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**USC Glorya Kaufman School of Dance, The Music Center and LACMA  
Present  
*Fall for Forsythe***

**-- Multiple Events and Performances Will Celebrate Internationally Renowned Multimedia Dance  
Artist and Choreographer William Forsythe --**

**LOS ANGELES (June 28, 2016)** -- University of Southern California's Glorya Kaufman School of Dance (USC Kaufman), The Music Center, and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) present *Fall for Forsythe*, a month-long celebration of the work of American-born and internationally recognized choreographer William Forsythe, whose multiplatform dances transcend tradition. The public can attend a number of free and ticketed events and performances ranging from dance performances by students and professional dancers, to lectures and a costume display. *Fall for Forsythe* launches on Sept. 29, 2016 with "Focus Forsythe: The Choreographer's Process," a showing and lecture co-presented by USC Visions and Voices and USC Kaufman at the newly constructed Glorya Kaufman International Dance Center on the USC campus. Starting on Oct. 1, 2016, The Music Center will present "Forsythe Designed: A Costume Exhibition," featuring costumes from a number of Forsythe's dance works at locations around the Southland, including The Music Center's Dorothy Chandler Pavilion. "Site-Specific Forsythe," performances of Forsythe's work performed by Riley Watts, Rauf "Rubberlegz" Yasit, and students from the USC Glorya Kaufman School of Dance, will take place at LACMA Oct. 15-16, 2016. The celebration will culminate at The Music Center on Oct. 21-23, 2016 with "Celebrate Forsythe" featuring performances by Houston Ballet, San Francisco Ballet and Pacific Northwest Ballet.

Active in the field of choreography for more than 45 years, Forsythe has been acknowledged for reorienting the practice of ballet from its identification with classical repertoire to a dynamic 21<sup>st</sup> century art form. His deep interest in the fundamental principles of organization has led him to produce a wide range of projects including installations, film and web-based knowledge creation.

"We are delighted to partner with two artistic cornerstones of Los Angeles, The Music Center and LACMA, in presenting the multidimensional work of William Forsythe, an esteemed faculty member at USC," said Robert Cutietta, dean of the Glorya Kaufman School of Dance. Jodie Gates, vice dean and

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director of USC Kaufman agreed adding, “Bill’s presence at USC Kaufman and in L.A. is significant and inspiring; it is truly a game changer for all arts makers in the community,” said Gates.

“William Forsythe has done so much to take ballet into the 21<sup>st</sup> century by challenging the common perceptions of balletic movement and dimensionalizing the audience experience in groundbreaking ways,” said Rachel Moore, president and CEO of The Music Center. “We are honored to join with our cultural arts partners in Los Angeles to salute and share his incredible work,” she added.

"This is an incredibly exciting moment for dance in Los Angeles, and we are so pleased to be collaborating with our colleagues at The Music Center and The USC Glorlya Kaufman School of Dance to present *Fall for Forsythe*," said Michael Govan, CEO and Wallis Annenberg Director of LACMA.

Forsythe’s more than 45-year career spans work with companies around the world, including Ballet Frankfurt and Paris Opera Ballet. Most recently, he has returned to the U.S. for a significant role with USC Kaufman in Los Angeles as artistic advisor and professor of dance for the Choreographic Institute at USC Kaufman. For Forsythe, his return to Los Angeles is both a homecoming and an opportunity to further the creativity and talent found in the city, “Los Angeles is a very can-do environment, and if you have a good idea, it can be realized here,” Forsythe said. “I am very happy as the new guy on the block to share a little slice of the balletic work that I have been doing over the last 40 years, some of which has not been available for viewing here in Los Angeles,” he added.

*Fall for Forsythe* is an invitation to understand dance as a 21st century art form through the works of one the world’s most revered choreographers. In a series of interactive performances and conversations, this multi-venue engagement encourages audiences to explore new ways of viewing and understanding motion.

*Fall for Forsythe* includes:

**Focus Forsythe: The Choreographer’s Process**

**Sept. 29-30, 2016, 6:30 p.m. & 8:30 p.m.**

Co-presented by USC Glorlya Kaufman School of Dance and USC Visions and Voices  
Glorlya Kaufman International Dance Center, University of Southern California

For the first time since joining the faculty of the USC Glorlya Kaufman School of Dance, Forsythe invites audiences to enjoy an inside look at his creative practice in “Focus Forsythe: The Choreographer’s Process.” The two-part presentation features a showing of Forsythe’s developing work danced by students from USC Glorlya Kaufman School of Dance. Following the performance, USC Kaufman Vice Dean and Director Jodie Gates will lead a conversation with Forsythe about the creative motivations and practices that fuel his prolific body of work. Forsythe’s long-time collaborators Jill Johnson, dance director at Harvard University, and Christopher Roman, artistic director of DANCE ON ENSEMBLE, will join the conversation. Seating is limited. For more information, visit [VisionsandVoices.usc.edu](http://VisionsandVoices.usc.edu)

**Futures in Motion**

**Oct. 14, 2016, 7:00 p.m.**

Presented by the USC Choreographic Institute

Glorya Kaufman International Dance Center, University of Southern California

To launch the newly founded USC Choreographic Institute, audiences are invited to “Futures in Motion,” a free intimate discussion with Norah Zuniga Shaw, Forsythe’s key collaborator for the past decade and co-creator of the award-winning *Synchronous Objects* interactive media project. Celebrated for her paradigm-shifting creativity, Shaw will share her work and her vision for fostering better futures through innovation driven by creative motion and choreographic thinking.

*Synchronous Objects* is an online interactive artwork that describes and re-imagines the organizational structures within Forsythe’s choreography through data-driven animations, graphics and tools. Co-directed by Forsythe, Shaw and animator Maria Palazzi, along with a team of designers, dancers and scientists, *Synchronous Objects* embodies an interdisciplinary and collaborative approach to research. The work develops and extends the impact of choreographic principles beyond dance, one of the core pillars of the Institute’s mission.

The “Futures in Motion” public presentation on Oct. 14 is part of the USC Choreographic Institute’s three-day summit for USC faculty in dance and cinematic arts, as well as local and international guest researchers. The summit will explore research trajectories for the Institute, placing dance at the center of collaborative investigation into virtual reality environments, gestural and embodied games and interfaces for health and creativity and augmented reality.

The USC Choreographic Institute is an interdisciplinary research center advised by William Forsythe, which explores the intersection of movement with science, media and technology research. Seating is limited. For more information, visit [kaufman.usc.edu/the-choreographic-institute/](http://kaufman.usc.edu/the-choreographic-institute/)

**Site-Specific Forsythe**

**Oct. 15-16, 2016, 3:00 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 4:00 p.m., 4:30 p.m.**

Presented by the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA)

LACMA

The Los Angeles County Museum of Art will present “Site-Specific Forsythe,” two site-specific experiences by William Forsythe: “Stellentstellen (2016)” and “Acquisition.”

In “Stellentstellen (2016)” dancers Rauf “Rubberlegz” Yasit and Riley Watts intertwine themselves to produce complex “physical puzzles.” The entanglements of their intricately aligned bodies produce optical conundrums, whereby it is no longer clear where one body ends and the other begins.

Visitors encountering Forsythe’s newly-created “Acquisition” could hardly be called spectators as their engagement with the work can be neither passive nor still. Student performers from the USC Glorya Kaufman School of Dance will offer visitors the opportunity to personally acquire the choreographic work, which consists of an apparently simple, but cognitively challenging choreographic task.

Visit [www.lacma.org](http://www.lacma.org) for more information on “Stellentstellen (2016)” and “Acquisition.”

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### **Forsythe Designed: A Costume Exhibition**

**Oct. 1-23, 2016**

Presented by The Music Center

Los Angeles-area locations and exact schedule to be announced

In addition to being such a prolific dance maker, Forsythe has transformed the dance landscape when it comes to costume design, often with radical changes to the norm. As a lead-up to its “Celebrate Forsythe” dance engagement in October, The Music Center will present “Forsythe Designed: A Costume Exhibition,” which will showcase costumes designed by Forsythe himself, as well as designs he developed in partnership with such well-known fashion designers as Gianni Versace, Issey Miyake and Stephen Galloway.

“Forsythe Designed: A Costume Exhibition” will allow audiences to explore many of these groundbreaking creations up close and see video of the costumes in performance to get a better understanding of the depth and breadth of the Forsythe canon. Forsythe’s approach to dance is reflected in his costume choices, which are wide-ranging and intriguingly difficult to categorize. From simple leotards and tights to bright green, highly architectural tutus, the costumes are as integral to his work as the movement.

Visit [musiccenter.org/forsythe](http://musiccenter.org/forsythe) for information about locations.

### **Celebrate Forsythe**

**Oct. 21-22, 2016, 7:30 p.m.; Oct. 23, 2016, 2:00 p.m.**

Presented by Glorja Kaufman Presents Dance at The Music Center

The Music Center’s Dorothy Chandler Pavilion

The Music Center opens its 16/17 dance season with a “dance first” in a special salute to the acclaimed American choreographer, William Forsythe, with “Celebrate Forsythe.” In this distinctive engagement, three major U.S. ballet companies – Houston Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet and San Francisco Ballet, which were personally vetted by Forsythe – will each perform one of the famed choreographer’s significant works.

Houston Ballet will perform Forsythe’s *Artifact Suite*, an edited version of an evening-length ballet, *Artifact*, created in 1984 for Ballet Frankfurt. Forsythe has shortened the ballet into a stunning piece that preserves all of the original choreography’s striving innovation and power. Making its Music Center debut, Pacific Northwest Ballet will perform Forsythe’s *The Vertiginous Thrill of Exactitude* set to the final movement from Franz Schubert’s *Symphony No. 9*. The piece, which displays all of the traditional accoutrements of classical dance, including tutus, point shoes, virtuosity, lyricism and a friendly display of formal manners between the sexes, premiered in a 1996 performance by the Ballet Frankfurt and was first performed by Pacific Northwest Ballet in 2015. Returning to The Music Center, San Francisco Ballet will perform Forsythe’s *Pas/Parts 2016*, which was originally choreographed for the Paris Opera Ballet in 1999 and re-choreographed for the San Francisco Ballet.

For more information and tickets, visit [musiccenter.org/forsythe](http://musiccenter.org/forsythe)

### **About William Forsythe**

William Forsythe has been active in the field of choreography for over 45 years. His work is acknowledged for reorienting the practice of ballet from its identification with classical repertoire to a dynamic 21st century art form. Forsythe’s deep interest in the fundamental principles of organization has

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led him to produce a wide range of projects including installations, films and web-based knowledge creation. Raised in New York and initially trained in Florida with Nolan Dingman and Christa Long, Forsythe danced with the Joffrey Ballet and later the Stuttgart Ballet, where he was appointed resident choreographer in 1976. In 1984, he began a 20-year tenure as the director of the Ballet Frankfurt. After the closure of Ballet Frankfurt, Forsythe established a new ensemble, The Forsythe Company, which he directed from 2005 to 2015. Forsythe's most recent works have been developed for and performed exclusively by The Forsythe Company, while his earlier pieces are prominently featured in the repertoire of nearly every major ballet company in the world including The Mariinsky Ballet, The New York City Ballet and The Paris Opera Ballet. Forsythe is currently a professor of dance and artistic advisor for the Choreographic Institute at the University of Southern California Gloria Kaufman School of Dance, as well as associate choreographer with the Paris Opera Ballet.

#### **About the USC Gloria Kaufman School of Dance**

Founded in 2012 by a transformational gift by Gloria Kaufman, the USC Gloria Kaufman School of Dance combines artistic preeminence with industry access at one of the nation's leading private universities. Since welcoming its inaugural class in fall 2015, USC Kaufman has hosted some of the leading artistic voices in dance. From world-renown faculty members to exclusive partnerships with cutting-edge dance companies, the USC Kaufman School of Dance is quickly becoming the premier hub for dance education in Southern California. In fall 2016, the school's vision will be realized in brick and mortar with the opening of the more than 54,000-square-foot Gloria Kaufman International Dance Center.

#### **About The Music Center**

The Music Center is L.A.'s home to the world's greatest artistic programs and events. With four iconic theaters and four renowned resident companies – Center Theatre Group, the LA Master Chorale, the LA Opera and the LA Philharmonic – and recognized for its illustrious dance programming, Gloria Kaufman Presents Dance at The Music Center, The Music Center is a destination where audiences find inspiration in the very best of live performance, as well as nationally recognized arts education and participatory arts experiences. The Music Center also programs and manages Grand Park, a 12-acre adjacent greenspace, with year-round free programming. For more information, visit [musiccenter.org](http://musiccenter.org)

Follow The Music Center on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat (@MusicCenterLA).

#### **About Los Angeles County Museum of Art**

Since its inception in 1965, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) has been devoted to collecting works of art that span both history and geography, in addition to representing Los Angeles's

uniquely diverse population. Today, LACMA is the largest art museum in the western United States, with a collection that includes more than 130,000 objects dating from antiquity to the present, encompassing the geographic world and nearly the entire history of art. Among the museum's strengths are its holdings of Asian art; Latin American art, ranging from masterpieces from the Ancient Americas to works by leading modern and contemporary artists; and Islamic art, of which LACMA hosts one of the most significant collections in the world. A museum of international stature as well as a vital part of Southern California, LACMA shares its vast collections through exhibitions, public programs and research facilities that attract over one million visitors annually, in addition to serving millions through digital initiatives such as online collections, scholarly catalogues and interactive engagement.

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