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Dancers' Group Announces Spring 2018 CA\$H Dance Grant Recipients

SAN FRANCISCO—Dancers' Group, a service and presenting organization in the San Francisco Bay Area, announces the Spring 2018 awardees of its CA\$H granting program. The bi-annual awards support Bay Area dance artists and small organizations.

\$42,000 in grants are being awarded to seven individual artists and seven dance organizations in support of artistic projects—each grant award is \$3,000. CA\$H supports artists throughout their careers and receiving an award is often an early fundraising success. For three of this round's grantees this was their very first grant application and grant award, while for 10 others, this represented one of over five grant applications submitted to support their work.

The CA\$H program, which has been supporting dance-makers for the past 19 years, is funded by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and Grants for the Arts.

A peer panel of Bay Area artists met over two days to review 60 applications. The panelists that reviewed and awarded grants are: Gerald Casel, director, GERALDCASELDANCE; Garth Grimball, choreographer and executive director, Wax Poet(s); Tara Pilbrow, choreographer; Dazaun Soleyn, performer and choreographer; and Vidhya Subramanian, performer and choreographer.

The 14 Spring 2018 Dance grantees are:

Individual Artists

Jory Horn
Meredith Webster
Cynthia Ling Lee
Roxanne Gray
Courtney Mazeika
Deborah Karp
Nol Simonse

Organizations

little seismic dance company
Urban Jazz Dance Company
Mixed Bag Productions
Nina Haft & Company
Aura Fischbeck Dance
Scott Wells & Dancers
ALTERNATIVA

Project Descriptions:

INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS:

Jory Horn – San Francisco & Cambodia

The outer ripples and deep plummet of the surface of water is a research study investigating a character/movement study of Horn's Cambodian (Khmer) mother. The study uses water as a metaphor for the trauma Khmer women experienced during the Khmer Rouge 1975-1979. The study will address the challenges related to migration and diaspora of Khmer refugees suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder.

CA\$H grant for: travel

Meredith Webster – San Francisco

Mirrors is a short film, danced and choreographed by Meredith Webster and directed by Mary Marxen. The memories Crimson, the protagonist, encounters are the mirrors which reflect her inner turmoil. The film's purpose is to support viewers in facing their inner critic. They wrapped production and are now fundraising for post production. They will show the film at curated events around the Bay Area.

CA\$H grant for: film editing

Cynthia Ling Lee – San Francisco

Lost Chinatowns will be a multimedia dance-theater work exploring the destruction, lost vibrancy, and historical erasure of Santa Cruz's Chinatowns from 1860-1955.

CA\$H grant for: artist fees

Roxanne Gray – San Francisco

Roxanne Gray will be presenting in a RAW residency show with SAFEhouse Arts in August 2018, exploring the diversity of movement found in animal courtship rituals. Gray is interested in finding a collaboration between dance, music, and the biological art of finding a mate in the Animal Kingdom and also wants to flesh out examples of gender roles, and gender fluidity in nature.

CA\$H grant for: artist fees

Courtney Mazeika – San Francisco

This collaboratively developed dance piece will be performed by five dancers, exploring their individual and shared experiences as women navigating the world in which we are currently immersed. The work will research their rigor, tenderness, and detailed physicality. It will demonstrate the ways they relate to themselves and each other through delicately human interactions.

CA\$H grant for: artist fees

Deborah Karp – San Francisco

Deborah Karp Dance Projects presents a new, evening-length work examining ongoingness - as a somatic experience in dancing, as a personal desire to hit life's non-existent pause button and as a pervasive public state in which so much intense news keeps on coming. The work is a duet with an embedded solo and original percussion score. A Slow Walk, a public, participatory movement event will take place in conjunction with this work in indoor and outdoor spaces in San Francisco.

CA\$H grant for: artist fees

Nol Simonse – San Francisco

Nol Simonse will create a new ensemble dance piece titled *Golden Bull*. Lighting design will be by Harry Rubeck, with an original score by Aaron Gold. The ensemble cast of five male dancers are of differing ages, ethnicities, and dance backgrounds and practices. They will come together to make a piece that investigates spiritual practice, performed at Dance Mission Theater.

CA\$H grant for: artist fees & facility rental

ORGANIZATIONS:

little seismic dance company – San Francisco

little seismic dance company will present *Divining*, its first evening-length dance project – at ODC Theater, SF – sourced from the complimentary concepts of divining and prospecting, both phenomena that evidence a human need for security, optimism and hope.

CA\$H grant for: artist fees

Urban Jazz Dance Company – San Francisco

In collaboration with a CounterPulse Residency, Urban Jazz Dance Company will present a world premiere focused on advocating and educating our community about the underrepresented and invisible conditions of lack of accessibility for Deaf inmates in prison and audism outside of prison. CA\$H grant for: artist fees & ASL interpreters

Mixed Bag Productions – San Francisco

Mixed Bag Productions has been invited to present the world premiere of *Echo/Riding the Rapids* as part of ODC Theater's 2018-19 season. *Echo* will be an evening-length dance piece choreographed and directed by Sara Shelton Mann, with live and recorded voice and music by composer Pamela Z and set design by Sara's longtime Contraband collaborator Lauren Elder. CA\$H grant for: videographer

Nina Haft & Company – San Francisco

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, our production will create an 'ecosystem' where audiences move about freely and observe their influence upon the movement, light and sound around them. This precarious pod is where human and animal existence collides. CA\$H grant for: artist fees

Aura Fischbeck Dance – San Francisco

Aura Fischbeck Dance will create a new full length dance performance work for the Joe Goode Annex. Currently in the beginning stages of development, the title for this piece is *DUSK*. This new work deals with the phenomenon of fading light as a jumping off point to research the dancing body in relative states of obscurity and visibility, ambiguity and transformation. CA\$H grant for: artist fees & facility rental

Scott Wells & Dancers – San Francisco

After a career highlighted with dance pieces for men, Scott Wells & Dancers takes a radical shift with the evening-length dance piece *Men Listening to Women*. Xandra Ibarra (queer, Chicana performance artist), Larry Arrington, (experimental performance artist), Sara Shelton Mann and Miriam Wolodarski (Crane & Crocodile) will instigate this new work. CA\$H grant for: artist fees

ALTERNATIVA – San Francisco

ALTERNATIVA celebrates the 20th Anniversary of the company/organization and directors Kathleen Hermesdorf and Albert Mathias with the premiere of a new work at the Joe Goode Annex. CA\$H grant for: artist fees

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