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For Immediate Release

**SAN FRANCISCO DANCE FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES
PROGRAM LINEUP FOR DANCE SCREEN 2013
September 12-15 at The Roxie Theater and Delancey Screening Room**

SAN FRANCISCO, August 1, 2013—The San Francisco Dance Film Festival (SFDFF) announces the program lineup for *dance screen 2013 with San Francisco Dance Film Festival*—presenting a total of 70 films from around the globe during four days of film premieres, parties, social events and panel presentations that celebrate the creative spirit of screendance. Produced in collaboration with world-renowned European media arts organization IMZ - International Music + Media Center, the Festival is also co-presented by the San Francisco Film Society and San Francisco Ballet.

Unveiling the festival program, Greta Schoenberg, SFDFF Executive Director says, “We’re thrilled to be able to support so many filmmakers this year, and to have so many films by local artists make the cut, both with our committees here and with the IMZ team in Austria. It will be an incredibly unique opportunity to gather the community —brought together through all of our partners—for this unprecedented dance film event in the Bay Area.”

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Opening Night

Local artists whose works will be screened throughout the festival will have a strong showing on opening night with a collection of international screendance shorts Thursday, September 12 at the Roxie Theater. The program will open with *Aloft*, a collaboration between local director Kate Duhamel and choreographer Yuri Zhukov to create a short dance film overlooking the San Francisco Bay, also to be shown on Saturday evening at 8:30 pm in 3D. Other local artist teams represented are filmmaker/photographer RJ Muna and choreographer Katherine Helen Fisher, formerly of ODC, with *Dervishes*;

choreographer/director Amy Seiwert with director of photography Ben Estabrook with an adaptation of Ms. Seiwert's stage work, *Veronica & Vincent*; co-directors Eric Garcia and Kat Cole from their company Detour Dance with an excerpt from *Pedestrian Crossing*, and choreographer/director and San Francisco Ballet principal Tiit Helimets co-directing with filmmaker Austin Forbord, starring San Francisco Ballet principal Sarah Van Patten in a short solo work, *White*. The program will be followed by Q&A with the filmmakers.

Three other screendance shorts programs will follow on Friday and Saturday, including the San Francisco premiere of *40m Under*, co-directed by choreographer Alexander Ekman and filmmaker Martin Steinberg and starring the full company of the Cullberg Ballet, Friday evening at 9:00 p.m. at the Delancey Screening Room.

Panel Presentations

Professional panel presentations are scheduled for Friday and Saturday, September 13 -14 at Delancey Screening Room from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. A diverse array of topics will be explored, which include but are not limited to: *How Did We Get Here and Where Are We Going?: The Role of Broadcasters in Bringing Dance to Screens* (with David Horn, Executive Producer of PBS's Great Performances series); *Inspirations/Collaborations: Dance Intersecting with Other Disciplines* (including local luminary Alonzo King); *Growing Dance Audiences Through Choreography, Films, and Outreach* (along with Lynette Kessler, Founder, Former Director, Dance Camera West, and Michael Nunn and William Trevitt, Founders of BalletBoyz); in addition to a pitching session for invited Bay Area dance filmmakers to pitch their ideas to international broadcasters and distributors. Advance registration is required. Student and member discounts available.

More information can be found here: <http://www.sfdancefilmfest.org/2013/festival-program/panel/>

Centerpiece

Matthew Bourne's Swan Lake in 3D will be screening at the Delancey Screening Room on Saturday, September 14 at 8:30 PM, following a champagne reception at 8 p.m., included in the special \$25 ticket price. Matthew Bourne blends dance, humor and spectacle with extravagant, award-winning designs by Lez Brotherston, to create a provocative and powerful "Swan Lake" for our times.

Young Dancers' Program

Sunday, September 15th at 2:00 p.m. the Festival presents a special program for aspiring dancers that will also appeal to any dance enthusiast. Comprised of three films that include *Postcards From East London*, a short film inspired by intergenerational collaboration; *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland: The Making Of*, a 30-minute BBC documentary that follows the creation of Christopher Wheeldon's full-length work for the Royal Ballet told from the perspective of the starring ballerina; and *Budding Stars*, co-produced by ARTE France, spanning a school year of the Paris Opera Ballet School— where the greatest "étoiles" or principal dancers are trained. Following the films, San Francisco Ballet principal Pascal Molat, and former principal Muriel Maffre will discuss their experiences as children at the famous French school.

BalletBoyz:

As guests from the UK and members of the dance screen 2013 jury, choreographers Michael Nunn and William Trevitt, founders of the all-male dance company BalletBoyz, will present their documentary *BalletBoyz: The Next Generation* on Sunday at 4:00 p.m. Filmed over two years in the UK and on location in Ethiopia, the documentary follows the group as they travel to Addis Ababa to become the first UK dance company to perform in Ethiopia.

Closing Night:

Themed “The Collaborative Process”, the festival’s closing night films include the premiere of SFDFE’s three Co-Laboratory films, funded in part by The Kenneth Rainin Foundation and in partnership with the Djerassi Resident Artists Program and private sponsors. Three artist teams, who had never met their collaborators before this project, will choreograph and shoot, three short films at the Djerassi Resident Artists Program just one week before the festival premiere on closing night. Also included in the evening will be local filmmakers Amie Dowling’s and Austin Forbord’s *Well Contested Sites*, a collaboration with formerly incarcerated men, drawing upon their experiences and physical memories and shot at Alcatraz. Following the films will be the dance screen competition awards ceremony, where a guest jury will announce winners in each category, along with the dance screen cash prize of \$5,000 for the best overall film and \$2,000 for the best student film. A closing party will follow on site in The Private Club at Delancey Street.

Selection Process:

Due to the high number of entries, a pre-selection committee was formed to prepare a selection for the final jury in the competition. The committee was comprised of members from IMZ, SFDFE, and its partners San Francisco Ballet and San Francisco Film Society. The committee collectively screened all 291 entries, with the requirement that each entry be viewed a minimum of 3 times and given a score in each of 6 categories of artistic merit. The highest-scoring films then went into a discussion process among the leaders of the committee, who subsequently chose the 70 films to present at the festival and to continue in the competition to be viewed by the jury. All 291 entries are represented in a printed catalog, and they may also be viewed in the dance screen video library on site at the festival venue, accessible to festival pass holders and invited members of the press.

TICKET INFORMATION

Single Tickets

\$15 General / Members & Students \$13. Available online and at the door.

Festival Pass

\$300 General / Members & Students \$250

Film Package

Five Programs for \$60

Panels*

Two Days: \$150 General / \$125 Members & Students

One Day: \$85 General / \$75 Members & Students

*Advance registration required

Closing Night Party

\$30 includes drink ticket, raffle ticket, and appetizer

TIMES AND LOCATIONS:

Thursday September 12th:

7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Roxie Theater

3117 16th Street, San Francisco

Friday September 13 - Sunday 15:

9:30 a.m - 3:30 p.m. | Friday and Saturday Panel Presentations

7:00 p.m. Friday - 8:00 pm Sunday | Film programs. See website for full schedule.

8:00 p.m. Sunday | Closing Night Party at Delancey Private Club Room

Delancey Screening Room

600 The Embarcadero, San Francisco

The complete lineup of films, international guests, and all celebrations, along with information on tickets and packages are now listed on the San Francisco Dance Film Festival website at www.sfdancefilmfest.org

ABOUT THE SAN FRANCISCO DANCE FILM FESTIVAL

The San Francisco Dance Film Festival was established in 2010 to give the Bay Area a much-needed platform for the presentation and further development of dance-based films. The Festival seeks to bring dance to wider audiences and supports interdisciplinary collaboration among artists by providing opportunities for education and creative exchange. SFDF's programming covers this broad spectrum by highlighting sub-genres such as "screendance", short experimental dance pieces created specifically for the camera, as well as filmic interpretations of dance performances originally created for the stage. Feature documentaries focus on the process of creating dance—from historical profiles to behind-the-

scenes views of today's most innovative choreographers. SFDF's year-round activities now include filmmaking workshops, lectures at universities and dance schools, and free film presentations at the public library.

“An impressive program of locally made and imported works. The sheer number of perspectives that these dance/film artists brought to their work was inspiring.” —*San Francisco Chronicle*

“A wild, beautiful ride” – *San Francisco Examiner*

For more information, visit www.sfdancefilmfest.org.

ABOUT IMZ/DANCE SCREEN

The IMZ - International Music + Media Centre, based in Vienna, is a global non-profit association dedicated to the worldwide development, dissemination and promotion of music and dance through the audiovisual media. It is a forum for exchange and reflection whose core objectives are to serve as a high-quality advisory body in this industry and as a mediator between those organisations and individuals involved and interested in the fields of music and dance. It is the IMZ's intention to make the performing arts available to a wide audience around the globe and help arts programmes occupy their rightful place in the media. Thus, the professional umbrella organisation acts as an interface between leading international producers, distributors, broadcasters of cultural programmes, opera houses, educational institutions and record labels focusing on classical, contemporary and world music, and jazz, as well as classical and contemporary dance. With the aim to enhance the co-operation in this media universe, the IMZ, since its foundation in 1961, under the aegis of UNESCO, has established an essential network that has grown to more than 150 members from 26 countries around the world. Its members, whether they are individuals or organisations, are closely connected to the audio-visual music and dance business and who work hard to make a difference in this cultural community.

The IMZ founded dance screen in 1988 as one of the first dance film and video competitions and festivals worldwide. It has ever since been a productive representative platform for a new genre that has engaged and inspired filmmakers, dance and video artists, distributors and broadcasters. It was established to create a dialogue between all these partners and to bring audiences in touch with dance from all over the world. Past editions of dance screen took place in Amsterdam in cooperation with Cinedans (2010), in Den Haag in cooperation with the Holland Dance Festival, Filmhuis Den Haag (2007), in Brighton (2005), in Monaco at the Monaco Dance Forum (2002) and in Cologne at the Media Park (1999).

For more information about IMZ and Dance Screen, visit www.imz.at or www.dancescreen.com.

ABOUT SAN FRANCISCO BALLET

As America's oldest professional ballet company, San Francisco Ballet has enjoyed a long and rich tradition of artistic “firsts” since its founding in 1933, including performing the first American productions of *Swan Lake* and *Nutcracker*, as well as the first 20th-century American *Coppélia*. San Francisco Ballet is one of the three largest ballet companies in the United States. Guided in its early years

by American dance pioneers and brothers Lew, Willam, and Harold Christensen, San Francisco Ballet currently presents more than 100 performances annually, both locally and internationally. Under the direction of Helgi Tomasson for more than two decades, the Company has achieved an international reputation as one of the preeminent ballet companies in the world. In 2005, San Francisco Ballet won the prestigious Laurence Olivier Award in the category of “Outstanding Achievement in Dance” and in 2006, it was the first non-European company elected “Company of the Year” in *Dance Europe* magazine’s annual readers’ poll. In 2008, the Company marked its 75th anniversary with a host of initiatives including an ambitious New Works Festival. Recent highlights include a tour to the People’s Republic of China, the celebration of Artistic Director & Principal Choreographer Helgi Tomasson’s 25th anniversary with the Company, and the United States premiere of John Neumeier’s *The Little Mermaid*, which was broadcast internationally, as well as nationally on PBS’s *Great Performances* “Dance in America” in December 2011. In 2012, SF Ballet’s ambitious tour schedule included engagements in London and Washington, D.C., as well as first-time visits to Hamburg, Moscow, and Sun Valley, Idaho.

For more information, visit: www.sfballet.org.

ABOUT SAN FRANCISCO FILM SOCIETY

Building on a legacy of more than 50 years of bringing the best in world cinema to the Bay Area, the San Francisco Film Society is a national leader in exhibition, education and filmmaker services. SFFS is headed by Executive Director Ted Hope with the programmatic leadership of Director of Programming Rachel Rosen, Director of Filmmaker360 Michele Turnure-Salleo and Director of Education Joanne Parsont. The Film Society presents more than 100 days of exhibition each year, reaching a total audience of more than 100,000 people. Its acclaimed education program introduces international, independent and documentary cinema and media literacy to more than 10,000 teachers and students. Through Filmmaker360, the Film Society’s filmmaker services program, essential creative and business services, professional development classes, and funding totaling millions of dollars are provided to deserving filmmakers of all levels. The Film Society seeks to elevate all aspects of film culture, offering a wide range of activities that engage emotions, inspire action, change perceptions and advance knowledge. A 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation, it is largely donor and member supported. Patronage and membership provides discounted prices, access to grants and residencies, private events and a wealth of other benefits.

For more information visit www.sffs.org.

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