

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 29, 2010

For more information contact:

Marie Chong

www.arcdance.org

Phone: (206) 352-0798

WHO: ARC Dance Company

WHAT: *Summer Dance at The Center* –a mixed rep program at Seattle Center

WHERE: Bagley Wright/Leo Kreielsheimer Theatre
155 Mercer Street | Seattle, WA 98109

WHEN: July 15 - 17, 2010 (Thursday – Saturday) at 8:00 PM

TICKETS Adults - \$25 in advance; \$30 at the door

& INFO: Students/Seniors - \$15 (under 18 or valid student ID / 65+)

www.arcdance.org ARC Dance 206 352-0798

ARC DANCE ANNUAL JULY PROGRAM AT SEATTLE CENTER

ARC Dance returns to the Bagley Wright/Leo K. Theatre for its third season of
Summer Dance at the Center, a mixed-rep program July 15-17

4Culture partially underwrites half-priced tickets for students and seniors

ARC Dance presents five world premiers by choreographers Penny Hutchinson (Mark Morris Dance Group), Marie Chong (Artistic Director), Betsy Cooper (ARC Resident Choreographer), Jason Ohlberg (Hubbard Street Dance Chicago), and Kiyon Gaines (PNB) in a July 15-17 program at Seattle Center's Leo K. Theatre.

“The annual summer performances are a wonderful opportunity for locals and tourists alike to see that we have a vital dance community operating all year long in Seattle,” said Artistic Director Marie Chong. “The Bagley Wright/Leo K. is a perfect fit for ARC Dance, and we are pleased to be performing there regularly. It's a beautiful, intimate theater that allows for a rich, personal experience,” added Chong.

A King County *4Culture* grant helps ARC give back to the community during difficult economic conditions by partially covering the cost of half-priced tickets offered to students and seniors. “We are thankful to 4Culture for their help in making high quality dance performances more accessible to some of the most adversely affected segments of the community right now: families with children, students, and seniors,” said ARC board member Kirk Midtskog.

The confluence of experienced choreographers expressing their unique vision and the collaborative contribution of strong, professional dancers make for compelling dance experiences at every ARC performance.

Summer Dance at The Center: July 15 - 17, 2010; (Thursday – Saturday) at 8:00 PM
Leo Kreielsheimer Theatre 155 Mercer Street | Seattle, WA 98109
Tickets & Info: ARC Dance 206 352.0798 or www.arcdance.org

---more---

More about ARC Dance Company

ARC Dance is a professional repertory dance company in Seattle, Washington that presents contemporary dance in intimate settings. Under the artistic direction of Marie Chong since its inception in 1999, ARC has performed works by nationally recognized and emerging choreographers in a regular performance season July through December. It occupies a 10,000 sq. ft. dance facility in Seattle.

More about Marie Chong, Artistic Director

Marie Chong, began dancing in Tacoma, WA with Jan Collum. She performed professionally with Pacific Northwest Ballet, Spectrum Dance Theater, Atlanta Ballet II, and Eugene Ballet. She toured much of the US, Canada, the Netherlands, and Germany, performing works by George Balanchine, Lynn Taylor Corbett, Frank Chaves, Toni Pimble, Kent Stowell, Christopher d'Amboise, Ann Reinking, Margo Sappington, Lar Lubavitch, and many others. As a choreographer, Ms. Chong has created over 15 original works for ARC Dance. She has also been commissioned to create choreography on companies in the Northwest and has worked with the Seattle Symphony and the Woodland Park Zoo on Outreach and Education programs. She is the director of Arc School of Ballet the affiliated training school of ARC Dance Company. Ms. Chong teaches Pilates, GYROTONIC® and GYROKINESIS® physical education as well as ballet. She is an active member of [Dance/USA](#), [National Dance Education Organization](#), [USA Gymnastics](#), and serves on the UW Dance advisory board. She is a strong advocate for sharing and educating the art form with others.

More about Betsy Cooper, Resident Choreographer

Betsy Cooper became Director of the University of Washington Dance Program in 2001. She previously taught at the University of Texas at Austin, George Mason University, and the University of Waterloo. Cooper also guest teaches at Pacific Northwest Ballet School, Arc School of Ballet, Dance Fremont and Cornish College of the Arts. As a dancer, she performed in the New York City Ballet's Tchaikovsky and Stravinsky Festivals, and has danced with a number of classical and contemporary companies including, Makarova and Company, Matthew Nash Music & Dance, San Francisco Opera Ballet and Nationaltheater Mannheim. Cooper has published articles on dance and politics in Theatre Research International, Dance Research Journal and The International Dictionary of Modern Dance. She received her M.F.A. in Dance from the University of Washington and a B.A. in Archaeological Studies from Yale University. Cooper is a recipient of a 2004 Distinguished Teaching Award from the University of Washington.

More about Penny Hutchinson

Penny Hutchinson, a native of Seattle, attended the Julliard School. She was a founding member of the Mark Morris Dance Group, 1980-1992 and was in Brussels from 1988-1991, when MMDG was in residence at Theatre de la Monnaie. In 1990 she received a New York Dance and Performance Award, BESSIE. In addition to teaching at the University of Washington, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival and other MMDG workshops, Hutchinson has taught at Ulm Theatre Ballet, NYU Tisch School of the Arts, South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts, Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (Singapore), University of Montana, Academy of Modern Dance (Chennai, India), and Sports Hojskole, (Denmark). She was assistant director for Peter Sellars' *The Rake's Progress* at the Chatelet Theater, Paris. After receiving a BA through Vermont College, in 2001 she choreographed and made her acting debut in *The Oresteia*, three Greek tragedies, for the opening of the Berkeley Repertory's Roda Theater. While attending Mills College, Penny staged *Marble Halls* by Mark Morris for the Mills Repertory Dance Company. She graduated with an MFA in Dance from Mills. She has had two successful collaborations with composer Fei Wu of Beijing, China, the second being under a "Meet the Composer" grant for University of Wyoming dance students and the Chandra Wyoga Gamelan.

More about Kiyon Gaines

Kiyon Gaines is from Baltimore, Maryland. In 2001 he joined Pacific Northwest Ballet where he is currently a member of the company.

Mr. Gaines's first choreographic work was premiered at PNB's Choreographers' Showcase in 2005. Since then he has created works for Patricia Barker, Karel Cruz, and Lindsie Dec (PNB Dancers), Mid-Columbia Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Gem City Ballet, Spectrum Dance Theater, Pennsylvania Regional Ballet, Peninsula Dance Theater, Seattle Dance Project, Olympic Ballet Theater, and Pacific Northwest Ballet School.

Mr. Gaines was a finalist in Canton Ballet's Pointeworks Choreographic Competition in 2007 and recipient of the Choreography Connection Award, in 2008. He has also been the scholarship recipient of Regional Dance America's Craft of Choreography Conference, in which he continues to attend. In 2008, Mr. Gaines attended the New York Choreographic Institute where he created a work for eight dancers. His 2010 projects include: Pacific Northwest Ballet School with a newly commissioned score by Aaron Severini, Evergreen City Ballet, and ARC Dance.

More about Jason Ohlberg

Jason Ohlberg is originally from Fresno, CA. He received his training from State University NY at Purchase. His professional credits include Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Jan Erkert and Dancers, and Dance Kaleidoscope where he served as choreographer in residence for two years. In 1997, Mr. Ohlberg founded Same Planet Different World Dance Theater in Chicago, IL where he continues a working relationship. He has served on the faculty of Barat College, the School of Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Spectrum Dance Theater, Dance Fremont, University of Washington, Arc School of Ballet, and Cornish College of the Arts. When not creating dances, Mr. Ohlberg is a certified Pilates instructor and teaches at Metropolitan Pilates in Seattle.

ARC Dance Company presents....

Summer Dance at the Center July 15 - 17, 2010 (Thurs – Sat) at 8:00 PM

Bagley Wright/Leo Kreielsheimer Theatre, 155 Mercer Street | Seattle, WA 98109

Tickets & Information : Adults - \$25 in advance; \$30 at the door Students/Seniors - \$15 (under 18 or valid student ID / 65+) ARC Dance 206 352.0798

www.arcdance.org

###