



New England
Foundation
for the Arts

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 11, 2006

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**NEW ENGLAND FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS AND THE CULTURAL SERVICES OF THE
FRENCH EMBASSY ANNOUNCE INTERNATIONAL DANCE GRANT AWARDS**

French-U.S. Exchange in Dance (FUSED), an international collaboration between NEFA's National Dance Project (NDP) and the Cultural Services of the French Embassy in collaboration with FACE (French American Cultural Exchange) has awarded \$122,615 in grants to emerging U.S. and French dance artists. In 2004, NEFA, the Cultural Services of the French Embassy, and FACE created FUSED to promote cross-cultural exchange while fostering dialogue, consolidating professional relationships, and spawning creative artistry and choreographic innovation through residencies and touring. With the artistic advice of Yorgos Loukos and Laurie Uprichard, FUSED formed a core group of partners-curators known for their support of emerging artists, including Centre Chorégraphique National de Belfort; Centre Chorégraphique National de Montpellier; Centre National de la Danse, Paris; Centre National de Danse Contemporaine, Angers; Les Laboratoires d'Aubervilliers; Les Subsistances, Lyon; Parc de La Villette, Paris; Danspace Project, New York; Dance Theater Workshop, New York; Diverse Works, Houston, TX; The Joyce Theater, New York; On the Boards, Seattle, WA; Wexner Center for the Arts, Columbus, OH.

Four venues each in the U.S. and France were awarded funds to support residencies and presentation of work by five French and five U.S. artists (see below) in both countries during the 2006 – 2007 season.

FUSED grants were awarded to:

United States

- Danspace Project, New York, NY, to present Boris Charmatz and Dimitri Chamblas's *A Bras Le Corps* in October 2006.
- Dance Theater Workshop, New York, NY to present Myriam Gourfink *l'innommée* as part of the 2006 Springdance/Dialogue in October 2006.
- Diverseworks, Houston, TX to present Xavier LeRoy's *Self Unfinished* in May 2007 and Jean-Baptiste Andre in Fall 2007. LeRoy's tour is in collaboration with at MIT/Ideas in Motion in Boston, MA.
- The Joyce Theater, New York, NY for a residency and presentation of work in progress at the Joyce SoHo of Martine Pisani's new production *Hors sujet ou le bel ici*.

France

- Les Subsistances, Lyons and Centre Choregraphique National de Belfort for production and presentation of *Sol Niger*, a new work by Keith Hennessy in July/August 2006 and January 2007.
- Centre Chorégraphique National de Belfort, Centre Chorégraphique National de Montpellier, Centre National de la Danse, Paris and Théâtre de la Bastille for residency, production and presentation of Ann Liv Young's *Snow White* in September/November 2006.
- Centre National de la Danse, Paris for a research trip for Marc Joseph Bamuthi at Bamako (Mali) during Kettly Noel's festival (Nov. 17-26, 2007) and for a joined residency of Ralph Lemon and Okuwui Okpokwasili.

In addition to providing support for presenting venues, FUSED supports the exchange of French and American presenters to visit each other's countries throughout the year to observe and research arts institutes and meet with artists. These research trips are an essential component of the FUSED program in familiarizing the partners with each other's artistic contexts, increasing knowledge in both countries about new artists and works and laying the

groundwork for a professional network. FUSED hopes to solidify a French-American dance network that will generate a self-sustaining, ongoing system for information exchange, enabling the continuous flow of a stream of opportunities for both countries' dance communities to discover new artist and works.

Support for FUSED comes from New England Foundation for the Arts National Dance Project with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and the Ford Foundation, the Cultural Services of the French Embassy, and through the French American Cultural Exchange (FACE) with lead support from the Florence Gould Foundation And Mr. George De Sipio.

The National Dance Project is a program of the New England Foundation for the Arts, www.nefa.org whose mission is to creatively support the movement of people, ideas, and resources in the arts within New England and beyond, making vital connections between artists and audiences, and to build the strength, knowledge, and the leadership of the regions creative sector.

The Cultural Services of the French Embassy (www.frenchculture.org) is dedicated to the promotion of cultural and educational exchange between France and the United States. Headquartered in New York, NY and Washington, DC, under the authority of the Cultural Counselor, the Cultural Services also maintains regional offices in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans, and San Francisco.

FACE (www.facecouncil.org), an American 501(c)(3) operating foundation, is based in New York and works in partnership with the Cultural Services of the French Embassy in the U. S.. Setting a new precedent in cultural relations, FACE pools private and public resources to support innovative dialogue and exchange in the fields of contemporary visual arts, performing arts, music, film and higher education between the French-speaking world and the United States. As a catalyst for creativity and the promotion of what is new and excellent on both sides of the Atlantic, FACE strives to develop mutual understanding and cooperation between French and American civil societies.

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