

May, 2-3, 2015

WESTFEST DANCE FESTIVAL / ALL OVER WESTBETH

Company: WestFest Dance
Venue: All over Westbeth
Location: New York City, NY

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WESTFEST | ALL OVER WESTBETH

May 2 & 3 at 2 pm. 2 days of site-specific performances. Guided Tours Every 15 Minutes, all tours start in Westbeth Courtyard. Last Tour departs at 3:30PM. FREE EVENT

This walking tour led by Westbeth residents will share a series of short, site-specific live performances all over the iconic artists' residence—courtyard, basement, rooftop, studios and stairwells. Dance makers showing site-specific work all over Westbeth are Caitlin Dutton/caitlin+dancers, Carol Mendes & Artists, Sarah Foster/MoveWorks, Catherine Gallant Dance, Keeley Walsh/The Lovelies, Callie Hatchett Dance, Emily Craver/ The Little Streams, Pia Vinson, and L.A. Kirkpatrick. Westbeth Guest choreographers are Sally Gross and Jelón Vieira/Dance/Brazil.

"...the cumulative effect of encountering performance in Westbeth's idiosyncratic nooks, and crannies was marvelous. Bodies animate architecture as much as they are animated by it, and Westbeth's artistic ghosts provide fertile ground for chance encounters."

— Claudia LaRocco, The New York Times / Dance Review: Square Feet and Human Feet: Making a Building Move to the Music By Claudia LaRocco.

WESTFEST is an annual dance festival presented in the historic Westbeth Artists' Residence building. The festival includes site-specific performances animating multiple spaces within the iconic building as well as a series of performances in the legendary top floor studio, which was home to the Merce Cunningham Dance Company for many years and now houses the Martha Graham Dance Company. The festival aims to open the Westbeth building to dance artists and audiences and engage the resident artist population with a broader community of artistic stewards of Westbeth and its legacy. The festival has two distinct programs. WestFest Top Floor at the Martha Graham Theater present visionary artists in a traditional theater setting. All over Westbeth is the site-specific program showing a variety of unconventional and unique approaches to dance and space.

ABOUT THE CURATORS / PRODUCTION TEAM

CAROL NOLTE/DANCE COLLECTIVE (Artistic Director) founded WestFest 5 years ago as a response to the financial strain of the recession, offering choreographers free or low cost performance opportunities at the Westbeth Artists' Residence, her home for the last 26 years. She has also created over 50 dances for her award-winning company Dance Collective. Recently, her work has been seen at Merce Cunningham Studio, The Kitchen, Joyce SoHo, The 92nd Street Y Fridays at Noon. She has also co-founded and produced three dance festivals, DanceBLITZ, Taos Dance 2000, and, currently, WestFest.

CAROL MENDES is the artistic director of Carol Mendes & Artists, an emerging NYC based dance company. Native from Brazil, she received her BFA in Dance and her Teaching Certificate from State University of Campinas (Brazil). She also holds a Master's in Fine Arts in Dance Performance and Choreography from NYU, Tisch School of the Arts. Her work has been presented at Judson Church, Triskilion Arts, at the Wild Project, at Martha Graham Studio Theater, at Alvin Ailey Citigroup Theater, at Dixon Place, and at The Green Building. Carol is proud to be joining the WestFest team as their Production Manager.

Westfest is made possible in part with public funds from the Fund for Creative Communities, supported by New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature and administered by Lower Manhattan Cultural Council. Westfest is made possible by a generous grant from NYC Councilmember Corey Johnson.

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