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## New 42 and New Victory Theater Announce 2020 New Victory Dance



### New Victory Moves Dance Series Online

**July 21 - August 11, 2020**

**New York, NY** (July 14, 2020) – **New Victory Dance**, New Victory Theater’s annual summer dance series, returns in a free, online format, inspiring kids and families to engage with New York City dance. From July 21 to August 11, 2020, New Victory will release seven video chapters featuring excerpted performances with introductions by the choreographers. Hosted by New Victory Teaching Artists, each video explores the artistry and style of a professional New York dance company or soloist through guided reflection questions and movement, encouraging viewers to try a little choreography wherever they are.

This year’s **New Victory Dance** roster includes, in order of appearance, **Keerati Jinakunwiphat, Ballet Nepantla, Kate Weare Company, Mozaik Dance, Dormeshia, Jane Comfort and Company** and **IMGE Dance**.

“New Victory Dance was created to invite New Yorkers of all ages to embrace the art form and this year is no exception; by going virtual, families in and beyond New York will discover and celebrate these extraordinary choreographers and the City’s unparalleled dance offerings,” says Mary Rose Lloyd, New Victory Artistic Director.

Since 2014, this hallmark New Victory program has provided free dance performances and free arts education workshops to more than 4,000 students a year from NYC Department of Education summer school enrichment programs, subsidized day camps and social service agencies. This year, in addition to each video chapter and [New Victory School Tool Resource Guide](#), New Victory offers educators the option of booking live interactive workshop sessions or pre-recorded videos with custom content.

[Click here](#) for an overview of New Victory Education Partnerships.

### **Release schedule**

Each **New Victory Dance** chapter will run approximately 20 to 25 minutes. Talk-Back videos featuring audience questions about the dance pieces and the choreographers' responses will be released on Wednesdays in August. All **New Victory Dance** videos, including chapters and Talk-Backs, are audio-described, sign-interpreted and captioned for viewer accessibility.

Chapter 1, Tuesday, July 21: **Keerati Jinakunwiphat**, *Good Island* (Excerpt)

Chapter 2, Thursday, July 23: **Ballet Nepantla**, *Coco* (Excerpt from *Sin Fronteras*)

Chapter 3, Tuesday, July 28: **Kate Weare Company**, *Sin Salida* (Excerpt)

Chapter 4, Thursday, July 30: **Mozaik Dance**, *Sad Hope* (Excerpts)

Chapter 5, Tuesday, August 4: **Dormeshia**, *And Still You Must Swing* (Excerpts)

Chapter 6, Thursday, August 6: **Jane Comfort and Company**, *You Are Here* (Excerpts)

Chapter 7, Tuesday, August 11: **IMGE Dance**, *Envy* (Excerpts)

Program and schedule subject to change; please see addendum for more information about the **New Victory Dance** program.

**New Victory Dance** is supported, in part, by a generous grant from the Blavatnik Family Foundation in honor of Dawdie Appelson, a teacher, arts enthusiast and life-long supporter of the performing arts.

Additional Support for **New Victory Dance** is provided by Jody and John Arnhold; Howard Gilman Foundation; the Harkness Foundation for Dance; Mertz Gilmore Foundation; public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council; the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature; and The Jerome Robbins Foundation.

### **About New Victory Theater**

The New Victory opens new worlds to young people and families through extraordinary performances, education and engagement programs. Bringing kids to the arts and the arts to kids since 1995, this nonprofit theater has become a standard-bearer of quality performing arts for young audiences in the United States. Reflecting and serving the multicultural city it calls home, The New Victory is committed to arts access for all communities of New York to experience and engage with the exemplary international shows on its stages. A global leader in arts education, youth development and audience engagement, The New Victory Theater has been honored by the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities with the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award, by Americans for the Arts with a national Arts

Education Award, and by the Drama Desk for "providing enchanting, sophisticated children's theater that appeals to the child in all of us, and for nurturing a love of theater in young people."

**About New 42**

Under the leadership of President Russell Granet, New 42nd Street is a performing arts nonprofit whose mission is to make extraordinary performing arts a vital part of everyone's life from the earliest years onward. Driven by a deep commitment to performing arts access, we connect people to world-class performances, essential education programs and creative communities that push culture forward. Through New Victory and New 42 Studios, we serve artists, educators and New Yorkers of all ages with invaluable arts engagement and resources in and beyond the performing arts. Together with our supporters, we open new perspectives, incubate new works and create new opportunities to move us all.

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## New Victory Dance

### **KEERATI JINAKUNWIPHAT**

#### *Good Island*

In *Good Island*, a group of powerful men explore the limits of rambunctiousness, sensitivity and competition. Choreographer Keerati Jinakunwiphat harnesses the raw energy of her dancers to tell a story of high physicality and human connection.

Keerati Jinakunwiphat, originally from Chicago, received her BFA from the Conservatory of Dance at SUNY Purchase. She is currently a dancer with Kyle Abraham's A.I.M. and a freelance choreographer. Keerati has presented her choreographic work at the American Dance Guild Festival, Dance Gallery Festival and Battery Dance Festival, and has presented work at venues such as 92Y, Gelsey Kirkland Arts Center and the Joyce Theater. Additionally, she has been commissioned to create works for the Evanston Dance Ensemble, the Martha Graham School, SUNY Purchase College and A.I.M.

### **BALLET NEPANTLA**

#### *Coco* (Excerpt from *Sin Fronteras*)

In *Coco*, Ballet Nepantla blends the two cultures of Veracruz together in a thrilling fusion of West African and Mexican folk dance.

Ballet Nepantla tells stories to provoke the imagination of audiences and to help our society see the beauty of community. Nepantla evokes stories about Mexican and Mexican American people, about family, about love and about struggles and triumphs. Through a fusion of Mexican folklorico and contemporary ballet, Ballet Nepantla explores the "in-between" spaces of trans-historical cultures. The performances brought forth to the stage communicate the narrative of living in the middle of physical and metaphorical spaces.

### **KATE WEARE COMPANY**

#### *Sin Salida* (Excerpt)

Kate Weare upends tango's traditional gender politics to explore how the partner-based fire of tango and the solitary beauty of contemporary dance can speak to, wrestle with, and ultimately, embrace each other in *Sin Salida* ("No Exit").

Founded in 2005 in New York City, Kate Weare Company is a contemporary dance group known for its startling combination of formal choreographic value and visceral, emotional interpretation. Weare's dances explore contemporary views of intimacy - both stark and tender - by drawing on our most basic urges to move and decode movement. Recent awards include: Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship, DANCEworks Residency, Inaugural BAM Fisher Artist-in-Residency & Commission, Joyce Theater Creative Residencies, Aninstantia Foundation Fellowship, White Bird's Barney Choreographic Prize, Princess Grace Choreography Fellowship, CalArts Evelyn Sharp Summer Artist-in Residency.

### **MOZAIK DANCE**

#### *Sad Hope* (Excerpts)

The three women of Mozaik Dance use popping mixed with other street styles and contemporary influences to look inward with *Sad Hope*. Mapping our connection to love, anxiety and the ways we relate to one another, they ask, “How do we deal with emotion in a world that numbs our feelings?”

Company members Sun Kim, Manon Bal and J9 collaborate to explore human differences and commonalities. Collectively, they have performed at Jacob’s Pillow, San Francisco Hip-Hop Festival and Mark Morris Dance. Sun Kim hails from Korea and has won *Step Ya Game Up* and *Book of Styles* in the style of Popping. She has also danced for Madonna, Sir Elton John, Cirque du Soleil and others. Manon Bal comes from France, studied at Alvin Ailey and dances with Ephrat Asherie Dance as a principal dancer. J9 has immersed herself in both the underground and commercial scenery of New York City. She fuses street styles together and has danced for Madonna, 070 Shake and Spotify.

## **DORMESHIA**

*And Still You Must Swing* (Excerpts)

Hailed “the most moving dance show of the year” by *The New York Times*, *And Still You Must Swing* brings together three of the best tap dancers in the world—Dormeshia, who leads the project alongside Derick K. Grant, and Jason Samuels Smith—to capture the heart and legacy of tap dance and honor the jazz roots of this American art form.

Dormeshia’s Broadway credits include *Black and Blue* and *Bring in Da’Noise, Bring in Da’Funk*. Dormeshia was integral to Noise/Funk’s International Tour as dance captain and lead principal, and performed as a special guest for Grammy-award winning artist Fantasia, as well as Al Jarreau and Dee Dee Bridgewater for International Jazz Day. Film credits include *TAP* with Gregory Hines, Spike Lee’s *Bamboozled* and *The Rise and Fall of Miss Thang*. Choreography credits include Michael Jackson’s *Rock My World*, The Cotton Club’s *Sophisticated Ladies*, *The Blues Project*, *And Still You Must Swing*. Dormeshia is a long-standing spokesperson for Capezio Tap shoes, and one of the directors of the bi-annual Jacob’s Pillow Tap Program. With over 30 years touring the world, she also spent 11 years as Michael Jackson’s tap instructor.

## **JANE COMFORT AND COMPANY**

*You Are Here* (Excerpts)

Celebrating 40 years of creating electrifying dance theater, Jane Comfort and Company’s *You Are Here* is an ode to urban dwellers—the millions who improvise movement on the city’s stage of busy sidewalks and streets.

Jane Comfort and Company has pioneered the possibilities of multidisciplinary dance since the ‘70s with dance/theater works that have explored the intersection of movement and text, often mixing high and low arts. The company has been presented by such venues as TEDxEast, Lincoln Center, The Joyce Theater, La Mama, PS 122 Danspace Project and Dance Theater Workshop. The company has received multiple grants and commissions from the NEA, National Performance Networks, NY State Council on the Arts, Department of Cultural Affairs and American Music Center, Creative Capital Foundation and many others. Founder Jane Comfort is a Guggenheim Fellow and has received two Bessie Awards as well as a Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Dance Guild. She also choreographed the Broadway musicals *Passion* by Stephen Sondheim and *Amour* by Michel Legrand.

## **IMGE DANCE**

*Envy* (Excerpts), *India*

Ego. Judgement. Jealousy. In these excerpts from *Envy—India 91* and *Malamente*—IMGE uses rhythmic footwork, world music and storytelling to explore the darker side of human nature.

Ishita Mili Global Exposé (IMGE), founded by Ishita Mili, combines bharatanatyam, hip hop and contemporary dance as a new method of storytelling. Intertwining mudras (Indian hand gestures), footwork and powerful body language, IMGE Dance forms a global language that examines different narratives from our cultural history using dancers from diverse perspectives. IMGE Dance has been highlighted at the Kala Ghoda Arts Festival, Seattle International Dance Festival, Lincoln Center Out of Doors, as well as featured in Pulse Magazine UK, Pyragraph and more.

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