

For Immediate Release
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Rotunda Dance Series: Academy of Danse Libre and Cypress String Quartet
Presented by Dancers' Group and World Arts West,
in partnership with Grants for the Arts and
San Francisco City Hall

Free

Friday, May 13, 2016
12 Noon
San Francisco City Hall

SAN FRANCISCO, CA—April 11, 2016—In their sixth season of free monthly dance performances in San Francisco City Hall's extraordinary rotunda, Dancers' Group and World Arts West are once again partnering to bring audiences lunchtime glimpses into movement and musical traditions from around the world.

In a very special performance this May, the Rotunda Dance Series presents both the **Cypress String Quartet** and the **Academy of Danse Libre**, who will open the show performing European dances from the 1890s, including the National Two-Step Lancers Quadrille. Cypress String Quartet will then perform one of Beethoven's string quartets, before the Academy of Danse Libre closes out the day with dances from the 1910's, which were influenced by American Ragtime music.

The performance by the Cypress String Quartet is part of their celebration of 20 years in San Francisco: "Beethoven in The City." Throughout May, the Quartet will present a series of 16 performances, each concert featuring one of Beethoven's string quartets. These concerts are free and will be shown in 16 different publicly accessible spaces, at least one in each of San Francisco's 11 supervisory districts. Locations for the performances will include iconic settings such as Golden Gate Park and Yerba Buena Gardens, as well as less-familiar venues such as the San Francisco General Hospital, the St. Anthony's Foundation, the Bayview-Hunter's Point YMCA, and other sites. Learn more at cypressquartet.com.

The Rotunda Dance Series will continue monthly through 2016, highlighting many cultural traditions from across the world, including traditional Peruvian dance, all-female hip hop, physically integrated dance, and clogging, among others.

The Series brings many of the Bay Area's most celebrated dance companies to San Francisco City Hall's rotunda space for free monthly noon-time performances. The Rotunda Dance series is presented by Dancers' Group and World Arts West in partnership with Grants for the Arts and San Francisco City Hall.

About Academy of Danse Libre (danselibre.org)

The Academy of Danse Libre is one of the nation's premier vintage dance groups. Based in the San Francisco Bay Area and touring around the world, they perform a variety of breathtaking pieces from the 19th and early 20th centuries in authentic period attire. Each of the dances brings a bygone era back to life, complete with the music, footwork, dress, and mannerisms of the time. Through the accurate recreation of these historical periods, the Academy of Danse Libre introduces audiences to a rich and evolving culture of dance.

About Cypress String Quartet (cypressquartet.com)

Praised by *The New York Times* for their “tender, deeply expressive” interpretations, the San Francisco-based Cypress String Quartet has played on thousands of stages around the world and recorded over a dozen albums. They have also been heard on the Netflix original series “House of Cards”, in the animated short “Duet” by Glen Keane for Google, and have collaborated with leading artists ranging from cellist Zuill Bailey to Michael Franti of Spearhead to the modern dance company ODC.

About World Arts West (worldartswest.org)

For over three decades, World Arts West has supported and presented world dance artists throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. The main presenting program of the organization is the nationally acclaimed San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival, which presents over 100 distinct dance forms and thousands of local dancers who are sustaining and innovating within those forms. The organization works year round to advance cultural literacy and build bridges of cultural understanding.

About Dancers' Group (dancersgroup.org)

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 itself. In response to the needs of its constituents, Dancers' Group has evolved to fulfill a dual function as a service organization and as a presenter of performance opportunities that maximize the visibility of dance in the Bay Area.

Save the Dates for the rest of the 2016 Rotunda Dance Series

Friday, June 3: Opening of San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival with El Tunante

Friday, August 5: NAKA Dance Theater

Friday, September 2: Mix'd Ingrdnts

Friday, October 7: AXIS Dance Company

Friday, November 4: Mussel Rock Cloggers

Friday, December 9: Artists TBA

Calendar Editors please note:

Who: Rotunda Dance Series: Academy of Danse Libre and Cypress String Quartet

What: Free monthly dance performance, presented by Dancers' Group and World Arts West, in partnership with Grants for the Arts and San Francisco City Hall.

Cost: Free

Where: City Hall, San Francisco

When: Friday, May 13, 2016, Noon

Info: Michelle Lynch Reynolds, (415) 920-9181, michelle@dancersgroup.org, dancersgroup.org/rotunda

Images available for download:

Academy of Danse Libre:

http://dancersgroup.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Academy-of-Danse-Libre_photo-by-George-Chen.jpg

Photo by George Chen

Cypress String Quartet:

<http://dancersgroup.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Cypress.jpg>

Photo by Gregory Goode

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