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ODC THEATER ANNOUNCES NEW RESIDENT ARTISTS:

Larry Arrington
Antoine Hunter | Urban Jazz Dance Company
Daiane Lopes da Silva and Weidong Yang | Kinetech Arts
Lauren Simpson

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – July 2, 2018 – ODC Theater is pleased to announce its next cohort of resident artists: Larry Arrington, Antoine Hunter, Daiane Lopes da Silva/Weidong Yang, and Lauren Simpson. ODC’s resident artist program is a vital three-year intensive offering four Bay Area contemporary dance and performance artists comprehensive mentoring and unique opportunities to develop both their creative practice and their sustainable capacity as artists and ensembles. These artists will be in residence at ODC from July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2021.

“It is an honor to be able to help promote and nurture talented Bay Area choreographers. ODC is deeply grateful to the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for their extraordinary support, which allows us to do just that, through commissioning, space access, mentoring, and technical support. We enthusiastically welcome our new talented three-year resident artists.” said Brenda Way, ODC Founder and Artistic Director.

“Through this program, ODC champions Bay Area choreographic voices who will thrive on a dance campus. These artists were selected for their distinct artistic visions and points of view, while also demonstrating the urgency of their work in this contemporary moment. We look forward to supporting these artists as they evolve their craft, provoke the community, and bring new performance to life.” commented Julie Potter, ODC Theater Director.

The Artist-in-Residence Program at ODC Theater is designed to offer a crucial developmental opportunity for Bay Area artists with an active recent history of creation and presentation. ODC’s three-year commitment to selected participants includes artistic commissions, creative

space, choreographic and a broad spectrum of business and administrative mentorship, an annual retreat, technical residencies, and preview performances.

The resources support artists as they undertake basic research and development; fully explore a particular project; and create a strong, but flexible, bedrock to sustain them as they continue to create work. ODC's Resident Artist program assists artists in forging opportunities to increase public understanding of new work, developing their audience base, and engaging that audience with provocative and meaningful dialogue and feedback.

About the resident artists:



Larry Arrington is a dance-artist working in hybrids of idea and practice. Her work in dance (time/space/body/whole) pivots around a desire to orient towards the capacities within each of us--capacities that can glimpse unseen and unutterable horizons. Her body is her life and her life is her work.



A Bay Area native, **Antoine Hunter** is an award-winning internationally known African-American Deaf choreographer, dancer, instructor, speaker and Deaf advocate who performs throughout the Bay Area and beyond, including Europe, Africa and South America. Most recently Hunter has taught workshops at Harvard Dance, spoken for TedX UCDavisSF and has lectured at Duke University, Stanford, served as a keynote speaker for WAC Educator Conference, and for Kennedy Center's VSA 2017 Intersection conference on Arts and Special Education. Upcoming keynote addresses include the National State Assembly for the Arts. He was crowned King of SF Carnival 2017 and has been featured on the front cover of Cal Art's *The Pool*, *Deaf Life*, in *Dance Spirit*, *Dance Teacher*, *Dance Magazine* and in *Oakland*

North, *48Hills*, CNN's *Great Big Story*, *Splinter* and *KQED Arts*. He is former president of Bay Area Black Deaf Advocates and Director-at-Large for Northern California Association of the Deaf. Hunter actively supports DeafHope, an organization whose mission is to end domestic and sexual violence in Deaf communities through empowerment and education. He teaches dance and ASL in both Hearing and Deaf communities and is the founder/artistic director of Urban Jazz Dance Company and has been producing the Bay Area International Deaf Dance Festival since 2013 which was awarded an Isadora Duncan (Izzie) Award in 2018. His projects have been

awarded funding by CA\$H Theater Bay Area, the Zellerbach Family Foundation, California Arts Council, Kenneth Rainin Foundation and SF Arts Commission.



Daiane Lopes da Silva (Kinotech Arts) is a dancer, choreographer, educator and artistic director of Kinotech Arts, where she works on the intersection of dance, science and technology. With the support from Zellerbach Family Foundation, CA\$H Grant Program, Phyllis C. Wattis Foundation, CounterPulse, and Headlands Center for the Arts, Daiane has created multiple full-evening works since 2014. She is on faculty at Alonzo King Lines Ballet Dance Center, and has taught at ODC, Western Ballet, Tahoe Youth Ballet, among others. Daiane studied at The Municipal Ballet of São

Paulo, Brazil and at P.A.R.T.S. (Performing Arts Research and Training Studios), directed by Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker in Brussels, and graduated with a B.A. in Psychology, Alpha Beta Kappa, from San Francisco State University.



Weidong Yang (Kinotech Arts) is a San Francisco based artist, scientist and entrepreneur. He received his PhD in Physics, a Master in Computer Science, and was a postdoctoral fellow at UC Berkeley researching quantum dots. He is the founder and director of Kinotech Arts, a non-profit organization that brings dance, science, and interactive technology together. He has been co-leading weekly open labs and annual “Dance Hacks” over the past five years. He is also the founder of Kineviz, an interactive data visualization company with the mission of bringing wonder to data. In 2016, he was a resident artist at Djerassi Scientific Delirium Madness and Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Fellow. He has been credited with ten US patents.



Lauren Simpson is a choreographer, performer and teacher. She co-founded Simpson/Stulberg Collaborations in 2014 with Jenny Stulberg. Together they created *Still Life Dances*, a series of movement studies based on 19th century still life paintings. These works were nominated for two Izzie Awards in 2016. They have been artists in residence at CounterPulse Theater, Shawl-Anderson Dance Center, Margaret Jenkins Dance Company's CHIME Program, and FACT/SF's resident JUMP Choreography Program. *Still Life No. 7* was commissioned and produced by Bare Bait Dance Company in Missoula, MT in January 2018. They have been supported by

generous individuals as well as organizations like the Zellerbach Family Foundation, ODC and the Rainin Opportunity Fund, Theater Bay Area CA\$H Grant Award, and most recently, the San Francisco Arts Commission. Lauren's most recent work will premiere at the Minnesota Street Project in April 2019. Lauren has danced for Liz Lerman and Risa Jaroslow. She taught dance full-time in at the public high school, the Cambridge Rindge and Latin School, as well as as an Adjunct Faculty at Harvard College and the University of San Francisco. She received an M.F.A. in Performance and Choreography from the University of Colorado-Boulder and an Ed.M. from Harvard University.

ODC Theater exists to empower and develop innovative artists. It participates in the creation of new works through commissioning, presenting, mentorship, and space access; it develops informed, engaged, and committed audiences; and advocates for the performing arts as an essential component to the economic and cultural development of our community. The Theater is the site of over 150 performances a year involving nearly 1,000 local, regional, national, and international artists.

Since 1976, ODC Theater has been the mobilizing force behind countless San Francisco artists and the foothold for national and international touring artists seeking to debut in the Bay Area. ODC Theater, founded by Brenda Way and currently under the direction of Julie Potter, has earned its place as a cultural incubator by dedicating itself to creative change-makers, those leaders who give our region its unmistakable definition and flare. Nationally known artists Spaulding Gray, Diamanda Galas, Molissa Fenley, Bill T. Jones, Eiko & Koma, Ronald K. Brown/EVIDENCE, Ban Rarra, and Karole Armitage are among those whose first San Francisco appearance occurred at ODC Theater.

ODC Theater is part of a two-building creative campus dedicated to supporting every stage of the artistic lifecycle (conceptualization, creation, performance and sustainable status as an individual performer or ensemble). In addition to the ODC Theater, ODC's campus is home to its flagship company, ODC/Dance, and our School, which provides more than 200 classes in a wide variety of styles per week and serves more than 16,000 students each year, in partnership with Rhythm and Motion Dance Workout at [351 Shotwell](#). For more information on ODC Theater and all of ODC's programs, please visit: odc.dance

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