GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY’S SCHOOL OF DANCE PRESENTS THE 2019 MASON DANCE COMPANY GALA CONCERT
FEATURING “NA FLORESTA” BY NACHO DUATO “DANCE 1” FROM DANCE BY LUCINDA CHILDLS AND “KOSMOS” BY ANDONIS FONIADAKIS
MARCH 29 & 30 AT THE CENTER FOR THE ARTS CONCERT HALL AND MARCH 31 AT THE HYLTON PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

THE MARCH 30 GALA CONCERT INCLUDES THE DANCE FÊTE A PRE-PERFORMANCE BENEFIT FEATURING A Q&A WITH LUCINDA CHILDLS MODERATED BY SUZANNE CARBONNEAU

(FAIRFAX & MANASSAS, VA) D.C.-area dance enthusiasts have the opportunity to witness some of the finest dance performances this spring during the Mason Dance Company’s 2019 Gala Concert. The eagerly anticipated annual performances features George Mason University School of Dance students in three uniquely challenging and thrilling works of choreography by Nacho Duato (“Na Floresta,” 1990), Lucinda Childs (“Dance 1” from Dance, 1979), and Andonis Foniadakis (“Kosmos,” 2014).

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The Mason Dance Company Gala Concert is Friday, March 29 & Saturday, March 30 at 8 p.m. at the Center for the Arts Concert Hall in Fairfax, VA and Sunday, March 31 at 4 p.m. at the Hylton Performing Arts Center in Manassas, VA.

Held prior to the March 30 Dance Gala Concert performance, The Mason Dance Fête is an intimate benefit reception featuring a Q&A with Lucinda Childs moderated by arts essayist, dance critic, and historian Suzanne Carbonneau, as well as student showcases exploring the featured dances. All net proceeds from The Mason Dance Fête go towards School of Dance scholarship funds. The event, which is Co-Chaired by Kimberly K. Eby and Donna L. Kidd, begins at 5:30 p.m. and will include wine, hors d’oeuvres, and a dessert reception. For more information, visit: https://dance.gmu.edu/mason-dance-fete.

“We are enormously proud for the Mason Dance Company to be granted permission to perform the work of such internationally acclaimed choreographers,” says Director of the Mason School of Dance Susan Shields. “These pieces have been performed around the world and they are masterful. Each is unique and with its own distinct style.”

Spanish choreographer Nacho Duato’s one-act ballet “Na Floresta” (Spanish for in the forest) is considered one of his strongest early works, quickly making Duato an internationally recognized choreographer. It received its world premiere in February 1990 in The Hague, Netherlands by NDT-2. The piece features 10 dancers and was staged at Mason by Jean Emile. Faculty rehearsal directors include Linda Miller and Roger Jeffrey.

The Mason Dance Company Gala Concert also includes a seminal collaboration that emerged during one of the most prolific periods in New York City’s performing arts world, Dance by American postmodern dancer/choreographer and actress Lucinda Childs. Featuring original music by Philip Glass, Dance is a rarely performed signature work by Childs, who is one of the pillars of the Judson Dance Theater collective. “Dance 1” features eight company members and was staged at Mason by Sharon Milanese. The faculty rehearsal director is Karen Reedy.

In “Kosmos,” which was created for Les Ballets Jazz de Montréal and premiered in 2014, the Greek choreographer Andonis Foniadakis drew his inspiration from the frenetic pace of everyday urban life, including the movement of crowds, moments of agitation and the hustle of the city. The work features 10 dancers and was staged at Mason by Alexander Hille. The faculty rehearsal directors are Elizabeth Price and Susan Shields.

For event details, video, and choreographer bios, visit here: https://dance.gmu.edu/dance-gala-concert.

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To request press passes, please e-mail kfranko@gmu.edu or call 703-993-8794.

Tickets to the Mason Dance Company Gala Concert are $28 for adults; $15 for students and seniors; and $10 for groups. Tickets to the Center for the Arts performance are available online at cfa.gmu.edu, by phone at 703-993-8888, or in person at the box office (4400 University Drive). Tickets for the Hylton Performing Arts Center are available online at hyltoncenter.org, by phone at 703-993-7759, or in person at the box office (10960 George Mason Circle).

Tickets for the Mason Dance Fête (including the reception and performance) are $95, $75 for Mason School of Dance alumnus/a and parents. Sponsorship opportunities begin at $500. To purchase individual tickets online, visit: https://dance.gmu.edu/mason-dance-fete. For ticket and sponsorship inquiries, please contact Alice Magelssen-Green by e-mail at amagelss@gmu.edu or phone at 703-993-1593.

George Mason University’s College of Visual and Performing Arts provides an academic environment in which the arts are explored as individual disciplines and interdisciplinary forms that strengthen one another. The college prepares students for careers as creators, performers, teachers, scholars, arts leaders, and arts entrepreneurs. Understanding that an education in the arts is deepened by regular contact with the work of distinguished visiting artists, the Center for the Arts, the professional presentation and production arm of the college, welcomes a variety of professional and world-renowned artists, musicians and actors to its stage. Students have the opportunity to perform, create and exhibit their work in a wide variety of public venues including a 2,000-seat Concert Hall. The college is home to the Schools of Music, Dance, Art and Theater, as well as the Computer Game Design, Arts Management, and Film and Video Studies programs. https://cvpa.gmu.edu

About George Mason University
George Mason University is Virginia’s largest public research university. Located near Washington, D.C., Mason enrolls 37,000 students from 130 countries and all 50 states. Mason has grown rapidly over the past half-century and is recognized for its innovation and entrepreneurship, remarkable diversity and commitment to accessibility.

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