

MEDIA RELEASE (with photos)

For Immediate Release

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Leah Stein Dance Company Revives Acclaimed 2015 Fringe Performance, Bellows Falls

Limited Time to Catch This Intimate Dance Honoring Memory and Place

(Philadelphia - May 16, 2016) Leah Stein Dance Company (LSDC) will revive its acclaimed production of *Bellows Falls*, in a site-work created in homage to Stein's father, Dale Stein, who recently passed away. This intimate performance integrates light, sound, movement, history and personal memory. *Bellows Falls* premiered at the Philadelphia Fringe Festival in September 2015 and is being brought back by popular demand for a two weekend run on June 11-12 and June 18-19 at The Iron Factory, 118 Fontain Street, 3rd Floor, in Philadelphia. Performances will take place each date at 5:30 p.m. The cost is \$20 for general admission, \$15 for students, artists and senior citizens. Seating is extremely limited and reservations are recommended. Tickets are available via Brown Paper Tickets at <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2539582>. Please note that the venue is not wheelchair accessible.

Bellows Falls is a dance of breath, of bellowing, of loss, of water, of bridges and of transformative thresholds. This intimate piece is best experienced by a small audience in a unique space like The Iron Factory. It was choreographed and performed with long-time collaborator and violinist Diane Monroe. Another performer of note will be LSDC company member Jungwoong Kim, an exceptional movement artist.

The venue, an old industrial building in Kensington, was chosen for its ability to permit the performers to integrate their movement into the natural light of the space - specific to time of day, weather, and open windows. Exterior sounds become part of the performance, incorporating elements 'beyond control' – embracing the surroundings, and not shutting them out. The performers utilize the entire space, light, sound and objects while interweaving sound score, movement and site elements.

Leah Stein Dance Company
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A homage to Stein's father, Dale Stein, who died last year, *Bellows Falls* rides the lines between narrative and abstraction. Improvisation is the breath of the work that brings the structure to life. Monroe's beautiful melodies and improvised riffs on violin support both the piece and Stein's expressive and embodied movement. "I am honoring my father, how he lives in me and the role of his influence in my own artistic journey," says Stein about *Bellows Falls*. Through her transparent exploration of this personal connection, Stein ingeniously integrates light, sound, history, environment, and her own body to create a delicately woven performance that is not to be missed.

About the performers/collaborators:

Leah Stein is the award-winning artistic director and founder of the Leah Stein Dance Company (LSDC). Stein has collaborated with composers Byron Au Yong (*TURBINE*), David Lang (*Battle Hymns*), Pauline Oliveros (*Urban ECHO*), Germaine Ingram (*The Break, Other People's Children*), and Diane Monroe (*Bellows Falls, Adjacent Spaces*). She also collaborated with poet Josey Foo. Stein received a 2010 Independence Foundation Fellowship and three Pennsylvania of the Arts Fellowships for Choreography, a Herald Angel Award at Edinburgh Fringe Festival, and was a 2013 finalist for the Pew Fellowship for the Arts.

Diane Monroe, violinist/composer, was born in Philadelphia. She has performed with world-renowned musicians from Yo-Yo Ma to Max Roach and in venues such as Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, and Switzerland's Tonhalle. As a composer, she has written incidental music for two plays by Tap-it/New Works Ensemble. She was concertmaster of the Pennsylvania Ballet Orchestra and has performed with Zero Moving Company, Karen Bamonte, and the Mark Morris Dance Company. She has collaborated with choreographers Lisa Kraus, Germaine Ingram, and Leah Stein. Presently, Monroe performs with her jazz quartet/quintet and her duo with vibraphonist Tony Miceli. She is a graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music and University of the Arts. She teaches at Swarthmore College and Temple University. To learn more visit <http://dianemonroemusic.com>

About the Leah Stein Dance Company (LSDC)

Leah Stein Dance Company (LSDC) strives to bring dance to people from diverse backgrounds, age groups and communities. Inspired by the physics of movement and the forces of nature, Artistic Director Leah Stein seeks to deepen and enliven a sense of place. The Company is a dynamic group of talented dancers who work collectively to realize Stein's vision. LSDC creates dance works that highlight the interaction between people, their culture and physical environment. Recent collaborations have focused on work with singers, in particular the Mendelssohn Club Chorus (MCC) and since 2009, ongoing partnerships with the Shofuso Japanese House and Garden and the Science Leadership Academy to create an annual site-specific performance festival with 60 tenth graders. To learn more visit <http://www.leahsteindanceco.org>

About The Iron Factory

The Iron Factory aims to provide creative opportunities in a unique affordable space, but most importantly a warm and welcoming hub for art sharing/making/performing. Formerly the top floor of an early 1900's factory, this large rental studio is located in Philadelphia's Olde Kensington neighborhood. To learn more visit www.theironfactory.org/

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