

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DANCE SALAD FESTIVAL 2016:

Houston, TX – DANCE SALAD FESTIVAL performances on **March 24, 25 and 26, 2016, 7:30 PM** at the Wortham Center, Cullen Theater, 501 Texas Ave. Houston, 77002.

Now celebrating the 21st anniversary in Houston and the 24th season since its inception in Brussels, Belgium, Dance Salad Festival promises another gathering of world-class performers. Famous in their own countries, the dance companies/dancers have won praise from critics and audiences wherever they have toured.

Choreographers' Forum, March 23, 7:00 PM @ the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. Free event. Check details below.

Press Conference, March 23, 11am-2pm @ Wortham Basement Studio Lounge, 510 Preston, Houston, 77002. Check details below.

For updates, photos and to buy tickets \$25-\$58, go to: www.dancesalad.org.

For Out of Town Visitors - take advantage of the special package **Visit Houston for a Dance and Art Treat this Spring** with a discount rates for Festival tickets and rooms at DoubleTree by Hilton Houston, Downtown and free admission to the Museum of Fine Arts Houston. Details on www.dancesalad.org

USA PREMIERES marked with **, Houston Premieres marked with *

-**Stuttgart Ballet, Germany**, two Principal Dancers, **Alicia Amatriain** and **Jason Reilly** will perform **Christian Spuck's** hilarious spoof on ballet, **Le Grand Pas de Deux**, set to the Overture from "The Thieving Magpie" by **Gioachino Rossini**. These are dancers of international acclaim and have been named "Outstanding Dancer" in the annual critics' choice of the magazines Ballettanz and Dance Europe.

-**Spellbound Contemporary Ballet, Rome, Italy**, will perform highly acclaimed and traveled all over Europe and Asia, **Four Seasons***, choreographed by company's Founder and Artistic Director, **Mauro Astolfi**, set to music by **Antonio Vivaldi** and an original contemporary score by **Luca Salvadori**.

-**USA debut by Gartner Platz Theater**, Munich, Germany** with **Made in Love: Minutemade Act One** by renowned Berlin based European choreographer, theater and opera director **Marguerite Donlon**, set to various music scores, and **Versus Standard** by **Jacopy Godani**, who is now the Artistic Director of Dresden Frankfurt Dance Company, former William Forsythe's company, set to music by **48nord**.

-**Royal Ballet of Flanders, Antwerp, Belgium** with curated sections from the recently premiered **Fall***, the first work created for this company by their new Artistic Director, perennial Festival favorite, **Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui**, set to music by **Arvo Part** as well as **Sidi Larbi's** stunning pas de deux **Faun**, set to Debussy's original score interlaced with contemporary music created by

composer Nitin Sawhney. *Faun* has been showcased recently at the opening of the first season of Cherkaoui's Artistic Directorship at the Royal Ballet of Flanders and premiered in Houston in Dance Salad Festival in 2011 by Eastman dancers.

-**National Ballet of Canada, Toronto** will present Principal Dancers, Sonia Rodriguez and Piotr Stanczyk in a Pas de Deux from the beautiful and melodic ballet *Por Ti* by Spanish choreographer **Luis Martin Oya** set to music by **Yasmin Levy**.

-**Ballet X*, Philadelphia, USA** will debut in Texas and Houston with curated sections from **Nicolo Fonte's** recently premiered and highly acclaimed work *Beasts* set to various music scores.

-**NW Dance Project, Portland, USA**, will debut in Houston with *Yidam* set to music by Michael Gordon and choreographed by London born, **Ihsan Rustem**, who worked with some renown choreographers all over Europe, and is recipient of 2014 Hubbard Street Dance Chicago's International Commissioning Project and Whim W'Him's inaugural Choreographic Shindig, 2015. NW Dance Project has fostered the creation and premiere of over 175 original contemporary dance works to date. *Dance International Magazine* proclaims: "[NW Dance Project is] a laboratory, factory and repository for risk-taking new works from the next generation of choreographers from Europe and North America."

Choreographers' Forum on March 23, 7 PM @Museum of Fine Arts, Houston will feature **Marguerite Donlon**, Choreographer of *Made in Love: Minutemade Act On*, Gartner Platz Theater, Munich, Germany, and **Mauro Astolfi**, Choreographer of *Four Seasons*, Spellbound Contemporary Ballet, Rome, Italy. Marguerite and Mauro will share their insights on the creative process and show short video clips of their work. The Forum will be moderated by Maggie Foyer, well known dance writer from London, UK. Free event! 1001 Bissonnet St, Houston, TX 77005