**For Immediate Release**

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***Musa!* A Dance Festival at Baruch Performing**

**Arts Center**

**A Two-Week Celebration of Dance and Music**

**Dusan Tynek Dance Theatre, Cherylyn Lavagnino Dance with American Virtuosi, and ZviDance**

**With Violinist Jane Chung, Cellist Sarah Biber, Juan Pablo (J.P.) Jofre on Bandoneón and Keyboardist Kenneth Hamrick**

**June 12 – 22, 2013**

**(New York, NY) -- Dusan Tynek Dance Theatre**, **Cherylyn Lavagnino Dance** with **American Virtuosi**, and **ZviDance** present ***Musa!*** **A Dance Festival**, a two-week celebration of dance works in which music is an equal partner in both creation and performance. The three choreographers' companies appear together on a mixed bill for the festival’s opening night on June 12th at 7:30pm at Baruch Performing Arts Center, 55 Lexington Avenue, NY, NY. The festival continues through June 22nd with the companies performing on subsequent nights including post show discussions with the artists.

For a full schedule and ticket information call 646.312.5073 or go to <http://www.baruch.cuny.edu/bpac/tickets> or [www.musafestival.org](http://www.musafestival.org). Tickets are $20 with $16 discounted tickets for senior citizens, students and children under the age of 12.

Joining the dance companies will be violinist **Jane Chung**, cellist **Sarah Biber**, **Juan Pablo (J.P.) Jofre** on bandoneón and keyboardist **Kenneth Hamrick**.

“We will present a two-week dance season whose work is inspired, motivated and fueled by music. Along with that—perform to live music when possible. It’s both a financial and performance challenge, but music is the muse for our works and this festival is a celebration of that passion,” said **Cherylyn Lavagnino** on behalf of the group.

During the season, Dusan Tynek Dance Theatre will present *Widow's Walk* in its entirety, as well as present excerpts from *Apian Way* and two excerpts from *Fleur-de-lis*. Both *Apian Way* and *Fleur-de-lis* will have live music from violinist Chung. Cherylyn Lavagnino Dance will present *Compadre* with Jofre on bandoneón and *Treize en Jeu* with Chung, Biber and Hamrick. ZviDance will present *DABKE* and a world premiere of *Sky and Water* with new commissioned score by composer **Scott Killian**.

**MUSA! Schedule of Performances**

Wednesday, June 12 at 7:30 Dusan Tynek Dance Theatre with *Apian Way* and *Widow's Walk* (sections 2 & 3); Cherylyn Lavagnino Dance with American Virtuosi with *Compadre* and *Treize en Jeu*.(movements 1 & 2); ZviDance with *Sky and Water* (World Premiere).

Thursday, June 13 at 7:30pm Cherylyn Lavagnino Dance with American Virtuosi with *Treize en Jeu* (movements 1 & 2); and ZviDance with *DABKE*.

Friday, June 14 at 7:30pm Cherylyn Lavagnino Dance with American Virtuosi present *Treize en Jeu* in its entirety.

Saturday, June 15 at 2:00pm Dusan Tynek Dance Theatre with *Apian Way* and *Fleur-de-Lis*; Cherylyn Lavagnino Dance with American Virtuosi with *Compadre* and *Treize en Jeu* (movements 1 & 2).

Saturday, June 15 at 7:30pm Dusan Tynek Dance Theatre with *Apian Way*, *Fleur-de-Lis*, *Widow's Walk*.

Sunday, June 16 at 7:00pm Dusan Tynek Dance Theatre with *Fleur-de-Lis* and *Widow's Walk*; ZviDance with *DABKE*.

Monday, June 17 at 7:30pm Dusan Tynek Dance Theatre with *Apian Way* and *Fleur-de-Lis*; Cherylyn Lavagnino Dance with American Virtuosi with *Treize en Jeu* (movements 1 & 2).

Tuesday, June 18 at 7:30pm Cherylyn Lavagnino Dance with American Virtuosi with *Treize en Jeu* (movements 1 & 2) and ZviDance with *DABKE*.

Wednesday, June 19 at 7:30pm Cherylyn Lavagnino Dance with American Virtuosi will present *Compadre* and *Treize en Jeu* in its entirety.

Thursday, June 20 at 7:30pm ZviDance with *Sky and Water* and *DABKE*.

Friday, June 21 at 7:30pm Dusan Tynek Dance Theatre with *Apian Way*, *Fleur-de-Lis*, *Widow's Walk*.

Saturday, June 22 at 2:00pm Dusan Tynek Dance Theatre with *Fleur-de-Lis, Widow's Walk*; ZviDance with *DABKE*.

Saturday, June 22 at 7:30pm ZviDance with *Sky and Water* and *DABKE*.

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**Dusan Tynek** is known internationally for his striking blend of theatricality, musicality, and humanism in formally structured modern dance and has been called “an undoubted talent” by The New York Times. The Czech-born choreographer has studied and performed with several modern dance pioneers, owing much of his training and inspiration to Lucinda Childs as well as Merce Cunningham who personally tutored him while Týnek served as an understudy for the Merce Cunningham Dance Company. Týnek also performed and toured with Dance Works Rotterdam in the Netherlands. Since founding his own company in 2003, Týnek has created over 20 major dances, choreographed an opera, and held seven critically-acclaimed seasons in major dance venues in NYC. The 10th Anniversary Season will be held at BAM in September 2013. Týnek has received commissioning grants from the NEA, and the Harkness, Greenwall, and O’Donnell-Green Music and Dance foundations. He has taught and/or set work on students at schools around the U.S. and abroad. He is recently the recipient of a prestigious Bogliasco Fellowship. The companyhas received ongoing support from the Ford Foundation, NYCDCA, Czech Center NY, Trust for Mutual Understanding and Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation, among others. For more information go to: [www.dusantyenk.org](http://www.dusantyenk.org)

**Cherylyn Lavagnino (Artistic Director/Choreographer)** has an MFA in Dance from NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts, as well as a BA in Philosophy from USC. Lavagnino toured nationally as a soloist with the Pennsylvania Ballet. She has performed a range of classical repertoire and contemporary work by choreographers including Balanchine, John Butler, Hans Van Manen, and Tere O’Connor, and the diversity of these experiences has informed the dialogue between classical and contemporary in her work with Cherylyn Lavagnino Dance. Ms. Lavagnino has created over thirty works in the past fifteen years, and since 2000 the platform for her choreography has been Cherylyn Lavagnino Dance. Many of those works were created in collaboration with composers Scott Killian and Jane Chung. She regularly incorporates the performance of live music into her performances. The American Virtuosi, directed by Kenneth Hamrick and Ms. Lavagnino, are developing a *Dance and Live Music* incentive to support their collaborative interests. Lavagnino’s choreography has been presented in New York City by Danspace Project at St. Mark’s Church, Dance Theater Workshop, Symphony Space, DanceNow/NYC, Kaatsban International Dance Center and The Joyce Theatre’s “Evening Stars” series. Ms. Lavagnino is a recipient of the Joyce Dutka Arts Foundation’s award for choreography and of a space grant residency from the Baryshnikov Arts Center and her choreography has been supported by the American Music Center’s Live Music for Dance grant and the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council’s Manhattan Creative Communities Fund.

Lavagnino is currently Chair of the Dance Department at NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts. She has been a full-time member of the NYU faculty since 1987. She teaches professional ballet locally in NYC and internationally; she is developing a creative exchange with the Beijing Dance Academy and Minzu University in Beijing. In recognition of her superior work, Lavagnino won New York University’s prestigious David Payne Carter Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2003. For more information go to: <http://cherylynlavagnino-dance.com/>

**Zvi Gotheiner** was born and raised in Israel. He began his artistic career as a gifted violinist with the Young Kibbutzim Orchestra, where he attained the rank of soloist and Concertmaster at age 15. He began dancing at 17, and soon after formed his first performance group. He first came to New York in 1978 on a dance scholarship from the American-Israeli Cultura1 Foundation, and went on to dance with the Joyce Trisler Dance Company, Feld Ballets/NY, and the Bat-Sheva Dance Company. After directing Tamar Ramle and the Jerusalem Tamar Dance Companies in Israel, and the Israeli Chamber Dance Company in New York, he founded ZVIDANCE (originally Zvi Gotheiner & Dancers) in 1989. Zvi is a recipient of two New York Foundation for the Arts choreography fellowships along with The National Arts Club Weiselberg Award. As well Zvi has received commissions from Zurich Tanz Theater, Utah's Repertory Dance Theater, Colloquium Contemporary Dance Exchange, GroundWorks, the American Dance Festival, and three times through, The Joyce Theater's Altogether Different series. Zvi has earned an exceptional reputation as a teacher across the country, in Europe, Asia, and Latin America. In New York, he teaches regularly at City Center.

**ZviDance** brings a passionate vision of community in a modern age. The company's stirring works are built from a collaborative alliance among culturally diverse artists, celebrating both difference and similarity by melding movement genres into the distinct dance vocabulary of ZviDance. Led by Israeli-born Artistic Director Zvi Gotheiner, ZviDance immerses audiences into the depths of the human experience. ZviDance has received critical praise and significant funding for its artistic pursuits, including funding for Artistic Excellence from the National Endowment for the Arts, New York State Council on the Arts and New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. The company performs frequently at home in such New York City venues as the Joyce Theater, New York Live Arts, Lincoln Center Out-of-Doors and Central Park’s Summerstage. ZviDance has toured across North America to festivals such as the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival and The American Dance Festival, and has performed abroad in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Germany, Poland, Russia and Israel.

For more information, visit [www.zvidance.com](http://www.zvidance.com).

**Jane Chung (violin):** Jane Chung performs as soloist, improviser, recitalist and chamber musician across the United States and Europe. Collaborations include the Da Capo Chamber Players, FLUX Quartet, Joel Krosnick, Rostislav Dubinsky and Luba Edlina, as well as composers Mario Davidovsky and Eric Chasalow. Ms. Chung also works extensively with dance: creating and premiering works throughout the Northeast, serving as resident musician for Cherylyn Lavagnino Dance and performing with the highly-acclaimed Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet– a collaboration for which her playing has been praised as “excellent” and “sweet-voiced.” Her 2010-11 season included creating a contemporary score for choreography inspired by Bach’s Ciaconna for solo violin.

**Sarah Biber** (cello) graduated Phi Beta Kappa and Pi Kappa Lambda from the Oberlin College and Conservatory of Music in 2003, earning degrees in Classics and cello. She completed her masters degree in performance at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music in 2005. Whilst in Australia, Sarah performed in the Opera House with the Sydney Symphony under numerous conductors including Gianluigi Gelmetti and Vladmir Ashkenazy. Sarah has attended or been a fellow at numerous festivals, including Tanglewood, Mannes Beethoven Institute, and the International Baroque Institute at Longy and the Oberlin Baroque Performance Institute. Sarah co-founded Till by Turning ([www.tillbyturning.com](http://www.tillbyturning.com/),) an ensemble devoted to new works and improvising, and Biber Baroque, a New York based early music ensemble named after the baroque composer Franz Ignaz Biber. Sarah is passionate about her role as an educator of a younger generation of classical musicians and owes huge debts of gratitude to her own teachers Peter Rejto, Catharina Meints, and Georg Pedersen. Sarah started her own orchestra program at an inner-city charter school in SE Washington, DC, one of the most underserved communities of the country. Sarah is a regular member of Bourbon Baroque, Louisville Kentucky's premiere early music ensemble, and recently collaborated in a performance of a Vivaldi Cello Concerto, called "Passionate and insightful" by the Louisville Courier Journal and recently aired nationally on NPR's Performance Today. Sarah is currently a doctoral student of Colin Carr's at Stony Brook.

**Kenneth Hamrick/American Virtuosi**: is a multi-talented keyboard artist and conductor of opera, dance, choral, and chamber music, specializing in Baroque, Classical, and early-Romantic music and performance techniques. His crossover recording with members of the New York Philharmonic on the Delos label made it to the top of many charts. Hamrick is Artistic Director of the American Virtuosi/Fusion Bande with noted performances of Handel, Monteverdi, Lully, Mozart and Rameau in modern renderings. He is active in contemporary theater and dance, conducting operas for the New York for Encompass Opera Theater at the Connelly Theater, Alice Shields' CRISEYDE at Elebash Hall Fifth Avenue, and an extensive tour with tap legend Savion Glover in Classical Savion. Other projects in the world of dance have included work with the Limón Dance Company through a NEA American Masterpieces grant program, collaborations with Cherylyn Lavagnino Dance, and performances for Limón at the University of Maryland's Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. Born and raised in Alabama, he earned degrees at Huntingdon College, University of Montevallo, and completed performance studies in harpsichord and organ in the doctoral program at the Eastman School of Music.

**J.P. Jofre** is an Argentine composer-bandoneon player described as one of today's leading artist by Lincoln Center and he has been praised as "artfully playing " by The New York Times. Mr Jofre has performed with legendary 13 times Grammy Winner Paquito D' Rivera among many others. As bandleader, Mr. Jofre has performed at the prestigious Celebrity Series of Boston at the NEC's Jordan Hall, Great Performers at Lincoln Center and many other festivals/theaters around the world such as Taiwan National Theatre, Umbria Jazz Festival (Italy) among others.

**Scott Killian** is awell-known composer in the dance world. He has composed works for many companies, including Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Nikolais/Louis Dance, Jose Limón Dance Company, PACT Dance (South Africa) and Phoenix Dance (UK) working with such choreographers as Shapiro and Smith (over 20 works), Zvi Gotheiner (16 works to date), Johannes Wieland, David Dorfman, Bebe Miller, Susan Marshall and Ralph Lemon. As a composer/sound designer for theatre, Killian’s credits include The Berkshire Theatre Festival (Resident Composer: over 25 productions), Manhattan Theatre Club, Red Bull Theatre, The Public Theatre, New York Theatre Workshop, Shakespeare Theatre (DC), Seattle Repertory Theatre, The Alley Theatre, Shakespeare and Company, The Huntington Theatre, Westport Country Playhouse, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Vancouver Playhouse and Theatre Calgary.

**Musa! A Dance Festiva**l is produced by Philip Sandstrom and the Equilateral Theatre Company.

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