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PRESS CONTACT

National Press Representative: Lisa Labrado
lisa@labradopr.com
Direct: 646-214-5812/Mobile: 917-399-5120

North Carolina Press Representative: Sarah Tondou
tondu@americandancefestival.org
Office: 919-684-6402/Mobile: 919-270-9100

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2016 AMERICAN DANCE FESTIVAL

Week Five Features the Return of Company Wang Ramirez, the Debut of Trajal Harrell, ADF's Footprints Program, a Saturday Children's Matinee, a Free Movement Class for Kids, a Community Yoga Gathering, and ADF School Tours

Durham, NC, July 5, 2016—ADF and Nasher Museum of Art co-present **Trajal Harrell** Tuesday, July 19-Thursday, July 21 at 7:30pm. **Company Wang Ramirez** returns with *Borderline* Friday, July 22 at 8:00pm and Saturday, July 23 at 7:00pm. ADF students will dance in four ADF commissioned world premieres as a part of the **Footprints** program (dates and times vary). The final **Children's Matinee**, a **free movement class for kids**, a **free community yoga gathering**, and **ADF School Tours** round out the week.

Trajal Harrell
Tuesday, July 19-Thursday, July 21 | 7:30pm
Sheafer Theater at Duke

“What would have happened if one of the early postmoderns from Judson Church had gone uptown to perform in the voguing ballroom scene in Harlem?” This is the question **Trajal Harrell** asks in his performance piece *Judson Church is Ringing in Harlem (M2M)*, part of *Twenty Looks or Paris is Burning at The Judson Church*. In *Judson Church is Ringing in Harlem*, Harrell makes a work for three dancers which engages the formalism and minimalism of postmodernism with the flamboyancy of voguing. Combining these contrasting styles, Harrell also looks at the influence of jazz and improvisation in early postmodern dance. **This performance is co-presented by the Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University and ADF.**

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Box 90772 | Durham, NC 27708
919.684.6402 | fax 919.684.5459
adf@americandancefestival.org

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Company Wang Ramirez

Friday, July 22 | 8:00pm

Saturday, July 3 | 7:00pm

Children's Saturday Matinee | 1:00pm

Durham Performing Arts Center

After last season's electrifying, sellout performances, **Company Wang Ramirez** is back with another genre-defying work. The company, known for their emotional and powerful blend of contemporary and hip hop dance, presents *Borderline* (2013), exploring themes of constraint, manipulation, and the meaning of democracy. Attached to cables, the five dancers bring to light and transpose the desire of freedom inherent in all forms of dance, especially hip hop, with costumes that reflect both Greek and Korean traditions. The dance expands the dialogue between technique and the art of rigging while reflecting on human relationships. Social boundaries are evoked by the interplay of physical forces on the stage as well as through the broadcast testimonies collected from the dancers' friends, relatives, and the media.

Footprints

Beth Gill, Dafi Altabeb, Lee Sher and Saar Harari

Monday, July 25-Wednesday, July 27 | 8:00pm

Reynolds Industries Theater

Footprints

Vanessa Voskuil

Thursday, July 28 & Friday, July 29 | 7:00pm

Saturday, July 30 | 4:00pm & 6:00pm

Sarah P. Duke Gardens

Footprints delivers an outstanding presentation of **four ADF commissioned world premieres** by groundbreaking artists, performed with impeccable technique and infectious energy by ADF students.

Beth Gill's minimalist works explore the tension between formalist structures and psychological themes, where layers of meaning unfold over a prolonged sense of time. For Footprints, Gill will continue to research the often highly controlled systems designed to simultaneously distill and free gestures within her work. Gill's process will engage the darker and more instinctual content of psychology, human nature, and expression. **Dafi Altabeb's** work is tender, delicate, yet powerful. Her pieces project youth, courage, imagination, contradictions, and above all, honesty. Her creations come from the heart. **Lee Sher and Saar Harari** established LeeSaar The Company in 2000. They use the different disciplines and training of theater and dance to create original dance performances. Their works display an astonishing array of movements, from minimal to jumping, twisting, and falling to the floor, all with beautiful ease. Characterizing human behavior in movement is an aesthetic **Vanessa Voskuil** has developed over the duration of her work. Ranging from large community-inclusive performance works to ensemble and solo works for site-specific locations, her work is visually arresting and displays a surrealist sensibility.

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FESTIVAL EXTRAS

Moving Meditation: A Class for Any and Every Body

Sunday, July 24 | 6:00-7:00pm

Concert Lawn, Sarah P. Duke Gardens

FREE

Join the American Dance Festival for a slow and mindful complimentary yoga class, led by Helen Tapper, amidst the beauty of Sarah P. Duke Gardens. No experience necessary. This class is designed to bring our community together for an enjoyable and meditative movement experience.

Children's Community Movement Classes

ADF will offer a **FREE** African Dance & Drumming class for children on Wednesday, July 20 from 9:30-10:15am at **Kidzu Children's Museum**.

Tours of the ADF School

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, June 27-July 22 | 9:15am & 11:15am

Free and open to the public!

Afternoon tours are available upon request.

Take a **FREE** tour and experience the ADF School! Throughout the summer, tours offer individuals, families, and community groups an insider's perspective where you can experience the world-renowned ADF faculty, students, and musicians hard at work. Tours usually last 1-2 hours. Please call 919-684-6402 or email tours@americandancefestival.org to make your reservation.

Performance and Commissioning Credits

Beth Gill's [New Work] is commissioned by ADF with support from the SHS Foundation and the Charles L. and Stephanie Reinhart Fund.

Lee Sher and Saar Harari's [New Work] is commissioned by ADF with support from the Doris Duke/SHS Foundations Award for New Dance and additional support by The Consulate General of Israel to the Southeast Region and The Israel Center of the Jewish Federation of Durham-Chapel Hill.

Dafi Altabeb's [New Work] is commissioned by ADF with support from the SHS Foundation and Israel's Office of Cultural Affairs in North America. Additional support provided by The Israel Center of the Jewish Federation of Durham-Chapel Hill.

Vanessa Voskuil's [New Work] is commissioned by ADF with support from the McKnight Artist Fellowship Program at Northrop at the University of Minnesota and the SHS Foundation.

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Tickets for DPAC

americandancefestival.org

Durham Performing Arts Center Ticket Center, The American Tobacco District

919-680-2787

123 Vivian St.

Durham, NC 27701

Monday-Friday 11am-6pm

Saturday 10am-2pm

Tickets for Reynolds Industries Theater, Page Auditorium, Sheaffer Theater, Baldwin Auditorium, and 21C Museum Hotel

americandancefestival.org

Duke University Box Office

919-684-4444

Bryan University Center

Duke University West Campus

Durham, NC 27708

Tuesday-Friday 10am-5pm

**Promotional photographs and press reviews of performing companies
available upon request.**

About ADF:

Founded in 1934 in Bennington, Vermont, ADF remains an international magnet for choreographers, dancers, teachers, students, critics, musicians, and scholars to learn and create in a supportive environment. ADF's wide range of programs includes performances, artist services, educational programs and classes, community outreach, national and international projects, archives, humanities projects, publications, and media projects. ADF has been presenting the best in modern dance for 83 years. americandancefestival.org.

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