

PAUL TAYLOR'S  
AMERICAN  
MODERN  
DANCE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**THE PAUL TAYLOR DANCE COMPANY IS FEATURED IN 2016 SEASON OF  
PAUL TAYLOR'S AMERICAN MODERN DANCE  
AT LINCOLN CENTER, MARCH 15 - APRIL 3**

***MUSIC FOR EVERY PROGRAM PLAYED LIVE BY ORCHESTRA OF ST. LUKE'S***

***TWO NY TAYLOR PREMIERES***

***FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER, TAYLOR COMPANY PERFORMS A  
MARTHA GRAHAM WORK: "DIVERSION OF ANGELS"***

***DAYTON CONTEMPORARY DANCE COMPANY PERFORMS  
DONALD MCKAYLE MASTERWORK, "RAINBOW 'ROUND MY SHOULDER***

***PREMIERES OF COMMISSIONED DANCES BY LARRY KEIGWIN AND DOUG ELKINS***

***BLACK TIE GALA ON THE KOCH PROMENADE***

***\$10 ORCHESTRA SEATS AVAILABLE FOR ALL PERFORMANCES***

NEW YORK, February 12, 2016 – Paul Taylor's American Modern Dance (PTAMD) presents its annual Season at the David H. Koch Theater at Lincoln Center in New York, from March 15 to April 3, 2016. The Season introduces the New York premieres of Paul Taylor's 143<sup>rd</sup> dance, *Sullivaniana*, and his 144<sup>th</sup> work, *Dilly Dilly*. Music will be performed live by the renowned Orchestra of St. Luke's, conducted by long-time Taylor Music Director, Donald York.

In curating great works from the history of modern dance, Mr. Taylor selected *Diversion of Angels* to honor Martha Graham during her Company's 90th Anniversary Celebration in 2016. Mr. Taylor performed in *Diversion of Angels* during his seven seasons with the Graham Company beginning in 1955. Helping him oversee the production, staged by Blakeley White-McGuire and Tadej Brdnik, is Linda Hodes, with whom Mr. Taylor performed *Diversion of Angels* and who was the founding Director of Taylor 2 in 1993.

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Dayton Contemporary Dance Company will perform *Rainbow 'Round My Shoulder*, Donald McKayle's 1959 masterpiece. Considered one of Mr. McKayle's signature works, it depicts workers on a chain gang and powerfully explores an aspect of the African American experience.

The Season also features world premieres of dances by Larry Keigwin and Doug Elkins, commissioned by Paul Taylor and made on his dancers. Msrs. Keigwin and Elkins are the first choreographers to be selected to take part in Taylor Company Commissions, Mr. Taylor's new initiative.

Larry Keigwin will present *Rush Hour*, set to *Murmuration* by Adam Crystal. The inspirational launching point for *Rush Hour* is a sculpture by George Segal that captures urban pedestrians, exhausted and eyes downturned, during their daily commute. *Rush Hour* will explore the daily activity of a crowded New York City sidewalk, combining pedestrian movement with explosive athleticism. Inspired by the grid of New York City's streets, the work has dancers traversing and crossing the stage in ritualistic, mesmerizing motifs as they compete for attention and attempt to get ahead amid the fast-paced city.

Doug Elkins will present *The Weight of Smoke*, set to an original score by Justin Levine and Matt Stine with additional music by George Frideric Handel. In this piece, Elkins conducts a movement exploration into the legacy and influence of Paul Taylor's body of work through his own unique lens, seeking clues about how time, action, and memory interact in the making of and viewing of dance. The title refers to the opening parable of the film *Smoke* written by Paul Auster - how does one measure the residue of accumulated experience - "the weight of smoke"?

The Company's performances are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7pm, Fridays at 8pm, Saturdays at 2pm and 8pm, and Sundays at 2pm. Ticket prices range from \$10 to \$175 (visit [www.boxoffice.dance](http://www.boxoffice.dance)). Premium \$175 seats include an invitation to the Patrons Lounge during intermissions.

The Gala Performance and Dinner at the Koch Theater Promenade on March 16 will begin at 6:30 p.m. Please call 646.214.5815 or visit [www.ptamd.org/gala](http://www.ptamd.org/gala) for Gala event pricing. Regular price tickets for the performance only are also available.

The Company's 2016 Taylor repertoire includes *Also Playing* (2009), *Beloved Renegade* (2008), *Esplanade* (1975), *Equinox* (1983), *Images* (1977), *Mercuric Tidings* (1982), *Offenbach Overtures*

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(1995), *Orbs* (1966), *Polaris* (1976), *Profiles* (1979), *Promethean Fire* (2002), *Snow White* (1983), *Spindrift* (1993), *Three Dubious Memories* (2010), and the New York City premieres of *Sullivaniana* (2015), and *Dilly Dilly* (2016).

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2016 Season at David H. Koch Theater at Lincoln Center

Tuesday, March 15, *Mercuric Tidings* • *Dilly Dilly*\* • *Esplanade*

Wednesday, March 16, 6:30pm GALA\*\*\*: *Sullivaniana*\* • *Rush Hour*\*\* • *Promethean Fire*

Thursday, March 17, 7pm: *Images* • *The Weight of Smoke*\*\* • *Beloved Renegade*

Friday, March 18, 8pm: *Images* • *Dilly Dilly*\* • *Beloved Renegade*

Saturday, March 19, 2pm: *Spindrift* • *Images* • *Promethean Fire*

Saturday, March 19, 8pm: *Also Playing* • *The Weight of Smoke*\*\* • *Mercuric Tidings*

Sunday, March 20, 2pm: *Polaris* • *Also Playing* • *Esplanade*

Tuesday, March 22, 7pm: *Snow White* • *Profiles* • *Rainbow 'Round My Shoulder* • *Esplanade*

Wednesday, March 23, 7pm: *Diversion of Angels* • *Three Dubious Memories* • *Spindrift*

Thursday, March 24, 7pm: *Polaris* • *Rainbow 'Round My Shoulder* • *Offenbach Overtures*

Friday, March 25, 8pm: *Spindrift* • *Sullivaniana*\* • *Mercuric Tidings*

Saturday, March 26, 2pm: *Orbs* • *Esplanade*

Saturday, March 26, 8pm: *Rainbow 'Round My Shoulder* • *Dilly Dilly*\* • *Offenbach Overtures*

Sunday, March 27, 2pm: *Snow White* • *Profiles* • *Rush Hour*\*\* • *Mercuric Tidings*

Tuesday, March 29, 7pm: *Equinox* • *The Weight of Smoke*\*\* • *Promethean Fire*

Wednesday, March 30, 7pm: *Also Playing* • *Diversion of Angels* • *Beloved Renegade*

Thursday, March 31, 7pm: *Orbs* • *Offenbach Overtures*

Friday, April 1, 8pm: *Polaris* • *Rush Hour*\*\* • *Esplanade*

Saturday, April 2, 2pm: *Snow White* • *Profiles* • *Three Dubious Memories* • *Offenbach Overtures*

Saturday, April 2, 8pm: *Spindrift* • *Sullivaniana*\* • *Beloved Renegade*

Sunday, April 3, 2pm: *Equinox* • *Diversion of Angels* • *Promethean Fire*

\* New York Premiere

\*\* World Premiere

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\*\*\*Gala Performance and Dinner at the David H. Koch Theater at Lincoln Center. Please call 646.214.5815 or visit [www.ptamd.org/gala](http://www.ptamd.org/gala) for Gala event pricing. Performance tickets only at regular prices are available through the David H. Koch Theater (visit [www.boxoffice.dance](http://www.boxoffice.dance)).

Programs subject to change. No refunds, no exchanges.

#### About Paul Taylor:

Paul Taylor is the greatest living pioneer of American modern dance, with 144 dances made since 1954 when he established the Paul Taylor Dance Company. He continues to offer cogent observations on life's complexities and society's thorniest issues through his dances. A virtuoso dancer for 20 years, Mr. Taylor turned exclusively to choreography in 1974; the dance that followed, *Esplanade*, was hailed an instant classic. His works are performed by the Taylor Company, Taylor 2 and ballet and modern dance companies the world over. In 2015 he established PAUL TAYLOR'S AMERICAN MODERN DANCE to bring to New York's Lincoln Center – in addition to his own repertoire – great dances of the past and present by other modern choreographers, and works by the next generation of choreographers working directly on his Company. A Kennedy Center honoree, he is the subject of the Oscar-nominated documentary, *Dancemaker*, and author of the acclaimed autobiography, *Private Domain*.

#### About Paul Taylor's American Modern Dance:

Paul Taylor's American Modern Dance was established in 2014 to provide a home for America's homegrown art of modern dance. In addition to presenting his own works, at Lincoln Center and other eminent venues, Mr. Taylor will present great modern dance works of the past and present, and commission emerging choreographers so modern dance can flourish well into the future. As part of his vision, Mr. Taylor is committed to having live music at Lincoln Center whenever so intended by the choreographer.

#### About the Paul Taylor Dance Company:

The world-renowned Paul Taylor Dance Company sets the global standard for contemporary dance excellence. Since the company's founding in 1954, Mr. Taylor has choreographed 144 dances, many of which have attained iconic status and have been celebrated throughout the world. The Company has performed in some 524 cities in 64 countries. The upcoming 2016 Lincoln Center season marks the Company's 62<sup>nd</sup> performing year. Mr. Taylor continues to create at least two new works annually for his 16-member Company. His autobiography, *Private Domain*, was published in 1987 and the Company was the subject of the documentary film "Dancemaker," nominated for an Academy Award in 1999. A book of essays mostly for fun called *Facts and Fancies* was written by Mr. Taylor in 2013. He has achieved countless accolades, including two of our nation's highest artistic distinctions: the Kennedy Center Honors and the National Medal of Arts.

#### About Martha Graham:

Martha Graham has had a deep and lasting impact on American art and culture. She single-handedly defined contemporary dance as a uniquely American art form, which the nation has in turn shared with the world. Crossing artistic boundaries, she collaborated with and commissioned work from the leading visual artists, musicians, and designers of her day, including sculptor Isamu Noguchi and composers Aaron Copland, Samuel Barber, and Gian Carlo Menotti. Graham's groundbreaking style grew from her experimentation with the elemental movements of contraction and release. By focusing on the basic activities of the human form, she enlivened the body with raw, electric emotion. The sharp, angular, and direct movements of her technique were a dramatic departure from the predominant style of the time. Graham influenced generations of choreographers that included Merce Cunningham, Paul

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Taylor, and Twyla Tharp, altering the scope of dance. Classical ballet dancers Margot Fonteyn, Rudolf Nureyev, and Mikhail Baryshnikov sought her out to broaden their artistry. Artists of all genres were eager to study and work with Graham—she taught actors including Bette Davis, Kirk Douglas, Madonna, Liza Minnelli, Gregory Peck, Tony Randall, Eli Wallach, Anne Jackson, and Joanne Woodward to utilize their bodies as expressive instruments. During her long and illustrious career, Graham created 181 dance compositions. During the Bicentennial she was granted the United States' highest civilian honor, The Medal of Freedom. In 1998, TIME Magazine named her the "Dancer of the Century." The first dancer to perform at the White House and to act as a cultural ambassador abroad, she captured the spirit of a nation. "No artist is ahead of his time," she said. "He is his time. It is just that the others are behind the time."

#### About Donald McKayle:

Donald McKayle, recipient of honors and awards in every aspect of his illustrious career, has been named by the Dance Heritage Coalition "one of America's Irreplaceable Dance Treasures: the first 100." His choreographic masterworks, considered modern dance classics, *Games*, *Rainbow 'Round My Shoulder*, *District Storyville*, and *Songs of the Disinherited* are performed around the world. He has choreographed over seventy works for dance companies in the United States, Canada, Israel, Europe, and South America. The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, the Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Ensemble, Ballet San Jose Silicon Valley, the Dayton Contemporary Dance Company, and the Lula Washington Dance Theatre serve as repositories for his works. He is Artistic Mentor for the Limón Dance Company. Ten retrospectives have honored his choreography. In April 2005, Donald McKayle was honored at the John F. Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. and presented with a medal as a Master of African American Choreography.

#### About the Dayton Contemporary Dance Company:

The world-renowned Dayton Contemporary Dance Company (DCDC) is the oldest modern dance company in Ohio. Founded in 1968, DCDC is known for its extraordinary artistic execution, dance precision, and story-telling through dance art of international standard. Having the world's largest repertoire of classic works by African-American choreographers, this Dayton, Ohio company continues to celebrate dance art around the world. Most recently DCDC performed in Suzhou Industrial Park in Jiangsu Province, China for the opening of University of Dayton's China Institute. Artistic Director Debbie Blunden-Diggs continues the company's long legacy with fresh new dance works by top choreographers, including Donald Byrd, Ronen Koresh, and Kiesha Lalama.

#### About Larry Keigwin:

Larry Keigwin is a native New Yorker and choreographer who has danced his way from the Metropolitan Opera to downtown clubs to Broadway and back. He founded KEIGWIN + COMPANY in 2003 and as Artistic Director, Keigwin has led the company as it has performed at theaters and dance festivals throughout New York City and across the country. KEIGWIN + COMPANY, which celebrated its 10th Anniversary in 2013, presents Keigwin's electrifying brand of contemporary dance on a myriad of stages including, The Kennedy Center, The Joyce Theater, Works & Process at the Guggenheim, New York City Center, among others. Since his company's premiere performance at Joyce Soho in 2003, Keigwin has created dozens of dances for himself and his dancers, as well as for the Royal New Zealand Ballet, The Martha Graham Dance Company, New York Choreographic Institute, The Juilliard School, Vail International Dance Festival, and now Paul Taylor's American Modern Dance Company. His work in musical theater includes choreography for the 2011 production of the musical "Tales of the City" at the American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco, and the new production of "Rent," for which he received the 2011 Joe A. Callaway Award from the Stage Directors and Choreographers Foundation. Keigwin recently choreographed the Broadway musical "If/Then," starring Idina Menzel. He is a co-founder of the Green Box Arts Festival in Green Mountain Falls, Colorado, a multi-disciplinary

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festival designed to increase cultural opportunities in the region, as well as provide creative residencies to young, emerging choreographers. Keigwin is a member of the Stage Directors & Choreographers Society.

About Doug Elkins:

Doug Elkins is a two-time New York Dance and Performance (Bessie) Award-winning choreographer and 2012 John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Creative Arts Fellow. He began his dance career as a B-Boy, touring the world with break dance groups New York Dance Express and Magnificent Force, among others, before founding his own company in 1988. The company disbanded after 15 years and in 2009, Elkins organized his independent dance, teaching, and theater projects (including frequent work at A.R.T. Boston, A.C.T. Seattle, and Theatre for a New Audience) under the banner doug elkins choreography, etc. The pick-up company includes several performers and collaborators from Elkins' acclaimed *Fräulein Maria*, a loving deconstruction of *The Sound of Music* that began at DANCENOW Joe's Pub in 2006 and, with the addition of theater directors Barbara Karger and Michael Preston, toured extensively between 2009 - 2012. Elkins was nominated for two additional Bessie Awards in 2012 (for *Mo(or)town/Redux* as Best Production, and, in the Best Revived Production category, for *Scott Queen of Marys*) and received a National Dance Project award in 2013 for the making of *Hapless Bizarre*. *Hapless Bizarre* was presented at The Joyce Theater in January 2015 and will be reprised at this year's Fall for Dance Festival at City Center (September 30 and October 1). In fall 2013, Elkins joined the faculty of Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. [www.dougelkinschoreography.com](http://www.dougelkinschoreography.com)

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