

VCU Dance news

V i r g i n i a C o m m o n w e a l t h U n i v e r s i t y

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For Immediate Release

July 15, 2009

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VCU Dance Announces 2009-2010 PERFORMANCE SEASON

Richmond, VA – VCU Department of Dance and Choreography announces its 2009-2010 performance season, made possible in part by funding graciously provided by the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation; the New England Foundation for the Arts; the Virginia Commission for the Arts; and VCUarts. In addition to the award-winning work of VCU Dance students and faculty presented in Senior Project and Student Concerts as well as VCU Dance NOW, special events this season include **a tribute to beloved Richmond artist Richard Carlyon**; and a public performance by the critically acclaimed, New York-based **Stephen Petronio Company**, which will kick off **VCU Dance's hosting of the 2010 Mid Atlantic Region American College Dance Festival** in March.

On Saturday, September 26, VCU Dance presents a very special event: **MOVE: A Tribute to Richard Carlyon** (1930-2006). Carlyon was one of the most influential figures in Richmond's artistic history – generations of artists in this community have been profoundly inspired by his generosity, intellect, broad perspective, and process. As part of a September, 2009 retrospective dedicated to Carlyon's career and encompassing exhibitions at VCU's Anderson Gallery, 1708 Gallery, Visual Arts Center of Richmond, and Reynolds Gallery, VCU Dance will present a tribute celebrating his artistic connections and contributions to dance and performance on September 26 at the Grace Street Theater. Entitled **Move** and conceived by choreographer **Chris Burnside**, the evening-length program will include images of Carlyon's work, several of his performance-based videos, and dance inspired by him and his approaches to art-making. The program will feature appearances by choreographer and VCU Dance alumna **Laura Schandelmeier**, as well as Carlyon's fellow artists, colleagues, former students, and performers from the Richmond dance community.

On March 16, 2010, VCU Dance is thrilled to present a performance by **Stephen Petronio Company** at the W. E. Singleton Center for the Performing Arts. Acclaimed by audiences and critics alike, Stephen Petronio Company has performed in 26 countries throughout the world as well as presented over 35 New York City engagements. Stephen Petronio is widely regarded as one of the leading dance makers of his generation. New music, visual art and fashion collide in his dances, producing powerfully modern landscapes for the senses. *The New York Times* extols Petronio's work as having "an instantly recognizable style [that is] fresh and unpredictable... infused with emotional texture and wit... jarring and just right."

On the heels of the Petronio performance, VCU Dance will host the **2010 Mid-Atlantic Region American College Dance Festival (ACDF)** for the first time since 2005. Approximately 400 participants (students and faculty) from between 30 to 40 colleges and universities from the Mid-Atlantic region and around the country will participate in classes, workshops, guest artist concerts, adjudicated concerts, panel discussions, and a closing gala concert over four days in March, 2010. Master classes with visiting artists will be offered to the Richmond dance community, and a limited number of public tickets will be available to the adjudicated and gala festival concerts.

For 2009-2010, VCU Dance also presents two **Senior Project Concerts**, a **Student Concert** (entirely student-run and curated!), and **VCU Dance Now**, a concert of new work by VCU Dance faculty. The multi-disciplinary **Salon** and the **Dance on Camera** film screening round out a thrilling season.

2009-2010 Season

Move: A Tribute

Richard Carlyon Retrospective

Saturday, September 26, 2009

Grace Street Theater, 8:00 PM Free, but reservations required. Call 804-828-2020.

Dance on Camera Film Screening

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

Grace Street Theater, 8:00 PM \$5

This evening of dance films created by international artists represents an intriguing range of approaches to the hybrid art form of videodance.

Salon

Tuesday, October 27, 2009

VCU Dance Center, 10 North Brunswick Street, 8:00 PM Free

An informal showing of new student works in a range of disciplines, with post-performance discussion facilitated by VCU Dance faculty member Martha Curtis.

Fall Senior Project

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, November 19, 20, 21, 2009

Grace Street Theater, 8:00 PM \$10

Graduating seniors produce a concert of their own work in this capstone experience in the Dance & Choreography BFA.

Student Concert

Friday & Saturday, January 29-30, 2010

Grace Street Theater, 8:00 PM \$10

This student-run and curated production showcases the choreography of VCU Dance majors.

VCU Dance NOW

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, February 18, 19, 20, 2010

Grace Street Theater, 8:00 PM \$15

New and repertory works by VCU Dance faculty members and guest artists.

Stephen Petronio Company

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

W. E. Singleton Center for the Performing Arts, 8:00 PM \$20

The New York Times extols Stephen Petronio Company's dancing as having "an instantly recognizable style [that is] fresh and unpredictable... infused with emotional texture and wit... jarring and just right."

Mid Atlantic Region American College Dance Festival, Hosted by VCU Dance

March 17-21, 2010

Spring Senior Project

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, April 29, 30, May 1, 2010

Grace Street Theater, 8:00 PM \$10

Graduating seniors produce a concert of their own work in this capstone experience in the Dance & Choreography BFA.

For ticket and theater rental information, contact Jill B. Ware at Grace Street Theater:

934 West Grace Street

Richmond, Virginia

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The presenting program of VCU Dance is committed to building and engaging dance audiences in the University and Richmond community while providing opportunities for artists to present and create work. Funding for the 2009-2010 season has been graciously provided in part by the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation; the Virginia Commission for the Arts; and the New England Foundation for the Arts.

Recognized by professional dancers and choreographers as "a place where things are happening," Virginia Commonwealth University's Department of Dance and Choreography offers a vibrant and stimulating atmosphere where students prepare for careers in dance.

Virginia Commonwealth University Department of Dance & Choreography

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