

December, 3-6, 2015

American Dance Guild Performance Festival 2015

Company: American Dance Guild

Venue: The Ailey Citigroup Theater The Joan Weill Center for Dance

Location: New York, NY

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The rich diversity of contemporary dance will be on view for four nights, Thursday, December 3 through Sunday, December 6 at this year's Annual Performance Festival of the [American Dance Guild](#) at The Ailey Citigroup Theater, Joan Weill Center for Dance. Thirty-five artists/companies will present their work, with three living legends of modern dance – [Liz Lerman](#), founder of the Dance Exchange, [Doug Varone](#), Artistic Director of Doug Varone Dance Company and [Alice Teirstein](#), founder of Young Dancemakers – receiving ADG's 2015 honors and tributes.

The Festival, at 8pm Thurs. /Fri./Sat. and at 7pm on Sunday, will feature Doug Varone and Dancers performing his much acclaimed ensemble work *Lux* with music by Philip Glass (Dec. 3 and 5); Alice Teirstein's 2015 Young Dancemakers performing *Journey*, a short group piece emblematic of her process (Dec. 3 and 6); and Liz Lerman presenting a video capsule history of her career.

Other Festival highlights include former ADG Award winner Jacquelyn Buglisi's duet *Sospiri* (Dec. 4) and Merce Cunningham's *Suite for Two* (Dec. 5), a Cunningham/Cage/Rauschenberg collaboration staged by Andrea Weber for dancers from the Merce Cunningham Trust's Fellowship Program. Dance Exchange alums Martha Wittman and Adrienne Clancy from D.C., Jin-Wen Yu from Wisconsin, Imana Gunawan from Seattle, Gesel Mason from Colorado and a host of New York artists including Mimi Garrard, Tina Croll, Daniel Gwartzman, Amy Marshall, and Nancy Zendora add to the mix.

An awards presentation for Festival honorees will be included on opening night, Dec. 3, in which Ms. Lerman, Mr. Varone and Ms. Teirstein will receive ADG's awards for "Distinguished Artistry and Lifetime Achievement." The evening will be followed by a Gala reception. (Full ADG Festival '15 program below).

"The American Dance Guild holds a unique position as both a promoter of the new and preserver of the living history of modern dance as an art form," said Gloria McLean, president of ADG. *"Each American Dance Guild Festival honors at least two master choreographers from the past, and includes performances of their work along with emerging choreographers ranging from modern to post-modern to performance art to cultural hybrids,"* she said.

About the ADG Festival '15 Honorees:

Liz Lerman (Dec. 3 and Dec. 4) founded Liz Lerman Dance Exchange in 1976 and cultivated the company's unique multi-generational ensemble into a leading force in contemporary dance until 2011. Her many honors recognize her innovations in dance research, including a 2002 MacArthur "Genius Grant."

Doug Varone (Dec. 3 and Dec. 5) Artistic Director of Doug Varone and Dancers, established in 1986, received the Doris Duke Award this summer at the American Dance Festival where his company was in residence. At his peak as a contemporary choreographer for the concert stage, Mr. Varone also choreographs for opera, Broadway, regional theater, and film. He is performing with his company of eight dancers in *Lux*, (2006) on both evenings.

Alice Teirstein, (Dec. 3 and Dec 6) a New York dancer, choreographer and award-winning dance educator, received a "Bessie" for distinguished service to the field of dance in 2012. She is best known as the founding director of Young Dancemakers company, now in its 20th season, a free summer dance ensemble of NYC teens, dedicated to nurturing the creation of original teen choreography and providing free touring concerts citywide. She's bringing the 2015 Young Dancemakers to the stage on Thursday and Sunday to demonstrate some of their creative process.

COMPLETE FESTIVAL PROGRAM (not in performance order and subject to change):

Program 1 - THURSDAY December 3 at 8pm:

Award Presentation and Gala Reception to Follow Performance

Liz Lerman, Doug Varone, Alice Teirstein, Imana Gunawan, Cherylyn Lavagnino, Nathan Madden, Amy Marshall, Gesel Mason

Program 2 – FRIDAY December 4 at 8pm:

Liz Lerman, Buglisi Dance Theatre, Dominic Duong, Ara Fitzgerald, Daniel Gwirtzman, Gloria McLean, Mary Seidman, Sasha Spielvogel, Nancy Zendora

Program 3 – SATURDAY December 5 at 8pm:

Doug Varone, Sue Bernhard, Adrienne Clancy/ClancyWorks, Tina Croll, Merce Cunningham's Suite for Two, Erin Dillon, Mimi Garrard (on film), Kaoru Ikeda, Fadi Khoury, Molly McSherry

Program 4 – SUNDAY December 6 at 7pm:

Alice Teirstein, Jessica Gaynor, Anthony Gongora, JoiLynn Hopkins, Samuel Kunzman, Lindsey Miller, Mari Meade Montoya, Rebecca Rice, Sabatino Verlezza, Martha Wittman, Jin-Wen Yu

THE 2015 AMERICAN DANCE GUILD PERFORMANCE FESTIVAL

35 ARTISTS OVER FOUR DAYS – DEC. 3-6

The Ailey Citigroup Theater

The Joan Weill Center for Dance

405 W. 55th Street at 9th Avenue

New York, NY 10019

Subways: C, E to 50th St.; 1, A, D to 59th St.; R, N, Q to 57th St., use exit at 55th St.

TICKETS:

Tickets may be purchased through Brown Paper Tickets and will also be available at the box office one hour prior to curtain.

Prices range from \$15 to \$50. Discounts are available for students, seniors, ADG members, and groups.

Online: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2354520>

By Phone: 800-838-3006 ext. #1

ABOUT THE AMERICAN DANCE GUILD:

The American Dance Guild has served the dance field in many capacities over the past 58 years, including sponsoring conferences, festivals & publications. Festival 2015 continues the Guild tradition of bringing together artists from across the nation and internationally for performances and master classes. ADG offers performance opportunities that range from gala productions to bare-bones choreography showcases. In June 2014, ADG participated in Jacob's Pillow's Inside/Out program. In addition, ADG sponsors an annual Student Scholarship for summer study at Jacob's Pillow, and provides scholarly resources through its New Dance Group Gala Video and its publications such as Branching Out: Oral Histories of Six National Dance Organizations and Dance Scope.

Read more: <http://www.americandanceguild.org/>.

HONOREE FULL BIOS:

[LIZ LERMAN](#)

[DOUG VARONE](#)

[ALICE TEIRSTEIN](#)

American Dance Guild
405 W. 55th Street at 9th Avenue
New York, NY, 10019
800-838-3006
<http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2354520>

Schedule
December 3, 2015: 8:00pm
December 4, 2015: 8:00pm
December 5, 2015: 8:00pm
December 6, 2015: 7:00pm

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