

“Have you ever seen dance that moves you? Not just in your seat—we’re talking about moving your soul and informing your life. If not, then you’ve never seen Full Circle in action.”

Baltimore City Paper

For Immediate Release:
Performance Dates: Oct 4, 6 and 7
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MOVING PASSAGES

Premiere Baltimore Dance Company Presents Works Inspired by Writing

How do we find words to describe something as fleeting and physical as dance? Do dancers think in words while they are dancing, or in some other language? How do writers create a sense of movement with immobile words on a page? How does writing inspire dancers and choreographers, and how can they share that inspiration with their audience?

Baltimore’s Full Circle Dance Company, well-known for its thematic choreography projects, has spent 2012 exploring the connections between dance and literature, movement and writing. On October 4, 6 and 7 at Baltimore’s Theatre Project, the company will present *Moving Passages* the first of two full concerts inspired by this theme.

Drawing on sources as varied as twitter feeds, Shakespeare, autobiographical writings, Edgar Allan Poe, the Bible, and poet Jill Scott, each of six choreographers has tackled writing from a different angle. The resulting performances continue Full Circle’s tradition of creating a platform for diverse artistic visions unified by an overarching concept.

For the dancers, the *Moving Passages* creative process has been an intellectual and physical adventure. They’ve been asked by the choreographers to convey both beauty and decay as they unpack Shakespeare’s most famous sonnet, to embody the edgy rhythm of Jill Scott’s anthem to female pride, to be unhinged by crime like a Poe character, and to show with their bodies the contagious, isolating yet unifying nature of social networking.

**Full Circle Dance Company, 3600 Clipper Mill Suite 108, Baltimore MD 21211
Donna L. Jacobs, Director**

Full Circle has a longstanding commitment to broadening the audience for dance in Baltimore and for working directly with the community. As part of its exploration of writing and dance, the company is working with local children to expose them to both writing about dance and dance inspired by writing.

Asked why the company selected the theme of writing, Full Circle Director Donna L. Jacobs said: “Many of our dancers and choreographers are serious readers and writers themselves. We’ve found books to be among the richest sources of choreographic ideas. Many dances, after all, tell of personal journeys or stories. Others convey character or evoke a specific setting. And with the development of social media, both choreography and writing are undergoing a revolution before our eyes. We wanted to examine these issues in a fuller, more formal way. It is incredible how different each choreographer’s vision is. We cannot wait to share this exciting new work with Baltimore’s readers and dance lovers alike.”

For more information or to arrange interviews with the director and choreographers, please contact Liz Pelton, 410-467-0989, lizpelton@aol.com.

Performance Details

**Morton Street Foundation, Inc. presents
Full Circle Dance Company in
Moving Passages: Dances Inspired By Writing
Thurs. October 4 (open dress rehearsal)**

Sat. October 6 at 7:30 pm

Sun. October 7 at 5:30 pm

Baltimore Theatre Project

45 West Preston Street

Baltimore, MD 21201

Ticket prices: \$20, \$15 Theatre Project subscribers and students

Open dress rehearsal \$10

Special discounts apply when you also purchase tickets for one of Full Circle’s January performances.

Tickets: <http://theatreproject.org/>, 410.752.8558

Information 410-235-9003, <http://www.fullcircledance.webs.com/>

Media Inquiries: lizpelton@aol.com, 410-467-1765

Featuring choreography by Donna Jacobs, Travis Gatling, Theresa DeAngelo, Angelica Daniele, Kakuti Lin, and Jennifer Seye.

Special thanks to MECU and the Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts.



Brion McCarthy Photo

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About Full Circle Dance Company

Full Circle Dance Company is a 12-member professional ensemble based in Baltimore and directed by Donna L. Jacobs. Now in its 12th year, the company performs regularly in Maryland, Virginia, and Washington DC, and has also performed by invitation in New York, Connecticut, Tennessee, and Ohio.

About the Director

Donna L. Jacobs, Artistic Director, is an honors graduate of the New York School for the Performing Arts, Wesleyan University, and Georgetown University Law Ctr. As a young dancer, Ms. Jacobs studied with Bernice Johnson, Michael Peters, Chuck Davis, Frank Hatchett, Gertrude Sher of the original Graham company, and master teacher Penny Frank. While attending Wesleyan University, Ms. Jacobs was asked to join the dance faculty and taught advanced modern, ballet, jazz, and African on campus and as a freelance artist. Since coming to Baltimore, she has performed with several local companies. Ms. Jacobs is the director of the Morton Street Dance Center and has over 30 years of teaching, choreography, and production experience. Her choreography has been featured in the Broadway Dance Center's "Best of...Choreographers' Showcase". She has been inducted in the Daily Record's Maryland "Circle of Excellence" for her professional accomplishments, having been named one of Maryland's Top 100 Women three times. Ms. Jacobs is a Senior Vice President at the University of Maryland Medical System.

What the Critics Say

"Whenever you see this multiracial company, composed of veteran dancers and talented newcomers, it makes you feel like you're seeing the full circle of life danced onstage."

—**Baltimore City Paper**

"A combination of technical strength and tremendous passion."—**Radar**

"Unafraid to take on the most challenging of themes."

—**WHYY Baltimore Public Radio, The Signal**

"There were times of constant action – all power in legs and arms and turns – and then a brief and powerful stillness. I usually write as I watch... This is the moment when you know a dance has done what it should: I stopped my pencil."—**B'more Moves**