



# 38<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONCERT

## A SITE-SPECIFIC WORK

July 15-17 & 23-24, 2021 | 8:00pm\*

The Wooden Floor Main Street Location

We have some exciting news about our Annual Concert this year! Our originally scheduled Co-Creation Lab 2021 has developed into our Annual Concert. We are happy to announce our 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Concert, A Site-Specific Work will be created by world-renowned Director and Site-Specific Choreographer Stephan Koplowitz. He will serve as the 2021 Artist-in-Residence at The Wooden Floor. For both rehearsals and performances for this new work, CDC guidelines for social distancing and safety will be strictly incorporated. These actions allow us, as a community, to return to the campus to create, rehearse, and experience this work.

Our annual concert at Irvine Barclay Theatre, a proscenium stage that frames dancers, with audience members watching from their seats, will not be possible because of social distancing regulations. However, our previously planned site-specific project with Stephan taking place at the Main Street Location will allow students and the invited audience a chance to experience a unique original artistic event while being safely guided outside and inside carefully selected spaces. Listed below is a Question and Answer section that addresses information about this site-specific work.

### **What is site-specific dance?**

Site-specific dance is connected to a particular place or is inspired by the site. Audiences experience a choreographed interaction between the site and the dance. Where the art is being experienced is important and shapes our understanding of the content of the dance. Site-specific work occurs in active, living spaces that already have a purpose, history, and physical life, like our Main Street Location. Rather than a proscenium arch framing the dancers, the environment surrounding the dancers becomes the frame and the stage.

### **How did Stephan Koplowitz prepare to create a site-specific work at the Main Street location?**

Stephan's preparation included several visits to the location to absorb visual information about its architecture and design. He has also been in discussion with many community members, researching the history and mission of the The Wooden Floor. This production aims to transform students', staff, and audience's perspective on the Main Street location and performance possibilities in new spaces.

### **What will the rehearsal process and performance be like?**

At the Main Street location, where the performances will occur, students will co-create movement with Stephan throughout different parts of the building. Specific choreographic tasks, all connected to the design and purpose of the site will be given. Over ten different locations inside and outside of the building will serve as stages for unique performances. In addition to live performances, the site-specific work will include an exhibition of recorded videos throughout the building.

### **Who is Stephan Koplowitz?**

Stephan Koplowitz is a director, choreographer, and site artist who will join our community as an artist-in-residence. He will conceive, direct and choreograph the site-specific work with The Wooden Floor students and conduct virtual site-specific workshops for the student body. Stephan is an award-winning artist (Guggenheim Fellow and Herb Alpert Award in the Arts recipient) who for over 30 years, has made his life's work to create and produce large scale site works internationally and domestically. His work has been seen in the windows of Grand Central Terminal, the steps of the New York Public Library, to the halls of London's Natural History Museum, to name a few. Concurrently, he has a 33-year career as an educator, serving 23 years at the Packer Collegiate Institute, a private K-12 school. He was the Director of Dance and developed skills in curriculum design, pedagogy. He then served for ten years as Dean and Faculty at the CalArts School of Dance (2006-16) while creating a course of study in site-specific performance. You can read more about Stephan and watch samples of his site-specific choreography here: <https://www.stephankoplowitz.com/site> . He is currently writing a book on producing site-specific performance for Oxford University Press, to be published in early 2022.

### **Who will be eligible to participate in the Concert?**

Students in Levels 4-10 who commit to all rehearsals and performances. We are incredibly excited to provide this opportunity to our students. Stephan is looking to work with a large cast of dancers who will create and perform with him as part of a collection of smaller ensembles. Like our previous Concert productions, this is a singular opportunity for creativity, growth, and learning. Students will have the opportunity to work, as per our tradition, with a master teacher and artist. Below are details as to how we will be communicating with the rest of our community.

### **How will audiences experience the performance?**

Audience members will have timed tickets. A guide throughout the building will lead small groups. The audience's pathway will be pre-determined with a succession of live performances, video, music, and production elements along the path. This will be an experience where audience members will move through the performance and exhibition.

### **How will we follow the CDC Guidelines throughout rehearsals and performances?**

Temperature checks and self-screenings will be conducted by each student and staff member before rehearsals and performances. Mask wearing will be strictly enforced as needed, and proper social distancing will be incorporated into the choreography itself. Dedicated safety monitors will be present at each rehearsal and performances.

### **What are the dates of the 38th Annual Concert, A Site-Specific Work?**

July 15-17 and 23-24, 2021

### **Informational Zoom Meetings**

ALL meeting listed below can be accessed via the following Zoom credentials:  
\*Meeting ID: 443 305 0325 and Password: 090910 for all meetings listed below\*  
<https://zoom.us/j/4433050325?pwd=K1orRGJHSVJhTkdkOG5mNmptTWQ4Zz09>

- We will hold parent and student meetings for those in levels 4-10 who are interested in learning more about the 38th Annual Concert, A Site-Specific Work. There will be a Q&A session with Stephan Koplowitz for parents to ask any questions they may have. For those unable to attend, we will record this Q&A session and provide a link for anyone who requests.

Saturday, November 14 from 10:00am-11:30am

- Student Meeting for students in levels 4-10 who are interested in participating in Concert

Tuesday, November 17 from 4:15pm-5:15pm

- Student meeting with Stephan and students who are cast.

Monday, December 7 from 5:00pm-6:00pm

- Parent Cast Meeting for students who are cast.

Monday, December 14 from 6:00pm-7:00pm

Contracts are due by Tuesday, December 15 to Artistic Director, Falon Baltzell at [Falon.Baltzell@TheWoodenFloor.org](mailto:Falon.Baltzell@TheWoodenFloor.org)

Again, we are extremely excited by this news and are greatly looking forward to welcoming our students who participate in this project back on campus. We are living in historic times and we are most definitely going to make history with our 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Concert, A Site-Specific Work.