

For Immediate Release
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Rotunda Dance Series: Mary Sano and Her Duncan Dancers

Presented by Dancers' Group and World Arts West,
in partnership with Grants for the Arts and
San Francisco City Hall

Free

Friday, October 2, 2015
12 Noon
San Francisco City Hall

SAN FRANCISCO, CA—September 1, 2015—On Friday, October 2nd, the Rotunda Dance Series presents **Mary Sano and Her Duncan Dancers** who will premiere a new work choreographed especially for the space, set to the *Suite No. 2* by J.S. Bach, and accompanied by flutist Diane Grubbe. The company will also perform traditional Isadora Duncan repertoire to the music of Schubert, Chopin, and Brahms. Through her company and schools, Sano preserves the artistic legacy of Isadora Duncan, an acclaimed dancer born in San Francisco in 1877, whose philosophy and style were influential in the development of Modern dance in the early 20th century.

Throughout 2015, the monthly Rotunda Dance Series celebrates the 100th anniversary of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition. The 1915 Exposition left a lasting imprint on the San Francisco Bay Area, especially in regards to world dance and music. It is only fitting that the highly visible Rotunda Dance Series use this historic anniversary to celebrate the past, present and future of dance in the Bay Area.

The high-profile **Rotunda Dance 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 series is presented by Dancers' Group and World Arts West in partnership with Grants for the Arts and San Francisco City Hall.

About Mary Sano and Her Duncan Dancers (duncandance.org)

Since forming in 1993, Mary Sano and Her Duncan Dancers have been very active in the Bay Area arts community, performing at a variety of events at the Cowell Theater, Brava Theater, De Young Museum, Legion of Honor Museum, and Yerba Buena Gardens in addition to bi-annual festivals held at the Mary Sano Studio of Duncan Dancing since its opening in 1997. A native of Japan, Sano is a protégée of Mignon Garland who founded the Isadora Duncan Heritage Society (IDHS) in San Francisco. She began to study with Garland in 1979, and established the Japan branch of the IDHS in 1983. In the Bay Area, Sano began to train a group of dancers in the Duncan style, forming her dance company and school.

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. As a hybrid dance service and presenting organization for the second largest dance community in the country, Dancers' Group's many programs help artists produce work, build audiences, and connect with their peers and the community.

The 2015 Rotunda Dance Series continues:

Fri, Nov 6: Nimely Pan African Dance Company

Fri, Dec 4: Hālau 'o Kawainuhi

Visit dancersgroup.org/rotunda for more information

Calendar Editors please note:

Who: Rotunda Dance Series: Mary Sano and Her Duncan Dancers

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, October 2, 2015, Noon

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

Image available for download:

<http://dancersgroup.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/MarySano-byShigeo-Seya.jpg>

Photo of Mary Sano and Her Duncan Dancers by Shigeo Seya

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