

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 3, 2006

For more information contact:

Marie Chong

www.arcdance.org

Phone: (206) 352-0798

WHO: ARC Dance Productions
WHAT: *Moments*, a Mixed Répertoire Performance
WHERE: Shorecrest Performing Arts Center
15343 25th Ave NE, Shoreline
WHEN: April 21 – 22, 2006 7:30 PM
TICKETS: ARC (206) 352-0798 and Ticket Window (206) 325-6500 or
www.ticketwindowonline.com

ARC DANCE PRESENTS A HIGHLY VARIED PROGRAM IN

Moments

Discover aerial dance with trapeze and suspended fabric, a neo-classical ballet set to three jazz trios, an edgy contemporary work, a Fosse-styled jazz piece, and a bittersweet look at the singles' scene all in captivating moments by ARC Dance Productions.

April 21 and 22 at Shorecrest Performing Arts Center

SEATTLE, WA --- ARC Dance Productions proudly presents its seventh season spring production *Moments*, a mixed repertoire program of astonishing range, April 21-22 at Shorecrest Performing Arts Center. This performance features an inspiring aerial dance work *Beyond Flight* by Melissa Kerber that juxtaposes two low trapezes with a central suspended fabric apparatus for high aerial maneuvers. Kirk Midtskog's premier of *Sonata for Dancers* is a neo-classical work in three movements set to jazz trios. Also in the show, Sonia Dawkins restages her contemporary dance *Sporadic Moments*. Alice Bergeson, a former Broadway dancer, premieres her Fosse-styled work set to music by Kurt Weil. Mark Haines' comedic take on the singles' scene *Last Call* debuted in ARC's 2001 season rounds out the performances.

Through the power of live performance, ARC will take your heart and mind on a journey.

Moments; April 21st and 22nd at 7:30 PM. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door, \$10 children 12 yrs and under, available at Ticket Window (206) 325-6500 www.ticketwindowonline.com and directly through ARC at (206) 352-0798 or www.arcdance.org

---more---

More about Melissa Kerber and *Beyond Flight*

Beyond Flight is Kerber's restaging of an ARC premier at Meany Hall in 2004. This inspirational work blends the athleticism required for trapeze work and a performer suspended in fabric (called "Tissue") with the grace of dance sensibility. Trained in aerial techniques under the tutelage of Robert Davidson and the Gemini Twins of Cirque du Soleil, Ms. Kerber is on the faculty of both the University of Washington and the Arc School of Ballet. She teaches regular aerial dance classes open to the public at the ARC facilities.

More about Kirk Midtskog and his premier, *Sonata for Dancers*

Through the use of structured, neo-classical choreography and highly improvised music from three jazz trios, Mr. Midtskog combines these seemingly different forms to create a piquant blend of strength and musicality. This work employs the sonata form to explore the concept of dancers being an integral part of the music's power of expression. This is Midtskog's third work for ARC.

More about Alice Bergeson and her premier, *Mack*

Drawing upon her Broadway career, Ms. Bergeson, was commissioned to create a sensual work in the style of Bob Fosse, complete with finger snaps, mouth sounds, and body slaps. The mating of this highly torso-isolated jazz dance idiom with music by Kurt Weil makes for a perfect match. Ms. Bergeson, a former Broadway dancer, is currently a member of the Pacific Northwest Ballet School faculty.

More about Sonia Dawkins and *Sporadic Moments*

As artistic director of SD Prism Dance Theater and a faculty member at Pacific Northwest Ballet School, Ms. Dawkins has created a distinct choreographic style with her body of work. *Sporadic Moments* employs technically challenging, abstract movements to exemplify power struggles as they sporadically occur in our lives. This work premiered in 2002 by the SD Prism Dance Theater and is the second piece for ARC by Dawkins.

More about Mark Haines and *Last Call*

Nationally known as a modern and jazz teacher and choreographer, Mr. Haines has created a bittersweet commentary about lost love in the singles' scene. Complete with sign language and a slow motion combat sequence, this comedic story telling has the power to take you along with the dancers for a moment or two.

More about ARC Dance Productions

ARC is a classically-inspired, repertory dance company in Seattle, Washington. It presents works from a wide range of dance styles such as classical, contemporary ballet, modern, and jazz. Since its inception in 1999, under the artistic director and founder Marie Chong, ARC has presented pieces from over 30 choreographers with over 220 dancers in theaters such as Meany Hall, Eastlake performing Arts Center, and Benaroya Hall.

The choreographers' back grounds include members of the Martha Graham Company, the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Co., Pacific Northwest Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, Sacramento Ballet, Spectrum Dance Theater and others.

Open auditions are held before each production season. The roster ranges from 15 to 28 dancers depending on repertoire. Choreographers have latitude to cast dancers and create works in ways that foster their vision. ARC presents its repertoire in standard, proscenium arch theaters with professional production values.

More about ARC Dance and Seattle Symphony

ARC Dance Productions has been working with the Seattle Symphony for four seasons in various outreach programs. ARC has performed in Benaroya Hall with the Seattle Symphony in projects including *Dance in Music*, *Peter and the Wolf*, *American Music*, and *Carnival of the Animals* this March.

More about Arc School of Ballet

Arc School of Ballet provides unparalleled classical ballet training in an atmosphere that promotes personal and artistic growth. Contributing a wealth of knowledge to the school, the faculty at Arc are dedicated to dance education and instilling invaluable qualities in their students that extend beyond their dance training: self-confidence, respect, work ethic and a sense of tradition.

Arc School of Ballet offers four coordinated programs of exceptional quality to dancers of all ages and backgrounds. Focusing on elements of both classical and contemporary ballet technique, the core curriculum is complimented by other dance forms such as Modern, Jazz, African, Aerial and Character, along with Pilates and GYROTONIC® conditioning. The variety of classes works to meet students' varying interests in dance, ranging from beginning to adult education/fitness to the professional career bound.

Students from The Arc School of Ballet have been accepted into intensive training programs at other institutions such as Ailey School (Alvin Ailey), Alberta Ballet, American Ballet

ARC's Moments – page 4

Theater, Ballet Austin, Pacific Northwest Ballet School, Boston Ballet, Joffrey Ballet, Milwaukee Ballet, North Carolina School of the Arts, Princeton Ballet, and the San Francisco Conservatory of Dance.

Arc School of Ballet shares common goals with its resident dance company, ARC Dance Productions, to provide opportunities for the public to explore the joy and beauty of dance. Arc School of Ballet and ARC Dance Productions occupy over 12,000 square feet of the former Crown Hill School in the Ballard/Crown Hill neighborhood of Seattle at 9250 14th Ave NW, Seattle, Washington.

Moments - April 21st and 22nd at 7:30PM.

Shorecrest Performing Arts Center: 15343 25th Ave NE, Shoreline

Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door, \$10 children 12 yrs and under.

Available at Ticket Window (206) 325-6500 www.ticketwindowonline.com

And directly through ARC at (206) 352-0798 www.arcdance.org

###