

TOM GOLD DANCE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WORLD PREMIERE OF TOM GOLD'S PORTRAITS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2021

FREE LIVESTREAM FROM CHURCH OF THE HEAVENLY REST

New York, NY— New York City-based classical dance company Tom Gold Dance will give the World Premiere of Tom Gold Dance Founder and Director Tom Gold's *Portraits* during a free livestream from the Nave of the Church of the Heavenly Rest, Tuesday, February 9 at 6:30PM EST.

Scheduled to perform are dancers Uma Deming, Savannah Durham, Malorie Lundgren, Jules Mabie, and Andres Zuniga, all current members of New York City Ballet; as well as violinist Katherine Liccardo, cellist Clara Abel, and pianist Joseph Liccardo. Ms. Lundgren and Ms. Liccardo appeared in the Company's previous livestream at the Church, a revival of Gold's *All the Lonely People* (2015).

Portraits is set to the *Piano Trio No. 1 (Cinq pièces brèves)*, *Impromptu for violin and piano*, and *Five Short Pieces for violin and piano* of Czech composer Bohuslav Martinů.

"We began what we now call *Portraits* a little more than a year ago while in residency at Eliot Feld's Ballet Tech, but set it aside when we suspended our in-person programming," said Tom Gold.

"In the fall, I had the chance to see the *David Hockney: Drawing from Life* retrospective at The Morgan Library & Museum," added Gold. "Reflecting on all the incredible support we have received throughout the past year, both individually and collectively, I felt inspired to return to the new work and name it after the exhibit."

Last week, under guidelines set forth by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Tom Gold Dance traveled to the Berkshires to complete, learn, and rehearse *Portraits* at Berkshire Pulse, a dance studio and school in Housatonic. The Company previously visited the Berkshires last September when it gave the first in-person performance of Gold's *Plan & Elevation* on the campus of Shakespeare & Company in Lenox.

"We are so grateful to the Church of the Heavenly Rest, as well as to all of our partners who continue to offer us unique opportunities to create work, engage our artists, and connect with our audiences," says Executive Director Alexander Zaretsky. "We look forward, not only to returning to the Church for this new program, but also to continue finding innovative ways to keep performing, both in traditional and non-traditional settings."

Advanced registration for the livestream is at www.heavenlyrest.org/tom-gold-dance-registration. A direct link will be provided closer to the date.

During the past year, Tom Gold Dance has cancelled its 2020 spring and fall seasons, and, most recently, cancelled its 2021 spring season due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. In addition to its engagements at the Church of the Heavenly Rest last October and at Shakespeare & Company last September, the Company appeared in the 39th Annual Battery Dance Festival, filming Gold's *Plan & Elevation* on location at Robert F. Wagner Park for the virtual edition of the festival.

Information

Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 6:30 PM EST. Advanced registration at www.heavenlyrest.org/tom-gold-dance-registration. A direct link to the livestream will be at www.heavenlyrest.org closer to the date.

About Tom Gold Dance

The mission of Tom Gold Dance is to bring the past, present, and future of classical dance to audiences in New York and around the world. Founded in 2008 by former New York City Ballet soloist Tom Gold, Tom Gold Dance aspires to the highest level of artistry expressed through a traditional classical dance vocabulary, including in more than a dozen works by Gold, envisioned for and set directly on the Company. Tom Gold Dance performs regularly in New York City, and has traveled to France, Spain, Italy, Bermuda, Israel, Cuba, and Bulgaria. Company highlights include four consecutive summer appearances in the Berkshires, and presentations of Gold's adaptation of *November Steps* at The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, as well as at Fondazione Palazzo Albizzini Collezione Burri in Città di Castello, Italy, and the Guggenheim in Bilbao, Spain. In New York, Tom Gold Dance annually presents spring and, since 2018, fall seasons. Recently, the Company has conducted residencies at On Stage at Kingsborough in Brooklyn and at Eliot Feld's Ballet Tech, and, in 2019, appeared at the Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum, augmenting a long tradition of collaboration with museums and other centers of art. Learn more at tomgolddance.org.

About Tom Gold

Internationally recognized dancer, choreographer, and instructor Tom Gold is the Founder and Artistic Director of Tom Gold Dance. A 2016 National Choreographers Initiative participant, Gold has created original works for his eponymous company, as well as for Vassar College, the Bermuda Arts Festival, Oregon Ballet Theater, the New York City Ballet Choreographic Institute, St. Louis Ballet, and many other dance academies, companies, festivals, television, and special events, including the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, the Bravo series *Odd Mom Out* starring Jill Kargman, and the New York City Fringe Festival for which he won the 2016 award for Overall Excellence for his work in *The Joey Variations: A Play With Dance*. A 21-year member (1987–2008) of New York City Ballet where he rose to the rank of soloist, Gold is the choreographer and performer of the 2twice Arts Foundation's *DOT DOT DOT*, an interactive iPad application by Abbott Miller of Pentagram.

About Church of the Heavenly Rest

Church of the Heavenly Rest is an Episcopal Church located on New York City's Upper East Side. Located on the Museum Mile directly off of Central Park, Church of the Heavenly Rest is a hub for community, faith, and art. A seven-day-a-week church, Heavenly Rest has created programming before and during the pandemic that highlights conversations about theology, art, and social justice; and has mounted major outreach efforts to provide direct support to our most vulnerable neighbors. There's a place for everyone at Church of the Heavenly Rest where together, our gifts can create a beloved community. Learn more at heavenlyrest.org

Media Inquiries

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