



Trolley Dances 2016-Media Release



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Dancin' in the Streets 18th Annual Trolley Dances

For Immediate Release
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Who: San Diego Dance Theater and Metropolitan Transit System (MTS)
What: Trolley Dances 2016
Where: Begins at Continuing Education / César E. Chávez Campus, 1901 Main Street, Barrio Logan
When: September 24 and 25 and October 1 and 2, 2016
Time: 2 hour tours starting at 10:00am, 10:45am, 11:30am, 12:15pm, 1:00pm, and 1:45pm.

Featuring choreography by: Bill Shannon, Monica Bill Barnes, Zaquia Mahler Salinas, Jean Isaacs, and Jess Humphrey

San Diego Dance Theater's artistic director and founder of Trolley Dances, Jean Isaacs, announced today the line-up of choreographers for Trolley Dances 2016. Our 18th annual Trolley Dances will bring original site specific dances to the MTS Blue Line starting at the beautiful new Cesar Chavez Community Education Campus, one block east of the Barrio Logan trolley station. This year's tour, which will be facilitated by 75 trained tour guides, will take audiences from Barrio Logan to downtown San Diego and culminate in the East Village's burgeoning neighborhood at its new Fault Line Park.

Audiences of up to 100 hop on and off MTS Trolleys to view the 6 world-premiere site-specific dances performed by 50 of San Diego's hottest dancers.

About the Featured Choreographers:

Jean Isaacs: Artistic Director of San Diego Dance Theater and Founder of "Trolley Dances," Isaacs will create two new dances. Along with other choreographers she will select her casts from among the one-hundred or so dancers who will participate in a live audition on July 17, 2016.
[Link To Isaacs' Critically Acclaimed Concert Work](#)

Bill Shannon: Pittsburgh choreographer/dancer performs a solo with his unique, explosive way of moving. Due to a bilateral hip deformity, Shannon uses his legs in combination with crutches while incorporating skateboarding, break dance, and contemporary performance art.

Shannon has built an internationally renowned reputation as an innovative multi-disciplinary artist and is celebrated for framing his radical public representation of disabled dance within an invented lexicon of performance strategies. For Trolley Dances, Bill will perform a solo in a distinctly iconic urban setting in downtown San Diego.

[Link to Video Showcasing Shannon's Moves](#)

Monica Bill Barnes: Best known for her work with National Public Radio's Ira Glass, she spent her undergraduate years in San Diego at UC San Diego. Her quirky movement style and pop music references quickly made her a popular icon in the downtown New York City dance scene. She graced the April 2016 cover of Dance Magazine and regularly returns to Southern California to choreograph for Trolley Dances and other works.

Earlier versions of Ms. Barnes' Trolley dances have included a dozen dancers in the Children's pool at the New Children's Museum, a scrap-metal storage yard in Southeast San Diego, and a chic, sleek company performance at the Convention Center. She will return this year to create new work on the core dancers of San Diego Dance Theater. "[Barnes] retains her playful slapstick charm no matter how high- or lowbrow the venue." -Dance Magazine 2016

[Link to Dance Magazine Cover Story](#)

Jess Humphrey: Professor of Dance at San Diego State University, is creating a multigenerational piece using young children, professional dancers and seniors from our Aging Creatively program.

[Link to Video of Performance Work by Humphrey](#)

Zaquia Mahler Salinas: Company Dancer will create a new work, this time focusing on the culture of the Barrio and its importance to local Latino history. Salinas brings a unique, youthful perspective to the program using her personal identity within the context of community and social-political activism.

Trolley Dances Statistics:

1. Beginning in 1999, this is now our 18th annual Trolley Dances.
2. 1,400 dancers have performed in Trolley Dances.
3. 43,000+ audience members
4. The project has been underwritten this year by the National Endowment for the Arts "Challenge America" program, the City and County of San Diego, and by the California Arts Council.

High resolution images are available upon request contacting Executive Director Matt Carney at Matt@SanDiegoDanceTheater.org.

For more information on Trolley Dances 2016, go to our website at SanDiegoDanceTheater.org.