

For Immediate Release

April 18, 2018



Contact: Michelle Lynch Reynolds
Program Director, Dancers' Group
michelle@dancersgroup.org
415-920-9181

**Dancers' Group Announces
2018 Lighting Artists for Dance Grant Recipients**

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

SAN FRANCISCO—Dancers' Group, a service and presenting organization in the San Francisco Bay Area, announces \$12,000 in grant awards to support lighting designers working in the field of dance. Now in its 11th year, the **Lighting Artists in Dance** program provides lighting designers, working with choreographers and dance companies, access to funds that will support their artistic collaborations, which culminate in the creation of dance performances taking place in the Bay Area.

The program is unique in its focus on supporting Lighting Designers for dance. Dancers' Group's executive director, Wayne Hazzard states that, "The designers and artists working in the Bay Area continue to engage in invigoratingly good and one-of-a-kind collaborations that are represented in this year's grantees. The depth and range of projects are an inspiration for artists and audiences alike."

The 2018 **Lighting Artists in Dance** grantees are:

Rogelio Lopez, lighting designer for **Nina Haft & Company**
Jack Beuttler, lighting designer for **Simpson/Stulberg Collaborations**
Tony Shayne, lighting designer for **Hope Mohr Dance**
Kaveri Seth, lighting designer for **Paufve Dance**
Harry Rubeck, lighting designer for **African & African American Performing Arts Coalition**
Stephanie Anne Johnson, lighting designer for **Deep Waters Dance Theater**
Delayne Medoff, lighting designer for **Monique Jenkinson**

A panel of regional specialists in the dance field reviewed the proposals and selected the grant recipients. The panel consisted of lighting designers **José Maria Francos** and **Matthew Cohen**, and choreographer **Melecio Estrella**.

The **Lighting Artists in Dance** program 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.

Details for the 2018 Recipient Awards and Projects:

Rogelio Lopez, lighting designer for **Nina Haft & Company**
(Awarded: \$2,000)
Project Name: *PRECARIOUS POD*
Performance Timeframe: November 2019

Venue: Joe Goode Annex, SF

PRECARIOUS POD is an immersive performance about animal instinct and planetary change. Exploring the lives of species who have adapted with varied success to human impact, we aim to become more responsive to subtle changes in our environment. Light, sound, set and video will create an ecosystem through which the audience moves freely. Using structured movement scores, artists will live-mix their responses, creating opportunities to find balance rather than profit in the world around us.

Jack Beuttler, lighting designer for **Simpson/Stulberg Collaborations**

(Awarded: \$2,000)

Project Name: *Still Life No. 10*

Performance Timeframe: March 2019

Venue: Joe Goode Annex, SF

"*Still Life No. 10*" is an installation performance for six dancers. Renowned installation artist Sean Riley will build a deconstructed gallery wall that is curved and sloped with cutouts to see the performance from several vantages.

Tony Shayne, lighting designer for **Hope Mohr Dance**

(Awarded: \$2,000)

Project Name: *extreme lyric I*

Performance Timeframe: October 2018

Venue: ODC Theater, SF

Hope Mohr Dance will collaborate with lighting designer Tony Shayne to premiere Mohr's *extreme lyric I*, a work of dance theater inspired by the cultural legacies of the poet Sappho.

Kaveri Seth, lighting designer for **Paufve Dance**

(Awarded: \$1,500)

Project Name: *Where are you going, where did you go*

Performance Timeframe: November 2019

Venue: 8th Street Studios, Berkeley

Where are you going, where did you go seeks "thresholds;" edges, origins, outsets, openings. Exploring personal, geographical and ideological thresholds, veteran dancer Randee Paufve will perform a new solo show of four connected dances, created in collaboration with four directors and an all-women design/production team including lighting designer Kaveri Seth, videographer Erin Malley and set designer Lauren Elder.

Harry Rubeck, lighting designer for **African and African American Performing Arts Coalition**

(Awarded: \$1,500)

Project Name: *Black Choreographers Festival*

Performance Timeframe: February 2019

Venue: Dance Mission Theater, SF

Harry Rubeck will design the lights for AAAPAC's Black Choreographers Festival – Here and Now: Next Wave Choreographers Showcase, *New Voices / New Works* Program, at Dance Mission Theater February 2019. The *New Voices / New Works* Program, part of the annual

Black Choreographers Festival, showcases the original work of emerging and mid-career African American choreographers creating in contemporary and traditional dance forms.

Stephanie Anne Johnson, lighting designer for **Deep Waters Dance Theater**

(Awarded: \$1,500)

Project Name: *House/Full of Blackwomen*

Performance Timeframe: Spring 2019

Venue: EastSide Arts Alliance, Oakland

House/Full of Black Women is a site-specific ritual based performance project that addresses issues of displacement, well-being, and the continuing abuse and sex trafficking of black women and girls in Oakland: Set in various sites throughout Oakland over a two-year period, culminating with a durational performance in a house in Oakland

Delayne Medoff, lighting designer for **Monique Jenkinson**

(Awarded: \$1,500)

Project Name: *Girl*

Performance Timeframe: October 2018

Venue: Joe Goode Annex, SF

Girl is an evening-length collaboration between choreographer/performer Monique Jenkinson and composer/performer Marc Kate, presented by Joe Goode Performance Group. Jenkinson and Kate seek to question essentialism and undermine masculinist power by speaking to the feminine in everyone: "Who is the girl in you? What do you need to tell her?" They embody tensions and harmonies within and around the gender binary and employ a specific set of artistic techniques to address, express and trouble the state of being and seeing the femme in the world.

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

For more info please visit: dancersgroup.org

###