

CONTACT:  
Christina Kellogg 510.643.6714  
ckellogg@calperformances.org  
Joe Yang 510.642.9121  
scyang@calperformances.org

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**NEDERLANDS DANS THEATER RETURNS TO CAL PERFORMANCES**  
**WITH PREMIERES BY JIŘÍ KYLIÁN AND THE DUO OF**  
**PAUL LIGHTFOOT AND SOL LEON ON**  
**FRIDAY & SATURDAY MARCH 18 & 19**

**Lobby Talk: Dance specialist Kathryn Roszak interviews Nederlands Dans Theater Artistic Director Jim Vincent on Saturday, March 19, at 5:00 p.m. on Zellerbach Hall Mezzanine**

**BERKELEY, February 10, 2011**—The ever innovative Nederlands Dans Theater (NDT) comes to Berkeley for performances on **Friday and Saturday, March 18 and 19 at 8:00 p.m. at Zellerbach Hall.** The program features a premiere by **Jiří Kylián**, who during his long association with NDT—he was director from 1975-1999—has become one of the most influential choreographers of the last 30 years. His *Whereabouts Unknown*, a powerful exploration of the roots of human ancestry, will be followed by the U.S. premiere of *Silent Screen*, an homage to silent films by **Paul Lightfoot** and **Sol Leon**, resident choreographers of NDT. “This trio of choreographers quite regularly makes for an evening full of intriguing contemporary dance” (*NRC Handelsblad*).

A Lobby Talk will be given on **Saturday, March 19, at 5:00 p.m.** by Nederlands Dans Theater artistic director **Jim Vincent** and Bay Area choreographer and teacher **Kathryn Roszak**. This event is free and open to the public and takes place on the Zellerbach Hall mezzanine; it is necessary to purchase a ticket, however, to attend the corresponding performance.

**THE PROGRAM**

*Whereabouts Unknown* (1993) sets **Jiří Kylián**'s fascination with aboriginal human existence to a modern musical tapestry by **Arvo Pärt, Anton Webern, Steve Reich, Charles Ives** and **Michael de Roo**. “There is a line in my work which always traces back to the “whereabouts” of our existence,” explains Kylián. “The piece is rich with subtle symbolism and references to Australian aboriginal dance, African masks and mythical figures and images.” It begins quietly with a group of women moving only their upper bodies as a single man draws circles in the sand. More dancers begin to enter the sand covered stage interrupting the calm of

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the opening with surges of energy in series of duets and groups. Particularly stunning are the technically demanding male solos “which they perform with an almost insolent ease” (Artsdesk.com). The piece returns once more to calm at the end with a quiet, almost mystifying duet set to **Ives**’s *The Unanswered Question*. “If there has been a better example of truly engrossing modern dance in London this year, then I haven’t seen it” (Londondance.com).

**Paul Lightfoot** and **Sol León**’s *Silent Screen* (2005), set to the ethereal music of **Philip Glass** marks the most complex undertaking by this British-Spanish duo. Lasting 45 minutes, the work combines technology and film with cutting edge dance. Choreographed for ten dancers, it begins with a duet against the projected image of a solitary man vanishing into the sea. The mood changes as highly acrobatic and complex maneuvers, juxtaposed with moments of utter stillness in the choreography, seem to melt together with the images on the screen. As the dance nears the end, the film rewinds in high speed, bringing it back to where it all began. Despite the trademark high technical demands of Lightfoot and León’s choreography—which caused the *Manchester Evening News* to remark, “it was easy to forget just how extraordinary (the dancers) are, because the smoothness and assurance of the impossible things they do make it all look so easy”—the references to the great themes of life give the piece an emotional and dramatic depth.

## NEDERLANDS DANS THEATER

**Nederlands Dans Theater** was founded in 1959 when a group of almost two dozen dancers who wanted to push the art form in a new direction left the Nederlands Ballet to begin a new company. Under the direction of **Carel Birnie** and **Benjamin Harkarvy**, they steadily built a different repertoire of modern dance that has influenced the entire dance world for over half a century. Since 1975 NDT has been particularly associated with the Czech choreographer Jirí Kylián, whose works are characterized by fluent and sensual dancing, lush production values, and accessible music. Under the direction of current artistic director **Jim Vincent**, Nederlands Dans Theater continues to stretch the boundaries of dance and performance while attracting full houses world-wide. A rich repertoire has been created with works from master choreographers Kylián and Hans van Manen, resident choreographers Sol León and Paul Lightfoot, associate choreographers Crystal Pite and Johan Inger, and guest choreographers like Ohad Naharin, Nacho Duato and William Forsythe. The repertoire elicits responses such as, “It is liberating to

meet beauty through this balanced ensemble of individuals; for once the tired cliché ‘world class’ is appropriate” (*Svenska Dagsbladet*, Sweden).

Nederlands Dans Theater today operates three distinct dance companies: NDT I, the main company of 32 dancers; NDT II, a group of 14 dancers under the age of 21 with its own repertory; and NDT III, a small group of dancers of 40-plus years who bring their experience and expertise to a theatrical repertory. Company members work out of a state-of-the-art theater with five studios and administrative facilities located in The Hague.

### TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Nederlands Dans Theater Friday and Saturday, March 18 & 19 at 8:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall are priced at **\$34.00, \$44.00, \$54.00, \$62.00, and \$72.00**. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at [www.calperformances.org](http://www.calperformances.org); and at the door. Half-price tickets are available for purchase by UC Berkeley students. UC faculty and staff, senior citizens, other students and UC Alumni Association members receive a \$5.00 discount (Special Events excluded). For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988, or visit the Cal Performances web site at [www.calperformances.org](http://www.calperformances.org).

For select performances, Cal Performances offers UCB student, faculty and staff, senior and community rush tickets. Rush tickets are announced two hours prior to a performance and are available in person only at the Ticket Office beginning one hour before the performance; quantities may be limited. Rush ticket sales are limited to one ticket per person; all sales are cash only. Rush ticket prices are \$10.00 for UCB students; \$15.00 for UCB faculty and staff (UCB ID required) and seniors age 65 or older; and \$20.00 for all other community members. Information is available at 510-642-9988, press 2 for the rush hotline, two hours prior to a performance only.

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Cal Performances’ 2010/11 Season is sponsored by Wells Fargo

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**CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**

**Saturday, March 19 at 5:00 p.m.**

**Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus**  
Bancroft Way at Telegraph Ave., Berkeley

**Lobby Talk:** Nederlands Dans Theater artistic director Jim Vincent talks with Bay Area dancer, choreographer, and teacher Kathryn Roszak in the Zellerbach Hall Lobby Mezzanine. These talks are free and open to the public.

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**Friday & Saturday, March 18 & 19 at 8:00 p.m.**

**Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus**  
Bancroft Way at Telegraph Ave., Berkeley

*Dance*

**Nederlands Dans Theater**

**Jim Vincent**, Artistic Director

**Program:**

*Whereabouts Unknown* (1993): set to music by Arvo Pärt, Anton Webern, Steve Reich, Charles Ives and Michael de Roo; choreography by Jiří Kylián

*Silent Screen* (2005): set to music by Philip Glass; choreography by Paul Lightfoot and Sol León

**Tickets:** \$34.00, \$44.00, \$54.00, \$62.00, and \$72.00, available through Cal Performances' Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at [www.calperformances.org](http://www.calperformances.org); and at the door.

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