

For Immediate Release
Contact: Michelle Lynch
(415) 920-9181
michelle@dancersgroup.org

Rotunda Dance Series: ODC/Dance

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

Free

March 1, 2013

12 Noon

San Francisco City Hall

SAN FRANCISCO, CA—February 1, 2013—This free public performance is part of the 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.

As the first performance of the 2013 season, the Rotunda Dance Series presents ODC/Dance in *Transit*, choreographed by ODC Co-Artistic Director KT Nelson. This full company work celebrates the chaotic pulse of our urban centers – where high and low technology exist side-by-side – walking, biking, and high-speed transit. Dancing with three custom built bicycles by mechanical engineer and artist Max Chen and a restless score by Nico Muhly, *Transit* rides through the shape of a day: a coffee fix, the commute, lunch, and the evening return home. *San Francisco Chronicle* dance critic Mary Ellen Hunt praised the 2012 premiere for its “lovely flashes that any urban dweller will recognize - that instant when you find yourself moving in unconscious synchrony with a crowd, or when you turn to a total stranger to share a particularly surprising moment.” A new production of *Transit* will be performed at ODC/Dance Downtown, March 14-24, at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts.

Join us for this lively and compelling lunchtime dance performance amidst the grandeur of San Francisco City Hall—Friday, March 1, 2013 at noon.

The high profile Rotunda Dance Series brings many of the Bay Area's most acclaimed dance companies to San Francisco City Hall's rotunda space for free noon-time performances taking place the first Friday of each month. Events primarily involve dance, but often also include live music, theater or other performing art disciplines.

ODC/Dance (odcdance.org) is known throughout the world for its athleticism, passion and intellectual depth. Among the many awards ODC's three resident choreographers—Brenda Way, KT Nelson and Kimi Okada—have received are a Guggenheim, six Isadora Duncan Dance Awards—including two life-time achievement awards—a *San Francisco Examiner* Golden Slipper Award, and a Tony nomination. Brenda Way was selected as the first choreographer to serve as Resident of the Arts at the American Academy in Rome for 2009/10 and recently received a prestigious leadership award from the San Francisco Foundation. ODC has been hailed as “Best Dance Company” in the *San Francisco Bay Guardian*'s Best of the Bay 2002, 2005, 2006, 2009 and 2012 editions. In 2009 ODC was selected by Brooklyn Academy of Music as one of three dance companies to tour internationally under the aegis of the U.S. State

Department's inaugural *DanceMotion USA* tour.

Founded in 1971 by Artistic Director Brenda Way, ODC (Oberlin Dance Collective, named after its place of origin, Oberlin College in Ohio) loaded up a yellow school bus and relocated to San Francisco in 1976. Her goal was to ground the company in a dynamic, pluralistic setting. ODC was the first modern dance company in America to build its own home facility in 1979, from which it operates a school, a theater, a gallery, and a health clinic for dancers. In September 2005, under Way's leadership, ODC opened a second performing arts facility, the ODC Dance Commons. And in the fall of 2010 ODC unveiled its newly renovated and expanded Theater. Through its dozens of programs ODC strives to inspire audiences, cultivate artists, engage community and foster diversity and inclusion through dance performance, training and mentorship.

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 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 (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.

The 2013 Rotunda Dance Series will continue on Friday, April 5 with the San Francisco Ballet School Trainee Program, a pre-professional program comprised of students chosen from the School's most advanced level.

Calendar Editors please note:

Who: Rotunda Dance Series: **ODC/Dance**

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

Cost: Free

Where: City Hall, San Francisco

When: Friday, March 1, 2013, Noon

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Images available upon request.

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