



**CityDance Ensemble, Inc.**  
**Dance Company • Early Arts • FilmWORKS**  
1111 16<sup>th</sup> Street, NW Suite 300 • Washington, DC 20036  
202.347.3909 • 202.833.2686 (fax)

**CityDance Center at Strathmore**  
5301 Tuckerman Lane • North Bethesda, Maryland 20852  
301.581.5204 • 301.581.5202 (fax)

**CityDance Center at Mt. Vernon Square**  
801 K Street, NW • Washington, DC 20001  
202.383.1841 • 202.833.2686 (fax)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**June 15, 2007**

**Contact:** Betsy Lundgren, Manager of External Affairs  
**Phone:** 202.347.3909  
**Email:** [betsy@citydance.net](mailto:betsy@citydance.net)  
**Photos:** Available upon request

### **CITYDANCE ENSEMBLE ANNOUNCES 2007-2008 SEASON**

*CityDance presents its inaugural season as an artistic partner in the Harman Center for the Arts  
and third season as the resident dance company of the Music Center at Strathmore*

Washington, DC—**CityDance Ensemble** announces the programs and repertory for its 2007-2008 home season, featuring the company's debut performances in the **Lansburgh Theatre** at the **Harman Center for the Arts** and the return of the company's *In the Studio* concerts in **Studio 405** at the **Music Center at Strathmore**. Under the direction of Artistic Director **Paul Gordon Emerson**, CityDance's upcoming season features guest performances by international dance star **Rasta Thomas**, the premiere of the company's original family production of **Rudyard Kipling's *Jungle Books***, and choreography by **Lar Lubovitch**, **Roger C. Jeffrey**, **Doug Varone**, and others.

CityDance Ensemble's 2007-2008 home season consists of 17 performances within five programs, with three programs in the Lansburgh Theatre (450 7<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Washington, DC) and two programs in Strathmore's Studio 405 (5301 Tuckerman Lane, N. Bethesda, MD).

"Performing at both the Harman Center and Strathmore next season is an exceptional opportunity for CityDance," says Mr. Emerson. "These venues provide audiences with two different perspectives and experiences. Our in-studio concerts at Strathmore deliver an intimate, face-to-face performance, while the beautiful Lansburgh Theatre offers a more traditional performance setting."

The new season marks CityDance's first as an artistic partner with the **Shakespeare Theatre Company**. Under this partnership, CityDance will present an annual four-weekend season in the 451-seat Lansburgh Theatre, the Shakespeare Theatre Company's current theatre which will become part of the new Harman Center for the Arts.

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[www.citydance.net](http://www.citydance.net)

“Collaboration has been at the foundation of the Harman Center for the Arts from the very beginning,” notes **Nick Goldsborough**, Managing Director of the Shakespeare Theatre Company. “Having world class dance and music to accompany the work that the Shakespeare Theatre Company does is the realization of a dream for both myself and Michael [Kahn]. As an artistic partner, CityDance exemplifies what we are looking for in a collaboration and we are delighted to have such a rich season from them to look forward to.”

The upcoming season also marks CityDance’s third year as the resident dance company and educator at the Music Center at Strathmore. CityDance Ensemble rehearses in its home studios at Strathmore and runs the **CityDance Center at Strathmore**, an in-studio education facility offering dance and fitness classes for youth and adults of all levels. When performing in Studio 405, CityDance transforms the studio into an intimate 150-seat performance space that brings audience members face-to-face with the dancers and choreography.

“CityDance is a crucial part of what we do at the Music Center at Strathmore,” comments **Eliot Pfanstiehl**, President and CEO of Strathmore. “The company is constantly expanding the borders, boundaries, and ideas of what is possible in this building. Next season will be a real highlight for them and for us.”

Rasta Thomas returns to CityDance next season as artist-in-residence, performing in two programs and engaging his contacts in the international dance community to bring the highest caliber artists and choreographers to CityDance. Mr. Thomas, widely regarded as one of the top male dancers in the world, has danced with such companies as American Ballet Theatre, Dance Theatre of Harlem, and the Kirov Ballet. He performed the lead role in Twyla Tharp’s *Movin’ Out* both on Broadway and in the national tour.

Also joining CityDance as rehearsal director for the 2007-2008 season is **Christopher Morgan**, a seasoned dancer and choreographer, who has danced for David Gordon, Liz Lerman Dance Exchange, Fabulous Beast Dance Theater (UK) and as a soloist with the Washington National Opera, New York City Opera, and Houston Grand Opera. Mr. Morgan is currently the artistic director of the New York based pick-up company Muse, and has had his work commissioned and presented in Germany, Lithuania, Ireland, Poland, Hong Kong and throughout the United States.

“Rasta and Christopher will be a true asset to CityDance as we move in to next season,” notes Mr. Emerson. “They both bring a unique set of talents and capabilities that will help drive CityDance to the next level.”

The upcoming season is host to a variety of programs, choreographers, and musicians that highlight the versatility, dynamism, and athleticism of CityDance Ensemble. Complete with world premieres, celebrated favorites, and new performances for the whole family, the 2007-2008 season promises to engage and educate an audience of long-time dance fans and new dance enthusiasts alike.

(more)

[www.citydance.net](http://www.citydance.net)

## CITYDANCE ENSEMBLE 2007-2008 SEASON

### *Born to Run*

Friday, September 7, 2007 • 8pm

Saturday, September 8, 2007 • 8pm

Lansburgh Theatre, Harman Center for the Arts

In an anthem to youth, adventure, and growing up in America, **Paul Gordon Emerson's** *Born to Run* delivers fresh, electrifying movement set to the iconic music of **Bruce Springsteen**. The concert program also includes **Jane Dudley's** legendary *Harmonica Breakdown* and **Lar Lubovitch's** male solo *Little Rhapsodies*.

### *In the Studio I (Eclipse)*

Saturday, October 27, 2007 • 8pm (*A post-performance discussion will follow this concert*)

Sunday, October 28, 2007 • 7pm

Studio 405, Music Center at Strathmore

The premiere of this season's *In the Studio* series showcases the return of **Doug Varone's** *Eclipse*, a poignant trio set to the haunting music of **Michael Gordon**. Paired with striking choreography from **Roger C. Jeffrey, Paul Gordon Emerson, and Meisha Bosma**, this concert transcends convention and invites reflection.

### *Rudyard Kipling's Jungle Books*

Saturday, December 8, 2007 • 1pm & 4:30pm

Sunday, December 9, 2007 • 1pm & 4:30pm

Saturday, December 15, 2007 • 1pm & 4:30pm

Sunday, December 16, 2007 • 1pm & 4:30pm

Lansburgh Theatre, Harman Center for the Arts

Presented by **Washington Performing Arts Society** and funded by the **DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities**, the world premiere performance of CityDance's adaptation of Rudyard Kipling's *Jungle Books* is a colorful show for the whole family. Breathing new life into Mowgli, Baloo, Shere Khan, and other characters from the classic tales, the company will take audiences on a wild ride of adventure and imagination.

### *Shakespeare's Sonnets*

Friday, March 7, 2008 • 8pm

Saturday, March 8, 2008 • 8pm

Sunday, March 9, 2008 • 7pm

Lansburgh Theatre, Harman Center for the Arts

The immortal words of **Shakespeare's** treasured, yet rarely heard, **Sonnets** come alive in CityDance's spirited interpretation of transcendent literature and universal meaning. Partnering with the **Shakespeare Theatre Company** to mix original choreography and new music with the ageless poems of Shakespeare, CityDance explores the esteemed playwright's unceasing relevancy throughout the last four centuries.

### *In the Studio II (Bold Steps: Warmer)*

Saturday, April 12, 2008 • 8pm (*A post-performance discussion will follow this concert*)

Sunday, April 13, 2008 • 7pm

Studio 405, Music Center at Strathmore

A long-time audience favorite, CityDance's annual *Bold Steps* program takes a new turn this season. Centered on the reality that our planet is getting warmer, this concert invites **CityDance company members** and other choreographers to tackle the question of **global warming** and the impact that art will have on this issue. *Bold Steps: Warmer—a concert for today and about tomorrow*—promises to unfold intriguing voices, surprising insight, and a challenging reality.

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## TICKETS

Tickets for *Born to Run* and *Shakespeare's Sonnets* are priced at \$35 and \$20 and are available through the **Harman Center for the Arts Ticket Office**. Tickets will be on sale online and by phone June 15, 2007, and also in person starting in late September. Tickets are available in three easy ways:

- 1) Online: [www.HarmanCenter.org](http://www.HarmanCenter.org)
- 2) Phone: 202.547.1122 • Toll Free: 877.487.8849 • TTY: 202.638.3863
- 3) In Person: Harman Center for the Arts Ticket Office  
610 F Street NW • Washington, DC • 20004  
10am-6pm Monday-Saturday • 12-6pm Sunday

A limited number of \$100 VIP tickets will be available for premiere seating and a post-concert reception at the Saturday evening performances of *Born to Run* and *Shakespeare's Sonnets*. For information on the VIP tickets, call 202.347.3909 or email [tickets@citydance.net](mailto:tickets@citydance.net).

Tickets for *Jungle Books* are priced at \$30 for adults and \$18 for youth (up to age 12) and are available through the **Washington Performing Arts Society Ticket Office**. *Jungle Books* tickets will be on sale online August 20, 2007 and also by phone and in person on September 10, 2007. Tickets are available in three ways:

- 1) Online: [www.wpas.org](http://www.wpas.org)
- 2) Phone: 202.785.WPAS (9727)
- 3) In Person: WPAS Ticket Office  
2000 L Street NW • Suite 510 • Washington, DC • 20036  
9:30am-5pm Monday-Friday

Tickets for *In the Studio I (Eclipse)* and *In the Studio II (Bold Steps: Warmer)* are priced at \$15 and are available through the **Music Center at Strathmore Ticket Office**. Tickets are available in three ways:

- 1) Online: [www.strathmore.org](http://www.strathmore.org)
- 2) Phone: 301.581.5100 • Toll Free and TTY: 800.735.2258
- 3) In Person: Strathmore Ticket Office  
5301 Tuckerman Lane • North Bethesda, MD • 20852  
10am-5pm Mon, Tues, Thur, Fri • 10am-9pm Wed • 10am-2pm Sat  
(Summer hours from May 21-Aug 20 • 10am-5pm Mon-Fri)

## ABOUT CITYDANCE ENSEMBLE, INC.

CityDance Ensemble, Inc. is the parent organization to **CityDance Ensemble**, an award-winning contemporary repertory dance company; **Early Arts**, an arts outreach program for youth serving more than 25,000 students each year; **CityDance Education Centers**, facilities committed to excellence in dance training for youth and adults; and **FilmWORKS**, a creator and presenter of dance-on-camera. The mission of CityDance Ensemble, Inc. is to advance the appreciation for and participation in the art of dance through excellence in performance, education, film, and artistic innovation.

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