

Dominic Walsh Dance Theater

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University of Houston-Clear Lake Presents a New Work by DWDT



HOUSTON—Contemporary ballet company, Dominic Walsh Dance Theater, performs a world premiere creation, co-presented by University of Houston-Clear Lake (UHCL).

Wednesday, January 23, 2013 at 6:00pm.
UHCL Art Gallery
2700 Bay Area Blvd.
Houston, Texas 77058-1098,
Bayou Building Atrium 1, First Level.

Dominic Walsh Dance Theater will present a dance production specially choreographed by Dominic Walsh in response to the exhibition *Inner Space, Global Matter: Recording from the Structures Within* featuring works by Geraldine Ondrizek from 2008 through 2012: *The Sounds Of Cells Dividing, Cellular and Chromosome Painting*.

Ms. Ondrizek is a research-based artist and professor at Reed College in Portland, Oregon. Her work ignites interest and inquiry about the influence of cancer and other diseases on both individuals and entire families. She relies heavily on scientific inquiry, focusing on documenting biological specimens and exploring systems of categorization. Through her art, she engages diverse artistic media to portray, explore and enhance images of the genetic testing of human and animal cellular tissue as reproduced by geneticists and biologists.

The showcasing of Ms. Ondrizek's expression of microbial life proposes important questions about art and science. On November 19, 2012, a panel discussion titled "Intersections of Art, Science & Technology" brought together experts from various disciplines for discussion. During the event, the artist was joined by Amy Lampazzi, a mathematics lecturer at UHCL; Darrin Leleux, an engineer at NASA's Johnson Space Center; and Kevin Phillips, an assistant professor in the Genomic Medicine and Diabetes Research Programs at The Methodist Hospital Research Institute in Houston and in the Department of Biochemistry and Biology at the University of Houston. The discussion was moderated by UHCL art history assistant professor Jane Chin Davidson.

After the discussion, Mr. Walsh responded with the following: "I found the panel discussion equally haunting as inspiring, for we have already entered an era of scientific achievements that provide mankind with an opportunity to enhance or manipulate cells, therefore, our entire human experience. These discoveries could cure horrific diseases, but bring profound ethical questions to the forefront as well. I find it fascinating and brilliantly presented by Gerri's esthetics in her exhibit and look forward to developing a response through movement and space."

Currently, Ms. Ondrizek's signature work, Cellular—which incorporates video and audio of actual cells dividing—is exhibiting simultaneously at Space Center Houston, the University of Houston–Clear Lake Art Gallery and Florida International University, Miami Beach Urban Studios. Mr. Walsh has said his biggest response was to this work.

"This soundscape will be my main source of motivation in this new creation, I find the sounds hold an emotional and psychological happening that penetrates my thoughts and feelings about the subject matter and Gerri's artistic response," says Walsh.

In explanation of her dynamic work, Ms. Ondrizek states, "The sound one is hearing and feeling are five tracks of healthy to damaged cells dividing and dying, layered with my own recording of a Monastery Cell, and family conversations. I was permitted the copyright for these five recordings by Andrew Pelling. (Andrew E. Pelling, Assistant Professor of Biophysics, Department of Physics, University of Ottawa) for his sound recording of the cells as used in *Dark Side of the Cell* by Anne Niemetz and Andrew Pelling in 2004. The sound recordings used for this work range from rhythmic to strained. The pitch of each is so distinct that even the untrained ear can sense the sound of heath and distress as one moves through and touches the thin handmade paper walls."

Wednesday, January 23, 2013 at 6 p.m.

Dominic Walsh Dance Theater Performance

Location: UHCL Art Gallery

Parking available for \$5 in the visitor's lot

RSVP: <http://dwdtperformance.eventbrite.com/>

About Dominic Walsh

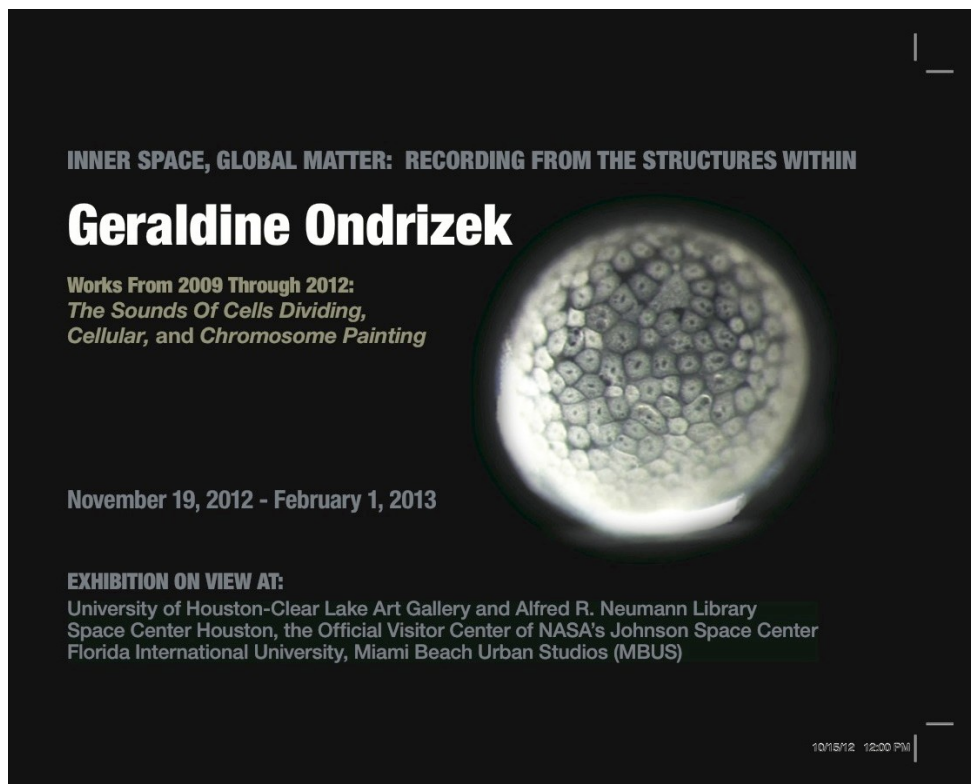
As a principal dancer with Houston Ballet for over a decade, Dominic Walsh received national and international praise for his interpretations of both classical and contemporary roles. Walsh burst onto the choreographic scene when he won the prestigious Choo-San Goh Award in 1998, and he is now hailed as a leading choreographer who is pushing the boundaries of ballet into new realms. He won a second Choo-San Goh Award in 2007 and received a 2008 Princess Grace Award. Walsh was recently named a winner of Hubbard Street Dance Chicago's 2010 National Choreographic Competition, and he was the Audience Choice and Judge's Award winner in Ballet Austin's 2010 New American Talent Choreographic Competition.

About Dominic Walsh Dance Theater

DWDT launched by Walsh in 2002, is also racking up accolades and honors and was most recently named "Best Dance Company" by the *Houston Press*. Dominic Walsh Dance Theater has built a stellar reputation for taking the techniques and skills of classical ballet into more inventive territory. The company's diverse repertoire features works by Walsh and such iconic choreographers as Mauro Bigonzetti, Jiří Kylián, Matthew Bourne, and Mats Ek and its roster includes dancers of the highest caliber. In addition to producing a Houston season of performances and educational programs that enliven the senses, the company tours the U.S. and Europe. With its unique mix of innovation and collaboration, Dominic Walsh Dance Theater is one of this country's leading contemporary ballet companies. For more information visit: www.dwdt.org

About Geraldine Ondrizek

Geraldine Ondrizek received her BFA from Carnegie-Mellon University and an MFA from the University of Washington. She is a Professor of Art at Reed College in Portland Oregon. For the last twenty years she has created architectural scaled works which house medical and biological information. Since 2001 she has worked with geneticists and biologists to gather images of human cellular tissue and genetic tests relating to ethnic identity and disease. Ondrizek was the recent recipient of an Oregon Council and Ford Foundation Professional Development Grant for the creation and exhibition of Chromosome Painting. She has received the Stillman Drake Fund, the Levine Fund and Mellon Foundation Faculty Research Awards; in 2006 Ondrizek won the Oregon Council on the Arts Fellowship.



INNER SPACE, GLOBAL MATTER: RECORDING FROM THE STRUCTURES WITHIN

Geraldine Ondrizek

Works From 2009 Through 2012:
The Sounds Of Cells Dividing,
Cellular, and Chromosome Painting

November 19, 2012 - February 1, 2013

EXHIBITION ON VIEW AT:
University of Houston-Clear Lake Art Gallery and Alfred R. Neumann Library
Space Center Houston, the Official Visitor Center of NASA's Johnson Space Center
Florida International University, Miami Beach Urban Studios (MBUS)

10/15/12 12:00 PM

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