

October 28, 2015

**Lewis Center for the Arts’ Program in Dance presents**

**“Choreographers in Residence and in Conversation”**

***Three Choreographers present and discuss current works-in-progress at Princeton University***

What: Performance and discussion of choreographic works-in-progress

Who: Choreographers Beth Gill, Dean Moss, and Pavel Zustiak

When: Tuesday, November 10 at 6:30 p.m.

Where: Patricia and Ward Hagan’48 Dance Studio at 185 Nassau St., Princeton

Free and open to the public

(Princeton, NJ) The Lewis Center for the Arts’ Program in Dance will present “Choreographers in Residence and in Conversation,” featuring three choreographers associated with the Princeton Dance Program on Tuesday, November 10 at 6:30 p.m. in the Patricia and Ward Hagan ’48 Dance Studio, 185 Nassau Street. Choreographers Beth Gill, a 2015-16 Hodder Fellow; Dean Moss, a current guest artist; and Pavel Zustiak, a 2015-17 Princeton Arts Fellow, will present works-in-progress, as well as discuss the doubts, difficulties, and revelations they’ve encountered in the course of their current artistic undertakings. This event is free and open to the public.

“Choreographers in Residence and in Conversation,” an initiative begun in 2012, is designed to provide professional artists working in the University’s Program in Dance with additional support to further their work on a current artistic project. The initiative seeks to provide space and funds to these artists, and to facilitate their connections with other artists on campus, with students, and with the larger community. The event on November 10 is a public, artistic conversation providing a platform for these artists to share their choreographic process with each other and with the Princeton community. Gill, Moss and Zustiak will present some excerpts of their work and describe how they have approached their projects in terms of their choreographic tools and processes. The choreographers will answer questions from each other and the audience. The emphasis in this initiative is on the artistic process.

“Choreographers rarely have opportunities to share their processes with each other and to learn just how their peers approach this business of dance-making,” notes Susan Marshall, Director of the Program in Dance. “I am happy we can provide an opportunity for these highly regarded professional choreographers on our campus to share their work and thinking with each other and our students.

**Beth Gill**, a 2015-2016 Hodder Fellow at the Lewis Center, examines issues within the fields of contemporary dance and performance studies through a focused exploration of aesthetics and perception. In addition to commissions from New York Live Arts, The Chocolate Factory Theater, The Kitchen, and Dance Theater Workshop, in 2011 she won two New York Dance and Performance “Bessie” Awards for Outstanding Emerging Choreographer, as well as the prestigious Juried Award, “for the choreographer exhibiting some of the most interesting and exciting ideas happening in dance in New York City today.” *Dance Magazine* named her to its “25 to Watch” list in 2012. Her work has appeared at Fusebox (Texas), The Nazareth College Dance Festival (New York), Dance Umbrella (United Kingdom), and other national and international venues. Gill is a graduate of New York University’s Tisch School of the Arts.

In his work, **Dean Moss**, a current guest choreographer in the Dance Program, examines perceptions of self and other, often through transcultural performance collaborations and audience participation. Moss received the inaugural Doris Duke Impact Award in Theatre, a Foundation for Contemporary Arts Artists Grant, and a New York Dance and Performance “Bessie” Award for his work titled *Spooky Action at a Distance*. He was a 2014 Guggenheim Choreography Fellow and a 2012 Baryshnikov Arts Center Resident Artist. He served as the Curator of Dance and Performance at The Kitchen from 1999 to 2004. In 2014, Moss also founded The Award, a NYC-based mentoring initiative for experimental dance and performance makers. For the Dance Program’s upcoming Dance Festival on December 4 through 6 Moss is re-conceiving a dance based on the *board dance duet* from his larger work, *johnbrown,* to shape a new work with video material created by the student cast members.

**Pavel Zustiak**, a 2015-2017 Princeton Arts Fellow, was born in communist Czechoslovakia and trained at Amsterdam’s School for New Dance Development. Merging the abstract aspects of dance with nonlinear qualities of the theater of images, his multidisciplinary works are rich in evocative imagery and emotional resonance. Among his honors are the 2014, 2009, and 2007 Princess Grace Awards, the 2013 Lower Manhattan Cultural Council’s President’s Award for Excellence in Artistic Practice, a grant from the New England Foundation for the Arts’ National Dance Project, and a 2010 Guggenheim Fellowship. In 2013, his five-hour trilogy *The Painted Bird* was nominated for the New York Dance and Performance “Bessie” Award for Outstanding Production. He is the founder and artistic director of Palissimo, a New York City-based contemporary performance group.

To learn more about this event, the Program in Dance, and the more than 100 events offered annually by the Lewis Center, visit [arts.princeton.edu](http://www.princeton.edu/arts).

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