

THE TABLE OF SILENCE PROJECT, A PUBLIC TRIBUTE TO 9/11

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100 Dancers to present THE TABLE OF SILENCE PROJECT, a public tribute to 9/11 and prayer for peace, conceived by choreographer Jacquelyn Buglisi and Italian artist Rosella Vasta.

Sunday September 11, 8:20 AM, ending at 8:46 AM on the Josie Robertson Plaza at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts

Choreographer Jacquelyn Buglisi is creating a site-specific "Ceremonial Event" for 100 dancers, drawn from the New York City dance community, entitled "The Table of Silence Project," to commemorate the tenth anniversary of 9/11. Buglisi Dance Theatre is partnering on this project with Dance/NYC and The September Project. Participants are dancers from Buglisi Dance Theatre, The Juilliard School, the Martha Graham Center of Contemporary Dance, The Ailey School, National Dance Institute, Ballet Hispanico, STEPS on Broadway, and Peridance Capezio Center.

This free public event will take place Sunday September 11th at Lincoln Center's Josie Robertson Plaza. 100 dancers will gather in silent procession, forming patterns of concentric circles to create a peace labyrinth while encircling the Revson Fountain as a symbol of eternity, compassion and continuity of the life cycle. At 8:46 AM, recalling the moment when American Airlines Flight 11 crashed into the North Tower, the dancers will turn their wrists with open palms and extend their arms to the sky for one minute, evoking the simple gesture of universal peace. The dancers invite all spectators to join them in this ritual.

As described by the choreographer, "The Table of Silence Project" represents the common threads of humanity which unite all mankind into a single force with common goals and aspirations, regardless of race, culture or religion. Through this event we wish to achieve the dual purpose of celebrating and honoring peace through listening - a united moment of silence - a call for Peace in our world from NYC's community of artists." (Jacquelyn Buglisi)

Collaborators with Ms. Buglisi on "The Table of Silence Project" are Italian Artist Rossella Vasta and flautist Andrea Ceccomori. The site-specific work derives its title from Vasta's sculpture of 100 white terracotta plates representing a symbolic banquet table uniting all of humanity. This moving meditation of 100 dancers becomes the personification of the banquet table.

"The Table of Silence Project" will also be performed in other locations in the United States and Italy: October 22 at Syracuse University/NY; October 26 in Assisi, Italy as part of a series of programs organized for a multi-religious conference to be attended by Pope Benedict; and in 2012, the Center of Leadership Studies of Cardinal Stritch University/Milwaukee, and in the Porziuncola Nuova/San Francisco.

"The Table of Silence Project" at Lincoln Center will be included in The September Concert, which celebrates peace and humanity and was founded by Haruko Smith on the first anniversary of September 11. The New York-based organization has grown to global proportions, with free concerts all around the U.S. as well as Rome, Casablanca, Tokyo, St. Petersburg, Sydney and other international sites. The mission and accomplishment of The September Concert is to bring together communities in celebration of peace and humanity. Music and dance events will take place in venues that include Lincoln Center, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Central Park, the steps of the New York Public Library, Union Square, the Winter Garden at the World Financial Center, and Rockefeller Center.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg has recently presented The September Concert with the Mayor's Proclamation for The September Concert Day. Founded under the auspices of UNESCO, with an endorsement from former President Bill Clinton, The September Concert has a current Board of Directors and Advisory Board that includes such prominent leaders and artists as Jacques d'Amboise, Faith Hope Consolo, Dr. Robert Benezra, William C. Rudin, Susan Rudin, Tom Freston, Steven Spinola, Ravi Shankar, and many others.

About Artistic Director Jacquelyn Buglisi/Buglisi Dance Theatre, Founded in 1994:

Technical excellence and unparalleled dramatic power describe the consummate artists of Buglisi Dance Theatre. The Company's extensive history of site-specific performances include such highlights as The Whitney Museum; The Rubin Museum; Dancing at the Crossroads, Times Square; the MWPAL Museum of Art; Center for British Art, Yale University; Evening Stars, Battery Park; the Special Olympics; the French Embassy's Payne Whitney Mansion; and The New York Stock Exchange/Federal Hall, commissioned by the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council and the River to River Festival. The latter inspired Alastair Macaulay to declare "Cecil B. DeMille would have been proud." (The New York Times)

A prolific choreographer, Jacquelyn Buglisi is renowned for highly visual, imagistic dances that use literature, history, and heroic archetypes as a primary source. Her repertoire of more than 70 works has been seen by audiences across America from The Joyce Theater, where BDT performs its NYC seasons, to the Kennedy Center, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, The Kravis Center, Dance St. Louis, the Sosnoff Theater; and abroad to Australia, the Czech Republic, Japan, Italy, and Israel. Buglisi's many commissions include the NY Flamenco Festival in Madrid, Sadler's Wells, London; The Richmond Ballet; California State University/Long Beach; Melbourne International Festival; The Juilliard School; Ailey II; and Martha Graham Dance Co., where, as a Principal Dancer she toured worldwide and was featured on the nationally televised CBS presentation of the Kennedy Center Honors as well as in the film An Evening of Dance and Conversation with Martha Graham.

Her honors include the American Dance Guild Award, grants from the NEA, NYSCA, NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, the O'Donnell Green Music and Dance Foundation, the Harkness Foundation for Dance, the Arnold Foundation, and Altria's Women Choreographer Initiative Award. Buglisi is Chair of the Modern Department at The Ailey School, and serves on the Board of Trustees of Dance/USA as Chair of Artistic Directors Council. www.buglisidance.org

Rossella Vasta, renowned Umbrian painter, is the first prize winner of the 2003 Biennial of Florence. Since exhibiting her first solo show in Spoleto in 1981, she has exhibited in galleries around the world from Poland and Japan to the United States at University of Bozeman, Montana; the Chautauqua Institute; American University in D.C., and the Cardinal Stritch University in Milwaukee. She is the founder/director of the Pieve International School in Corciano, Perugia, Italy. Ms. Vasta is committed to charitable works through her Arts Sustainability Projects, helping to realize a school and farm in the Ivory Coast, among other projects, and a healthcare center in Citta della Pieve.

Sponsorship for the realization of the 100 terracotta dishes is generously provided by Bizzirri Ceramic Factory (www.bizzirri.it) , Citt di Castello - Perugia, Italy.

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