



PRESS RELEASE: March 8,, 2018

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ahdanco presents

EVENT HORIZON

Dances t

May 18-13 ,2018

Friday 8pm & Saturday 2pm & 7pm

Osher Theater

2055 Center Street, Berkeley 94704

Tickets: \$20 - \$30 - <https://eventhorizon.bpt.me>

www.ahdanco.org

BERKELEY, CA March 8, 2018 – **ahdanco**, an Oakland-based dance company under the direction of Abigail Hosein, is proud to present its 10th repertory concert, *EVENT HORIZON*, on May 18-20 at the Osher Theater in downtown Berkeley. ahdanco celebrates its 16th year creating work in the Bay Area with this evening-length concert that includes the premiere of “Event Horizon” alongside two pieces of repertory.

With a cast of twelve dancers and lighting design by Derek Duarte, *Event Horizon* uses the metaphor of a celestial black hole and is a visual and visceral representation of the grief associated with significant loss. Scientifically, an event horizon is the border of a black hole, and crossing it is recognized as the point of no return, beyond which nothing can avoid gravity’s transformative power and ultimate destruction. *Event Horizon* stems from both the personal and socio-political losses and grief experienced by the company’s artists over the last two years. As is true for many facing gravitationally powerful grief, some fall into a black hole of despair; some reach toward the remnant light; and some walk the line, toeing the event horizon.

“Event Horizon” aims to stir something familiar in the viewer – at some point, grief confronts everyone. The target audience for this work is anyone wanting to feel a sense of familiarity and connection around the loss of loved ones, social safety, and/or hope. Considering the strained political climate of the past couple of years, both locally and nationally, we believe everyone will be able to relate to this work.

Hosein’s choreography has been described by critics as “powerfully elegant and haunting... employ[ing] a well-chosen imaginative vocabulary which produce[s] choreographies with emotional resonance.” The repertory presented in this concert is designed to enhance empathy by exposing that which is brilliant and dark within the individual and communal human psyches. The choreography contains lush, fluid movement paired with dissonant details to reflect the sense that life consists of both harmonious and discordant moments.

ahdanco is excited to be bringing concert dance to the Osher Theater, a venue typically presenting only theater. Osher’s unique position in the Berkeley arts scene, neighboring as it does the Freight & Salvage and Berkeley Repertory Theater, exposes ahdanco to a community of arts patrons who may not typically seek out dance experiences.

The evening features performances by Lauren Baines, Jessica DeLeon, Rebecca Gilbert, Leah Kahn, Erin Kohout, Katie Kruger, Dana Lawton, Edmer Lazro, Jeanette Male, Andrew Merrell, Mechelle Tunstall, and Oona Wong-Danders.

About the company: ahdanco (ahdanco.org)

Celebrating their 16th year, ahdanco (Abigail Hosein Dance Company) continues to create innovative, profound, and kinesthetically satisfying modern dance consisting of a wide range of dances diverse in style, structure, and content, born from collaborations with composers and musicians, painters, and writers. With choreographies comprised of athletic lushness and captivating detail, ahdanco incorporates dancers of different ages, backgrounds, sizes, and experience to create a picture of reality rather than casting similar looking dancers performing as “cookie cutters” of an ideal. Their mission is to give the audience an overall sense of familiarity with the experience they are viewing and represent commonality in a sometimes esoteric art form.

In January 2014, ahdanco was granted Company-in-Residence status at Shawl-Anderson Dance Center in Berkeley, CA. The company has been produced throughout the Bay Area at venues such as Dance Mission Theater, The Ashby Stage, Shawl-Anderson Dance Center, San Francisco Arts Commission Gallery, and Juniper Networks Aspiration Dome. Along with ten self-produced repertory concerts, they have also been presented at the Julia Morgan Center’s Dance Is Festival, Monterey Dance Festival, RAWdance’s Concept Series, Jewels In The Square, Paufve|dance’s 8x8x8 and Bare Bones, and Shawl-Anderson Dance Center’s Dance Up Close/East Bay.

About the choreographer: Abigail Hosein

Abigail Hosein is a choreographer, teacher, dancer and the artistic director of ahdanco, a Bay Area modern dance company founded in 2002. Her work has been presented and commissioned by San Francisco Performances’ Dance Mentor Program, various companies, universities, and high schools throughout the Bay Area. Teaching for over 15 years, currently at Shawl-Anderson Dance Center, Hosein has also served on faculty at Santa Clara University and College Prep High School. She holds her MFA in Performance and Choreography from Mills College and has performed locally for Dance Repertory/San Francisco, Hudson Dance, Barely Complete Productions, and Rogelio Lopez & Dancers.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE: CALENDAR LISTING

Who: ahdanco\abigail hosein dance company

What: *EVENT HORIZON*, ahdanco’s 2018 Repertory Season

Where: Osher Theater, 2055 Center Street, Berkeley 94704

When: May 18-19, Friday 8pm & Saturday 2pm & 7pm

Tickets: \$20 - \$30 Purchase online :<https://eventhorizon.bpt.me>

Summary: ahdanco, an Oakland-based dance company under the direction of Abigail Hosein, presents its 10th repertory concert, *EVENT HORIZON*, on May 18-20 at the Osher Theater in downtown Berkeley. ahdanco celebrates its 16th year creating work in the Bay Area with this evening-length concert of repertory work alongside the premiere of “Event Horizon”, a dance about the personal and socio-political losses and grief experienced by the company’s artists over the last two years.

High-resolution jpegs are available for download at <http://www.ahdanco.org>

