



## **Letter from BAM's Executive Producer about DanceMotion USA**

February 2011

Among the highlights of BAM's burgeoning global expansion has been last spring's inaugural tour of DanceMotion USA. We are firmly committed to the practice of cultural diplomacy, and BAM's recent opportunity to participate in this initiative is a personal and professional highlight.

The excitement generated by the 2010 international tours of Evidence, A Dance Company; ODC/Dance; and Urban Bush Women is still reverberating. DanceMotion USA combines performances with informal opportunities for exchange, including workshops, lecture demonstrations, and masterclasses. The response – from host communities and the performers who toured – is tremendously inspiring.

BAM is thrilled for the opportunity to once again share the following exemplary companies with our international colleagues, be they dancers, students, and audiences.

### **Jazz Tap Ensemble (Los Angeles, California); Lynn Dally, Artistic Director Region: Mozambique, Zimbabwe, and the Democratic Republic of Congo**

Jazz Tap Ensemble is an exuberant ambassador of two genuinely original American art forms. Steeped in rhythm, the company's fusion of music (jazz) and movement (tap) is irrepressibly engaging.

### **Rennie Harris Puremovement (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania); Rennie Harris, Artistic Director Region: Egypt, Israel, the Palestinian Territories, and Jordan**

Rennie Harris Puremovement has harnessed the youthful energy of hip hop with modernism, and transcends popular stereotypes while engaging in a new and universal form of expression. The dancers' range is boundless and – as they've proven – as captivating for international audiences as for audiences here at home.

### **Seán Curran Company (New York, New York); Artistic Director Region: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, and Turkmenistan**

While Seán Curran's aesthetic emerges from a specific Irish tradition, his company melds that folk tradition with modernism, resulting in something unique. The company's formalism is distinctive, and will be a revelation on tour.

### **Trey McIntyre Project (Boise, Idaho); Artistic Director Region: China, South Korea, Philippines, and Vietnam**

At first glance, what drew me to Trey McIntyre Project is the company's athleticism – watching them perform is like watching thoroughbred horses. What you notice next is the connection to ballet that informs the company's clean physicality.

Please continue to visit [dancemotionusa.org](http://dancemotionusa.org) for information about 2010's tour and for updates and additional information as plans for the 2012 tour develop.

Joseph V. Melillo  
BAM Executive Producer



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