Dance Calendar June 2018

Charmaine Patricia Warren | 6/7/2018, 11:38 a.m.
Under the direction of founder and executive/artistic director, the steadfast, Joan Myers Brown, PHILADANCO!, the Philadelphia Dance Company, returns to The Joyce Theater after a six-year absence, for a weeklong run. Slated for this long-awaited season are four works, including three New York City premieres by artists who Myers Brown insists are part of a new generation of choreographers.

“I needed to start nurturing [this] new generation…there is no more Talley (Beatty) or Alvin (Ailey)…” she said.

PHILADANCO has always been recognized as a company that “…champions African-American traditions in dance as well as using the art form to tackle social issues which impact African-Americans,” so this program addresses many of the issues that currently affect people of color, according to the release. On the program is “Folded Prism” by Vietnamese choreographer Thang Dao, “A Movement for Five” (premiere) by PHILADANCO alumna Dawn Marie Bazemore, inspired by the events surrounding New York City’s “Central Park Five” incident, “New Fruit” by resident choreographer Christopher Huggins, which looks at the social landscape and its effects on Black and Brown bodies, and “With(in) Verse” by another PHILADANCO alum and artist in residence, Tommie-Waheed Evans.

“We are delighted to return to The Joyce Theater, one of America's dance meccas after a hiatus of several years,” added Myers Brown. “We know our audiences in NYC are expecting PHILADANCO’s exciting repertory, one that will offer not only the work of diverse styles of choreography but also the talents of the well-trained dancers as they move from ballet to ballet. I am also pleased to showcase the poignant works of two former company members who are on a path of personal success.”

For more information, visit www.joyce.org.

ALSO THIS MONTH

May 10-June 3 — The monthlong series, La Mama Moves!, closes with Ni’Ja Whitson (June 1 and June 2). New this year will be two off-site events: panel discussions about artists and cultural identity, and screenings of rarely seen films. For more information, visit www.lamama.org.

June 7-June 10 — Curated by New Dance Alliance founder and director, Karen Bernard, the 32nd annual Performance Mix Festival returns and will feature works by 30-plus artists with “…diverse approaches to performance, inviting audiences to engage with the unexpected and to experience some of the newest voices in experimental dance” at University Settlement, notes the release. The impressive lineup includes Antonio Ramos, Ash R. T. Yergens, Daniel Gwirtzman Dance Company, João Costa Espinho, Melanie Greene and Brianna Taylor, Parijat Desai, Wondertwins (Billy and Bobby McClain) and so many more. For more information, visit www.newdancealliance.org.

June 8 and June 9 — Choreographer Miro Magloire’s New Chamber Ballet closes its 2017-18 season with Magloire’s “Schattentanz” (world premiere) and “I am” (2017), plus another from resident choreographer Constantine Baecher set to Debussy’s “Children’s Corner” for piano, which premiered last February. For more information, visit www.newchamberballet.com.

June 8 and June 9 — As part of the on-going series, Dance and Process, geared toward presenting new works after a 10-week group process of sharing work and feedback, will be works by Lauren Bakst, NIC Kay, Athena Kokoronis and Angie Pittman. For more information, visit www.thekitchen.org.

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