of string performance. Comprising violinists Christopher Otto and Ari Streisfeld, violist John Pickford Richards, and cellist Kevin McFarland, who met while attending the Eastman School of Music, JACK is focused on new work, leading them to collaborate with composers such as John Luther Adams, Caroline Shaw and Steve Reich.

“Superheroes of the new music world.” – *Boston Globe*

Brooklyn Rider

May 13, 2017

Hailed as “the future of chamber music” (*Strings*), the game-changing string quartet Brooklyn Rider presents eclectic repertoire and gripping performances that continue to draw rave reviews from classical, world and rock critics alike. *NPR* credits violinists Johnny Gandelsman and Colin Jacobsen, violist Nicholas Cords and cellist Michael Nicolas with “recreating the 300-year-old form of string quartet as a vital and creative 21st-century ensemble,” the *Los Angeles Times* dubs the group “one of the wonders of contemporary music,” and *Vice* likens its members to “motocross daredevils who never screw up a stunt.” Equally at home in clubs and concert halls, Brooklyn Rider’s “down-to-earth demeanor...demythifies contemporary classical music and invites everyone into the tent.” (*Time Out New York*)

“They are four classical musicians performing with the energy of young rock stars jamming on their guitars, a Beethoven-goes-indie foray into making classical music accessible but also celebrating why it was good in the first place.” – *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*

Chamber Music: Classic

Zukerman Trio

October 30, 2016

A prodigious talent recognized worldwide for his artistry, violinist Pinchas Zukerman has long been an inspiration to audiences and young musicians. Since 2013, Zukerman, cellist Amanda Forsyth and pianist Angela Cheng have performed as the Zukerman Trio at prominent festivals and major venues around the globe. The Trio embraces the works of Glière, Schubert and Shostakovich for its debut at The Wallis.

“Consummate and charismatic musicians, the trio made for a tight-knit chamber ensemble.” – *The Scotsman*

The Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio

January 26, 2017

Nearly 40 years after its debut at the White House, The Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio continues to bring technical mastery, expressive depth and magnetism to the concert stage. Join the Trio—pianist Joseph Kalichstein, violinist Jaime Laredo and cellist Sharon Robinson—on their special 40th Anniversary Tour for an exhilarating evening of Beethoven, Brahms and Mendelssohn.

“...foremost trio with the greatest longevity...bring(ing) to worldwide audiences their expressive and exhilarating interpretations.” – *Musical America*

Ralph Kirschbaum & Shai Wosner: *Beethoven*

March 9 – 10, 2017

Famed cellist Ralph Kirshbaum, whose live recording in London’s Wigmore Hall of the all-Beethoven Sonatas and Variations will be released this fall on Onyx Classics, will be joined by pianist Shai Wosner, who returns to The Wallis after his acclaimed *Bridge to Beethoven* concert with Jennifer Koh in March 2016. Over two nights in the Bram Goldsmith Theater, Kirshbaum and Wosner will tackle the complete works of Beethoven for cello and piano. Join us at The Wallis for this unique Beethoven immersion.

“Ralph Kirshbaum has wonderful tone, utter technical reliability and the imagination to make the music feel both spontaneous and well planned.” – *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review*

These concerts are made possible at The Wallis by generous support from Susan and Peter Strauss

Piano @ The Wallis

Joyce Yang

January 24, 2017

The youngest ever medalist of the Van Cliburn International Competition, Joyce Yang showcases her colorful musical personality in solo recitals and collaborations with the world’s top orchestras and chamber musicians. Yang will dazzle audiences with a varied program featuring both classic and contemporary works—from Schumann and Debussy to Granados, Ginastera and Carl Vine.

“Poetic and sensitive pianism.” – *The Washington Post*

Andsnes & Hamelin: A World Music Friendship

April 26, 2017

Leif Ove Andsnes and Marc-André Hamelin are two of the greatest pianists in the world. They're also good friends and have enjoyed each other's company on many stages, including Carnegie's Zankel Hall in New York. The Wallis is thrilled to present this extraordinary two piano concert featuring Mozart, Debussy and Stravinsky—including the composer's own arrangement of his *Le Sacre du Printemps - The Rite of Spring*.

Andsnes & Hamelin's appearance at The Wallis is made possible in part by generous support from Steinway & Sons Beverly Hills

Benjamin Grosvenor

April 30, 2017

British pianist Benjamin Grosvenor is internationally recognized for his electrifying performances and insightful interpretations of wide-ranging repertoire. His virtuosic command over the most strenuous technical complexities underpins the remarkable depth and understanding of his musicianship. Grosvenor is renowned for his distinctive sound—described as "poetic and gently ironic, brilliant yet clear-minded, intelligent but not without humour, all translated through a beautifully clear and singing touch" (*The Independent*)—making him one of the most sought-after young pianists in the world.

"The darling of British pianophiles since his victory in the keyboard finals of the BBC Young Musician of the Year competition in 2004, Mr. Grosvenor, in his Carnegie Hall recital debut, proved a boy lord of the piano." –*The New York Times*

The Wallis is honored to host the Los Angeles debut of Grosvenor in a vast program of sonatas by Mozart, Beethoven and Scriabin

Jazz @ The Wallis

The Brubeck Brothers Quartet

January 20, 2017

The Brubeck Brothers Quartet is an exciting jazz group featuring two members of one of America's most accomplished musical families, Dan Brubeck (drums) and Chris Brubeck (bass & trombone). Guitarist Mike DeMicco and pianist Chuck Lamb complete this dynamic quartet. They have performed at concert series, colleges, and jazz festivals across North America and Europe.

"The Brubeck Brothers Quartet brings a new spirit to straight-ahead jazz." – *The Boston Globe*

Eddie Palmieri: Latin Jazz Septet

March 30, 2017

Eddie Palmieri, known for his charismatic power and bold innovative drive, has a musical career that spans over 50 years as a bandleader of Salsa and Latin Jazz orchestras. With a discography that includes 36 titles, Mr. Palmieri is a NEA Jazz Master and has been awarded nine Grammy Awards. A true powerhouse of brilliance known for his astute arranging skills and historic compositions, Mr. Palmieri has shown that time is infinite with respect to his repertoire as he continues to thrill audiences with his legendary style.

Diane Schuur

April 28, 2017

Long regarded as one of Contemporary Jazz's leading vocalists, Diane Schuur (nicknamed "Deedles") is as eclectic as she is brilliant. Ms. Schuur was blind from birth; but she was gifted with perfect pitch and initially taught herself piano by ear. Schuur will play from her album *I Remember You (With Love to Stan and Frank)*, an homage to two of her very important mentors, Frank Sinatra and Stan Getz.

"To put it mildly, Schuur blew the place away. The room shook. The evening came alive." –*New York Post*

Colburn @ The Wallis



Colburn Piano Extravaganza Featuring Jean-Yves Thibaudet and Fabio Bidini

March 29, 2017

Continuing our partnership with LA's own Colburn School, whose renowned faculty prepares exceptional young musicians for careers in music, The Wallis presents an all-piano concert featuring Colburn School Artist-in-Residence Jean-Yves Thibaudet and Colburn Grigor Piano Chair Fabio Bidini in recital with students from the Colburn Conservatory of Music and Colburn Music Academy.

DANCE @ THE WALLIS

The Wallis welcomes the debut of internationally-renowned companies Paul Taylor Dance Company, the Limón Dance Company and Matthew Bourne's New Adventures, as well as turns the spotlight to local companies led by choreographers Daniel Ezralow and Jacob Jonas. On October 28, dance icon and LA-native Carmen de Lavallade returns home to celebrate her 85th Birthday with an inspiring celebration at The Wallis.

As I Remember It: Celebrating Carmen de Lavallade's 85th Birthday

October 28, 2016

Directed by Joe Grifasi

Co-written by Carmen de Lavallade and Talvin Wilks

Dance icon Carmen de Lavallade returns home to Los Angeles for her 85th Birthday Celebration. *As I Remember It* is an intimate portrait of the legendary artist told through dance, film and her personal writings. From her childhood days playing in the empty lots of 1930's Los Angeles to performing on the world's grand stages, this very special evening will be inspiring for dancers and dance lovers of all ages.



Jacob Jonas The Company

January 13, 2017

Los Angeles-based Jacob Jonas The Company is gaining a national profile for its honest storytelling and visceral performances. The Company has toured North America since its birth in 2014, bringing its mix of contemporary ballet and acrobatic movement to stops including New York, Vancouver and Jacob's Pillow Inside/Out Dance Festival. Also known for its film and photography work and its robust social media presence, The Company has hosted #camerasanddancers photography meet-ups with social influencers and cultural institutions including The Getty, LACMA, Los Angeles Tourism Board, Dance Camera West and countless others.

"When Jacob Jonas The Company performs, energy doesn't just seem to bounce off the walls, it reverberates off of bodies." - *Los Angeles Times*

Limón Dance Company

March 24 – 25, 2017

Concerto Grosso

Chaconne

Gorvidae

The Exiles

The Moor's Pavane

Hailed as one of the world's greatest dance companies, the Limón Dance Company has been at the vanguard of American Modern dance since its inception in 1946. The Company is the living legacy of dance theater developed by José Limón and his mentors, Doris Humphrey and Charles Weidman, whose innovative works revolutionized American dance. After Limón's death in 1972, the Company pioneered the idea that it was possible to survive the death of its founder, setting an example for the entire dance field. Now in its 70th year, the Company is renowned for its technical mastery and dramatic expression, and demonstrates both the timelessness of José Limón's works and the humanistic vision that guides the repertory choices.

"For drama, virtuosity and grace, there's no finer company." – *The Village Voice*

Paul Taylor Dance Company

May 5 – 7, 2017

Since its founding in 1954, the Paul Taylor Dance Company has been one of the world's most sought-after ensembles, performing in well over 500 cities in 64 countries, bringing Paul Taylor's repertoire—now numbering 144 dances—to every part of the globe. Mr. Taylor continues to make two new dances a year—and will bring a program of new and classic work to The Wallis.

"Paul Taylor is the world's greatest living artist, irrespective of medium." – Terry Teachout

New Adventures

Matthew Bourne's Early Adventures

May 18 – 21, 2017

Matthew Bourne is hailed as the UK's most popular and successful choreographer/director. He is the creator of the world's longest running ballet production, a five-time Olivier Award winner and the only British director to have won the Tony Award for both Best Choreographer and Best Director of a Musical. Matthew Bourne returns to his roots in *Early Adventures*, a program of hit pieces that launched the career of 'Britain's favourite choreographer' and saw the birth of the style, wit and sheer entertainment that his company New Adventures brought to *Swan Lake*, *The Car Man*, *Edward Scissorhands* and *Sleeping Beauty*. With designs by longtime collaborator, Lez Brotherston, *Early Adventures* is a US premiere and forms part of the company's 30th Anniversary celebrations.

"A rare treat! Bourne's wit and flair are in full play." – *The Sunday Times*

Program includes:

The Infernal Galop

This is France as seen by the uptight English imagination, with all the traditional clichés joyously paraded for our entertainment and climaxing in Offenbach's inevitable Can-Can!

Town and Country

Moving and hilarious, this heartfelt pastiche explores notions of national character from a bygone era through the evocative music of Edward Elgar, Noël Coward and Percy Grainger, amongst others.



Ezralow Dance: *Primo Passo*

July 13 – 14, 2017

Choreographed and directed by Daniel Ezralow

Los Angeles native Daniel Ezralow returns to The Wallis to premiere *Primo Passo*—Italian for “first step”—a deeply personal work that, as the title suggests, is both a career retrospective and an investigation of what’s next. Inspired by observing his children learning to walk, Ezralow will revisit and reimagine his works to explore their initial artistic impulse. Whether he’s creating modern dances or choreographing for Broadway, the Oscars or the Olympics, it all begins with the first step—and this extraordinary evening will provide a glimpse inside the process.

ARTS & IDEAS: CONVERSATIONS @ THE WALLIS

The Wallis brings back its highly-popular *Arts & Ideas* series featuring “Conversations @ The Wallis,” which brings together intellectuals, authors, artists and civic leaders with the greater community to spark dialogue about societal and cultural issues and ideas through stimulating conversations and thought-provoking performances. Additional *Arts & Ideas* events to be announced throughout the upcoming season.

The Wallis and ASCAP present

An Evening with Stephen Schwartz: Music & Broadway Memories

with Special Broadway Guest Stars

February 3, 2017

Spend an evening of music and Broadway memories from Stephen Schwartz, the Tony, Oscar and Grammy Award-winning composer/lyricist whose credits include the classic musicals *Wicked*, *Godspell* and *Pippin*, as well as the Walt Disney films *Pocahontas*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* and *Enchanted*, and the DreamWorks film *The Prince of Egypt*.

The Wallis welcomes back the ASCAP Foundation Musical Theatre Workshop in Partnership with DreamWorks Animation and The Wallis on February 1 and 2, 2017.

DANCE SUNDAYS @ THE WALLIS

Select dates

Debbie Allen curates an exhilarating series of free, outdoor dance events—Salsa, African, Tap, Hip Hop and more—for the whole family. Schedule to be announced.

THE SORTING ROOM

December 3, 2016 – January 14, 2017

Launching in December, **The Sorting Room** will deliver cabaret, comedy, contemporary music and much more to The Wallis, and features the hottest talent currently performing, including Sandra Bernhard, Carmen Esposito, Ty Taylor, as well as Ronna and Beverly. The Sorting Room—which draws its name from the room’s original function within the Beverly Hills Post Office—will transform the Lovelace Studio Theater into an intimate, custom-built club to connect upcoming artists and veteran entertainers with our audiences. The full schedule to be announced in the Fall of 2016.

About the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts

Since opening its doors in October 2013, The Wallis has produced or presented over 100 dance, theatre, opera, classical music and children's programs to an ever expanding audience. Located in the heart of Beverly Hills, California, 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 be a vital cultural hub that uses unique arts events and education programming to entertain, enlighten and inspire children and adults in our community and across the nation.

Nominated for 26 Ovation Awards, four L.A. Drama Critic's Circle Awards and the recipient of five architectural awards since opening in 2013, 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

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