

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

August 19, 2008

For more information contact:

Marie Chong

www.arcdance.org

Phone: (206) 352-0798

WHO: ARC Dance Company
WHAT: *Momentum Ten* –a mixed rep program on Capital Hill
WHERE: Broadway Performance Hall
1625 Broadway | Seattle, WA 98122
WHEN: October 17 and 18 (Fri – Sat) at 7:30 PM
TICKETS: Advanced: \$15.00 Child/Student, \$22.00 Adult
at the Door: \$18.00 Child/Student, \$25.00 Adult
ARC: 206 352-0798 or online at www.brownpapertickets.com
INFO: www.arcdance.org or 206 352-0798

ARC DANCE ANNOUNCES OCTOBER PROGRAM

ARC Dance celebrates its tenth anniversary with a mixed repertory program at Capitol Hill's Broadway Performance Hall October 17 and 18

SEATTLE, WA --- ARC Dance Company presents *Momentum Ten* in honor of its tenth regular performance season in Seattle. Opening on October 17th for two evenings at the Broadway Performance Hall, the program consists of some of the company's repertoire over the last several years and will include works by Artistic Director Marie Chong, Resident Choreographer Betsy Cooper, Foundry co-founder Alex Ketley, Sonia Dawkins, Jason Ohlberg, and a premier of Kirk Midtskog's *The Notice Part II* for which he received a 4Culture grant. Some new and returning professional dancers join ARC to present a selection of neo-classical, theater/dance, and contemporary works in the centrally located Broadway Performance Hall on October 17 and 18.

ARC has come a long way since its debut in 1999. “We would like to showcase some of the works we have done over the years.” said Marie Chong, Artistic Director. “Also, after our successful run at the Bagley Wright/Leo K Theatre complex in July this year, we want to continue to bring the company into centrally located venues like the Broadway Performance Hall so we can be readily accessible to more audience members.” she added.

The pieces in *Momentum Ten* cover a wide range of styles, making the program artistically broad and requiring very strong, versatile dancers. Contemporary, modern, neo-classical, and Dance/Theater works are presented with the professional production values and a deep commitment to dance as performing art that have been the hallmark of ARC since its debut in 1999.

ARC's fresh group of professional dancers and a fall program at the Broadway Performance Hall, following a successful run at the Leo K. Theatre, all contribute to ARC's forward momentum as it celebrates its tenth regular season in Seattle with *Momentum Ten*.

For more information about ARC Dance, please contact Marie Chong directly at ARC: (206) 352-0798 or www.arcdance.org

---more---

More about ARC Dance Company

ARC is a professional repertory dance company in Seattle, Washington that presents modern, contemporary ballet and classical repertoire with aplomb and artistic accessibility 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 standard (proscenium arch) theaters with seating capacities of roughly 300 to 2500.

More about Marie Chong, Artistic Director

Marie Chong 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 worked with the Seattle Symphony on various projects such as *Discover Music!* Her version of Swan Lake, with low flying trapeze (aerial dance), debuted in 2005 and the children's story, The Rainbow Goblins included multi-media and an original music composition premiered in 2004. Both projects typify her innovative approach and collaborations with other artists. Ms. Chong is certified in GYROTONIC® and GYROKINESIS® physical conditioning and is a member of [Dance/USA](#) and [National Dance Education Organization](#) where she is a strong advocate for sharing 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 Alex Ketley

Artistic Director / Co-Founder of The Foundry in San Francisco, Mr. Ketley trained at the Washington Ballet, the School of American Ballet and the Royal Danish Ballet. In 1994 he joined the San Francisco Ballet where he performed a wide range of classical and contemporary repertory including the work of William Forsythe, James Kudelka, and George Balanchine. In 1998 he co-founded The Foundry in order to explore his deepening interests in choreography, improvisation, mixed media work, and the collaborative process. He has created dance, installation, and video pieces during residencies at various Arts Centers and Institutes around the US and at the Taipei Artist Village in Taiwan. He has also been a guest choreographer at North Carolina School for the Arts and Florida State University. His work has received the National Choo-San Goh Award and the inaugural Princess Grace Award for Choreography, as well as awards from the Hubbard Street 2 National Choreography Competition, and the International Choreographic Competition of the Festival des Arts de Saint-Sauveur in Quebec, Canada. Since 2001 he has created four pieces for Hubbard Street 2. In 2006 Mr. Ketley was appointed Resident Choreographer at the San Francisco Conservatory of Dance and was also commissioned to create new work for the dance departments at Stanford University and San Francisco State University. He has worked with the nation's leading physically integrated dance company, AXIS, through the Maggie Allesee National Center for Choreography's "Free to Rep" program in Florida. He also created a new work for Ballet Met's 30th anniversary program, and premiered a new Foundry project exploring contemporary Iranian poetry in collaboration with The Translation Project's founder Niloufar Talebi.

More about Kirk Midtskog

Mr. Midtskog danced as a full-season dancer, a guest artist, or project dancer with Halby Dance Theatre, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Balletacoma, Mt. Baker Ballet, and Northwest Chamber Dance Theater. Since 1984, Mr. Midtskog has created works in dance genres as diverse as classical ballet, modern, neo-classical, and most recently, "Dance Theater" for companies such as Mt. Baker Ballet, Eastside Dance Theater, Balletacoma and ARC.

About the ARC Dance Company Mission and Studio location

ARC's mission is to communicate through dance as a universal language by presenting a rich palette of choreography. ARC Dance Company and Arc School of Ballet 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.

ARC Dance, *Momentum Ten* - a mixed rep, page 4

More about Jason Ohlberg

Mr. Ohlberg received his formal dance training at the State University of New York at Purchase. Professionally, he has danced with Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Dance Kaleidoscope, Jan Erkert and dancers, and Wade Madsen and Dancers. In 1997, Mr. Ohlberg founded Same Planet Different World Dance Theater in Chicago where he acted as artistic director and head choreographer for four years. Mr. Ohlberg's choreography has been seen throughout the country and locally: on the apprentice company of Spectrum Dance Theater, Men in Dance, Lehua Dance Theater, Cornish Dance Theater, The Seattle Children's theater and ARC Dance. Mr. Ohlberg has been on faculty at Barat College, Jordan Academy, the school of Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, the University of Washington, Spectrum Dance Theater, Arc School of Ballet, Dance Fremont and the Y.A.I. program of the Seattle Children's Theater. Mr. Ohlberg is a certified authentic Pilates instructor with Metropolitan Pilates in Seattle.

More about Sonia Dawkins

Ms. Dawkins, Founder and Artistic Director of the Sonia Dawkins/Prism Dance Theatre, graduated from University of the Arts and received her Master's degree from SUNY College Brockport. Ms. Dawkins studied at the Cultural Training Center, Jamaica School of Dance. She also danced with the National Dance Theatre of Jamaica and self-produced and choreographed the event--Shadow of Darkness.

Ms. Dawkins' choreography has been presented on various companies: Nevada Ballet Theatre, ARC Dance, Sonia Dawkins/Prism Dance Theatre, and solos for the Youth American Grand Prix. Currently on the faculty of Pacific Northwest Ballet, she was commissioned to choreograph for Pacific Northwest Ballet's 2006–2007 Season and for a company in Morelia, Mexico.

ARC Dance Company presents....

Momentum Ten

October 17 and 18, 2008 (Fri – Sat) at 7:30 PM

Broadway Performance Hall, 1625 Broadway | Seattle, WA 98122

Adults - \$22 (advance); \$25 (door); Student/Senior- \$15 (advance) and \$18 (door)

Tickets available online at: www.brownpapertickets.com or directly through ARC at (206) 352-0798

###