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## Dancers' Group announces the 2011 Lighting Artists in Dance Award Recipients

Supporting the progress of lighting design for dance in the San Francisco Bay Area.

**SAN FRANCISCO—Dancers' Group**, San Francisco's leading dance advocacy organization, announces their fourth annual grant awards to support lighting designers working in the field of dance. The **Lighting Artists in Dance (LAD) Award** is the only program of its kind in the Bay Area and provides choreographers, dance companies and lighting designers access to funds that will help support their collaborations, which will culminate in the creation of public dance performances taking place in the Bay Area.

"This annual program was developed to engage and support emerging, mid-career and established Bay Area lighting designers," says Executive Director Wayne Hazzard. "These much deserved grants will allow each project the opportunity to deepen their creative partnership. We anticipate that there will be an additional impact from these awards, the benefit to audiences who will experience a dynamic movement and light collaboration."

The 2011 grantees are:

Lighting designer **Allen Willner** with **Erika Chong Shuch Performance Project**;  
Lighting designer **Darl Andrew Packard** with **Dandelion Dancetheater**;  
Lighting designer **Elaine Buckholtz** with **Catherine Galasso**;  
Lighting designer **Gabe Maxson** with **Paufve Dance**;  
Lighting designer **Jack Carpenter** with **Project Bandaloop**;  
Lighting designer **Lucas Krech** with **Avy K Productions**;  
Lighting designer **Matthew Antaky** with **ODC/Dance**;

A panel of regional specialists in the dance field reviewed the proposals and selected the 2011 grant recipients. The panel consisted of **Jose Maria Francos**, technical director, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts; **Katie Faulkner**, artistic director, little seismic dance company; and **Matthew Royce**, lighting designer and production manager.

The LAD Award is not intended to underwrite general production costs, but rather to support projects that encourage an active interaction between lighting designers and their dance partners. This year's awarded proposals demonstrate how the collaborating artists will take lighting design to the next level either by working with new methods or forging new or expanded partnerships.

A total of \$12,000 was awarded to the following lighting/dance projects:

## 2011 Recipients

### **Allen Willner with Erika Chong Shuch Performance Project**

*Sitting in a Circle* (Awarded: \$2,000)

October 2011 \* Intersection 5M, San Francisco

"Sitting In A Circle" is an interactive, guided performance event premiering Winter, 2011 at Intersection for the Arts' new home in the SF Chronicle building in downtown San Francisco. The performance will take place in a large concrete industrial office space. Allen Willner will create a lighting design utilizing materials that mimic the industrial surroundings. The design will be both a lighting and set design, as the instruments themselves will define the world of the show.

### **Darl Andrew Packard with Dandelion Dancetheater**

*Dream Lover* (Awarded: \$1,000)

Summer 2012 \* Various Locations

Murky interpersonal relationships along the spiritual path inspire this project that uses non-traditional lighting to create dreamlike landscapes of the heart and mind. *Dream Lover* will be created collaboratively by Dandelion and Andrew Packard. Designed to be technically self-sufficient, all lighting will be operated by performers, and the piece will evolve through an 8-week performance run. *Dream Lover* will be created "lighting-first", with Andrew collaborating at every stage.

### **Elaine Buckholtz with Catherine Galasso**

*Bring on the Lumiere!* (Awarded: \$2,000)

November 2011 \* ODC Theater, San Francisco

*Bring On The Lumière!* (BOTL) is an evening-length performance about the Lumière Brothers, the French founders of cinema, by choreographer Catherine Galasso and lighting designer/ installation artist Elaine Buckholtz. Using movement, sound, light, and video projection, BOTL will illustrate a dream-like fiction world in which the Lumière Brothers find themselves trapped inside their own films. The piece will premiere at ODC Theater in November 2011.

### **Gabe Maxson with Paufve Dance**

*So I Married Abraham Lincoln* (Awarded: \$1,500)

January 2012 \* Dance Mission Theatre, San Francisco

Paufve Dance and lighting designer Gabe Maxson present ***So I Married Abraham Lincoln***, a dance theater work based on the life of Mary Todd Lincoln. The work is structured around a narrative that seeks connections with Mrs. Lincoln as a wife, mother, sexual being, and the original First Lady body, highlighting ideas about Mrs. Lincoln as a fractured self - a highly visible, often unbalanced woman who was objectified throughout her life. **SIMAL** also features characters including a gaggle of identifiable First Ladies, and a host of male ghosts - Abraham Lincoln, the Lincoln's sons, and civil war-era soldiers.

**Jack Carpenter with Project Bandaloop**

*IdEgo* (Awarded: \$2,000)

September 2011 \* Location TBA

"IdEgo" investigates the tension between individual and group identity, and "wild" vs "organized" space through the collision of movement, sculpture, text, video and music. The performances take place on a building at night with lights, video and sound and include perspective-altering choreography on a dance "floor" turned on its side. The collaborating artists are: Musician/composer Dana Leong, sculptor/set designer Todd Laby, lighting designer Jack Carpenter and Media Artist Austin Forbord.

**Lucas Krech with Avy K Productions**

*Ir-Rational* (Awarded: \$2,000)

March 2012 \* Theater Artaud, San Francisco

IR-RATIONAL draws parallels between the 16th century and modern life, a grotesque fantasy about an imagined meeting between Mary Queen of Scots and Elizabeth I of England, a collision between impulse & reason. The queens are represented as characters in a computer game, amid changes of the set and lighting design. A changing set, experimentation with new technology, and highly structured improvisation requires an intensive collaboration with the lighting designer through the whole process.

**Matthew Antaky with ODC/Dance**

*Transit* (Awarded: \$1,500)

March 2012 \* Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco

Transit celebrates the beautiful density of urban life and a view into a new tomorrow: the pace of walking, the beat of cycling, our faster paced lifestyles, and the chaotic mix of these differences. Choreographed by KT Nelson, the set and lighting design by Matthew Antaky will take us from pre-dawn stirrings, thru the ebb and flow of daily life into the night. Additional collaborators include composer Hyo-shin Na, and bicycle fabricator Max Chen.

**About Dancers' Group**

Dancers' Group promotes the visibility and viability of dance. Founded in 1982, we serve San Francisco Bay Area artists, the dance community and audiences through programs and services that are as collaborative and innovative as the creative process.

As the primary dance service organization in the Bay Area, we help artists produce work, build audiences, and connect with their peers and community through artist-focused programs and services including presenting opportunities, funding resources, fiscal sponsorship and *In Dance* publication. **dancersgroup.org**

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