

TOM GOLD DANCE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TOM GOLD DANCE PARTNERS WITH RIVERHEAD BOOKS TO CREATE SERIES OF DANCE-BASED BOOK PROMOTIONS

New York, NY— New York City-based classical dance company Tom Gold Dance is partnering with Riverhead Books, an imprint of Penguin Random House, to promote several recent and forthcoming titles from Riverhead on social media.

In four original videos, the Company is interpreting *The Performance* by Claire Thomas, *Leda and the Swan* by Anna Caritj, *Dear Senthuran* by Akwaeke Emezi, and *Intimacies* by Katie Kitamura through classical dance. The video to Thomas's *The Performance* was released April 1, 2021. All four videos will ultimately be available on the Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and TikTok accounts of Riverhead Books; as well as on the Facebook and Instagram accounts of Tom Gold Dance.

Each running approximately one and a half minutes, the videos feature Uma Deming, Savannah Durham, Malorie Lundgren, Jules Mabie, and Andres Zuniga. All five dancers performed in the February 9, 2021 World Premiere of Tom Gold Dance Founder and Director Tom Gold's *Portraits*, livestreamed from the Nave of the Church of the Heavenly Rest in Manhattan.

This is only the Company's most recent encounter with the literary arts. In 2016, Tom Gold Dance reimagined the poetry of U.S. Poet Laureate Charles Simic in the evening-length *Poetic Episodes*, inspired, in part, by Gold's own participation as the actor in a 2005 2wice Arts Foundation photo-visualization of five Simic poems.

"We have always been interested in combining and interpreting different mediums through our work so this collaboration with Riverhead Books is not only exciting, but also aligns with our creative arc," says Gold.

"Especially while we have not yet returned to in-person performing indoors," adds Gold, "We are also grateful for this unique opportunity to present classical dance in some unexpected ways, and, of course, to be able to continue to engage our wonderful artists in meaningful, thought-provoking projects."

"It is astonishing to consider the impact of 90 seconds of art," says Claire Thomas in response to the video supporting *The Performance*. "The first time I saw this short dance piece, I got goosebumps and was instantly teary. As a former dancer, it was particularly thrilling to see my novel reimagined as ballet. Everything about this performance is perfection—the locations, the costumes, the choreography and the beautiful dancers. This collaboration between Riverhead and Tom Gold Dance feels like a gift—to me and to my novel—and I am humbled and delighted to be the first recipient of what I hope will be a long and productive relationship."

The remaining three videos will be released throughout the spring and early summer.

Due to the pandemic, Tom Gold Dance, which traditionally self-produces spring and fall seasons, cancelled both in 2020, as well as its 2021 spring season. During the past year, the Company has participated in the 39th Annual Battery Dance Festival, presented virtually, and has appeared in livestream from the Church of the Heavenly Rest with Gold's *Portraits* in February and a revival of his *All the Lonely People* (2015) last October. In addition, the Company conducted a residency in the Berkshires in January where it completed *Portraits*, and also gave the first in-person performance of Gold's *Plan & Elevation* outdoors at Shakespeare & Company in Lenox, MA last September. Tom Gold Dance will announce summer and fall plans at a later date.

Information

For more information about any of the four titles, visit www.riverheadbooks.com. To view the current video of *The Performance* as well as future video releases, find Riverhead Books on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, or TikTok; or Tom Gold Dance on Facebook or Instagram.

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 21c Arts Foundation's *DOT DOT DOT*, an interactive iPad application by Abbott Miller of Pentagram.

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