

For Immediate Release:

Contact: Kegan Marling 415-920-9181, kegan@dancersgroup.org

**Rotunda Dance Series: Joanna Haigood/ZACCHO Dance Theatre**

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

**Free**

October 1, 2010, 12 Noon  
San Francisco City Hall

SAN FRANCISCO, CA—August 31, 2010—As the first of 9 free public performances in the 2010/11 Rotunda Dance Series, Joanna Haigood/ZACCHO Dance Theatre performs excerpts from their new work *Sailing Away*, a site-specific dance performance exploring the history of African Americans' early contributions to the development of San Francisco—Friday, October 1, 2010, noon at City Hall, San Francisco.

The inaugural season of the high profile City Hall Rotunda Dance Series, a partnership between Dancers' Group and World Arts West with San Francisco's Grants for the Arts and San Francisco City Hall, will bring 10 of the Bay Area's most acclaimed dance companies to the Rotunda of San Francisco City Hall for free noon-time performances taking place the first Friday of each month. Events will primarily involve dance, but might also include music, theater or other performing art disciplines.

The next performance in the Rotunda Dance Series will be a collaboration between Joti Singh (Bhangra/West African) and Zenon Barron (Mexican Folklorico), to be presented in City Hall, November 5, 2010. Future performances will include Leung's White Crane Lion Dance, Halau o Keikiali'i (hula), Monique Jenkinson / Fauxnique, Hui Tama Nui (Tahitian), Ohlone Costanoan Rumsen Carmel Tribal Dance, AXIS Dance Company, and Gamelan Sekar Jaya.

**About Joanna Haigood/ZACCHO's *Sailing Away***

Created by Joanna Haigood, the artistic director of Zaccho Dance Theatre, *Sailing Away* tells the story of eight prominent African Americans who lived and worked near Market Street during the mid-nineteenth century and of the events leading up to the mass exodus of African Americans from San Francisco in 1858. From October 7-10 between 1pm and 5pm each day, Market Street will provide the backdrop as performers enact historical narratives through a series of gestures and activities incorporating sites and monuments located between Powell and First streets. Through character interactions, audience members will get a feel for 19<sup>th</sup>-century commercial life on the city's most important thoroughfare, which was once home to myriad African American-owned enterprises.

**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 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.

**About World Arts West**

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.

**Calendar Editors please note:**

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