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**DUTCH DANCE MASTERS NEDERLANDS DANS THEATER  
BRING TWO WEST COAST PREMIERES TO ZELLERBACH HALL ON  
WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23 AND 24**

**A pre-performance talk will be given by one of the artists, to be announced,  
on Thursday, October 24 at 7:00 p.m. in Zellerbach Hall.**

**BERKELEY, September 19, 2013**—Two West Coast premieres are on the bill when Nederlands Dans Theater comes to Cal Performances on Wednesday and Thursday, October 23 and 24, at 8:00 p.m. in Zellerbach Hall. The company, led since 2011 by Artistic Director Paul Lightfoot, is admired worldwide for programs that are “strong, thought-provoking, entertaining and beautifully performed” (*Sydney Morning Herald*, Australia). The two works on the Nederlands Dans Theater program were created by Lightfoot and longtime collaborator Sol León, and present “abstract narratives of love, loss, and memory” (*The New Yorker*).

*Sehnsucht*—a German word that translates as yearning, longing, and nostalgia—uses the music of Ludwig van Beethoven, dramatic lighting and costumes, and a magical revolving stage set to evoke emotions ranging from melancholy to bombast. *Schmetterling*—another German word, this one meaning butterfly—is set to music by Stephin Merritt, the American leader of the indie pop band The Magnetic Fields, and British composer Max Richter. With a mix of solos, duets, and corps pieces, the work employs layered, rhythmically structured stage sets and gauzy projections to explore the emotional arc of passing time.

A pre-performance talk will be given by one of the artists, to be announced, at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 24, in Zellerbach Hall. This event is free to event ticket holders; talks are designed to enrich the experience of concertgoers.

Nederlands Dans Theater was founded in 1959 by two dozen dancers from Nederlands Ballet. Under Carel Birnie and Benjamin Harkarvy, the breakaway company set out to explore new directions in modern dance. Czech choreographer Jiří Kylián took the helm in 1975, bringing his fluent and sensual style. Nederlands Dans Theater cemented its reputation as a company of international caliber with *Sinfonietta*, a Kylián work created in 1978. Today, the

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troupe has more than 30 dancers from 15 countries in its main company, and presents about half of its 150 annual performances outside of its home theater at The Hague in the Netherlands. The company also operates Nederlands Dans Theater 2, a training company for young dancers.

Artistic Director Paul Lightfoot has spent his entire artistic career with Nederlands Dans Theater. A graduate of the Royal Ballet School in Great Britain, Lightfoot joined the company in 1985 as a dancer, became choreographer (along with the Spanish dancer Sol León) in 2002, and was named Artistic Director in 2011. Lightfoot and León have created more than 40 works for the company.

A highly anticipated treat for Bay Area dance aficionados, Nederlands Dans Theater was last at Cal Performances for two sold-out performances spring 2011.

#### **TICKET INFORMATION**

Tickets for Nederlands Dans Theater on Wednesday and Thursday, October 23 and 24, at 8:00 p.m. in Zellerbach Hall range from \$30.00 to \$92.00 and are subject to change. Half-price tickets are available for UC Berkeley students. Tickets are available through the Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988; at <http://www.calperformances.org>; and at the door. For more information about discounts, go to <http://calperformances.org/buy/discounts.php>.

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Cal Performances thanks Wells Fargo and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for their major support of the Season.

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#### **CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

#### **CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**

Thursday, October 24, at 7:00 p.m.  
Pre-performance talk

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

Program: One of the artists of Nederlands Dans Theater, will give a talk before the concert. This event is free to ticketholders.

Dance

Nederlands Dans Theater

Paul Lightfoot, artistic director and choreographer

Sol León, choreographer

Program:

*Sehnsucht* (2009): music by Beethoven; choreography by Paul Lightfoot and Sol León

*Schmetterling* (2010): music by Stephin Merritt and Max Richter; choreography by Paul Lightfoot and Sol León

Tickets range from \$30.00 to \$92.00, and are subject to change. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988; at [calperformances.org](http://calperformances.org); and at the door.

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