

For Immediate Release

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EDITOR NOTE: Downloadable photos here: <http://pushdance.org/photos.php>

Push Dance Company |SF Premieres Three New Works: *Mixed Messages, Judgments in Milliseconds, and*

The Black Swordsman Saga July 23 and July 24 at Joyce SoHo in New York

New York, NY— San Francisco-based choreographer Raissa Simpson debuts her Push Dance Company which earned the reputation by Dance Spirit Magazine as the “San Francisco Treat,” at Joyce SoHo. Push Dance Company premieres *Mixed Messages, Judgments in Milliseconds, and The Black Swordsman Saga* in an evening of dances Friday-Saturday, July 23-24, 2010 at 8pm. Tickets are available from at www.joyce.org or via JoyceCharge at 212-242-0800.

Company information: <http://www.pushdance.org/touring.php> Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Push-Dance-Company/8045279159?ref=ts>

“Simpson has made a name for herself as not only a fine choreographer, but as an all-around visual artist, combining film and technology seamlessly...” –Wendy Garofoli, Dancer Magazine

The troupe of five young dancers present three NYC-premieres: *Mixed Messages*, a commissioned piece on mixed race, identity, and acceptance; *Judgments In Milliseconds*, a solo work inspired by today’s culture surrounding African-American hair with media art by Marlon Sagana Ingram; *The Black Swordsman Saga*, a genre bending acoustic hip hop sound score set to original composition by JooWan Kim, which ushers in the company’s vigorous new voice.

Tickets

\$20 adult; \$10 student/senior, DancePass
Tickets: joyce.org or JoyceCharge 212-242-0800
Information: 212-431-9233 or joyce.org

Venue Information

Joyce SoHo

155 Mercer Street (between Houston & Prince)
N/R/W to Prince, B/D/F/V to Broadway/Lafayette, 6 to Bleecker
Tickets: joyce.org or JoyceCharge 212-242-0800
Information: 212-431-9233 or joyce.org

Founded in 2005, **Push Dance Company** (“Push”) has embraced new media and technology to express its cross-cultural perspectives. Under the direction of Raissa Simpson, the company dares to work with visual artists alongside pyrotechnic dancing, music collaborations, community projects & touring to critical-acclaim.

Push is recipient of Theatre Bay Area’s CA\$H Grant, CHIME (Choreographers in Mentorship Exchange); Residencies at the Garage Artspace and Zaccho Dance Theater; two San Francisco Arts Commission’s Arts & Communities: Innovative Partnerships and four consecutive Zellerbach Family Foundation awards with one in combination with William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and Wallace Alexander Gerbode Foundation.

The hip-hop generational modern dance company has distinguished itself through its dedication to athleticism- bringing “Art to the People”. Recently the company has toured & performed at the Washington Ensemble Theater (Seattle), Laney College (Oakland), 418 Project (Santa Cruz), Dance Mission Theater (SF), Cowell Theater (SF), ODC Commons Theater (SF), MoAD SF- Museum of African Diaspora & San Jose State University where, the company was awarded the “Peoples Choice” award honor. The company has offered master classes, workshops and performance opportunities to students at UC Santa Cruz, Berkeley High School, CounterPulse, Alonzo King Lines Dance Center, ODC School and many more. Additionally, the company has formed community partnership with 3rd St Youth Center & Clinic in Bayview Hunters Point offering underserved youth positive creative outlets of expression.

The core subjects of Ms. Simpson’s multidisciplinary works address race, gender, identity, history, and the digital divide. Her choreography is spearheaded Push’s re-visioning to make work that directly impacts people within the community. Push has three areas of programming: 1) create non-traditional dances through innovative collaborations; 2) bring together non-dancers with professional artists through community projects; 3) mark the importance of belonging to the national dance community through touring.

Major 2010-2011 support by the San Francisco Arts Commission, Zellerbach Family Foundation, Dancers Group Lighting Artist In Dance Award, CHIME and individual support.



The creation of Joyce SoHo was made possible by the magnanimous support of the LuEsther T. Mertz Charitable Trust. Joyce SoHo is supported by private funds from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, Robert Sterling Clark Foundation, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, First Republic Bank, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation and The Shubert Foundation; and by public funds from the New York City Council; the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency; the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009; and the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art. Special support for Joyce SoHo has been provided by The Harkness Foundation for Dance; New York Community Trust; Goldman, Sachs & Co.; and Foundation for Contemporary Arts.

CALENDAR EDITOR PLEASE LIST:

Push Dance Company |SF Premiers Three New Works:

Mixed Messages, Judgments in Milliseconds, and The Black Swordsman Saga

WHAT

New York premiere of Push Dance Company

WHEN

Friday and Saturday, July 23 and 24, at 8 p.m.

WHERE

Joyce SoHo

155 Mercer Street (Houston/Prince) New York, NY 10012

B/D/F/V to Broadway-Lafayette, R to Prince, 6 to Bleecker

TICKETS

\$20 adult; \$10 student/senior, DancePass

Joyce SoHo's onsite box office is only open one half-hour prior to performance time to sell tickets exclusively for that performance. Tickets may alternatively be purchased online at joyce.org, via phone at 212-242-0800 or in person at The Joyce Theater at 175 Eighth Avenue at 19th Street Mon-Sun, 12 noon-6pm. On days when there are performances, The Joyce's box office is open through curtain time, but advance sales stop one hour prior to curtain time (including matinee curtains.) The Joyce's box office is closed on major holidays.

WEBSITE

<http://pushdance.org>

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