



# Dance Program

Office for the Arts at Harvard

60 Garden Street | Cambridge | Massachusetts 02138 | T 617 495 8683 | [f](#) Harvard Dance Program | [t](#) @harvarddance  
[ofa.fas.harvard.edu/dance](http://ofa.fas.harvard.edu/dance)

## PRESS RELEASE

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**For More Information**

Elizabeth Epsen, [epsen@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:epsen@fas.harvard.edu), 617.495.8683

## HARVARD UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCES THE MARTIN J. BROMLEY INNOVATION FUND FOR DANCE, NEW DANCE FACULTY, AND PERFORMANCES AT FARKAS HALL, APRIL 6-9, 2017

**PERFORMANCES: APRIL 6-8 AT 7PM AND APRIL 9 AT 3PM, 2017. FARKAS HALL, 12 HOLYOKE, CAMBRIDGE,  
MA**

(Cambridge, MA) – Harvard University announces The Martin J. Bromley Innovation Fund for Dance, established through a gift from Dr. James L.J. Nuzzo, Chairman and Executive Director of The Bromley Foundation. The fund is to support dance in the curriculum at Harvard and coincides with the launch of the new Theater, Dance & Media concentration. Through this support, Harvard's Spring 2017 semester has been bolstered by two additional dance credit courses, new dance faculty member, and a winter intensive that leads to performances by The Harvard Dance Project on April 6-9, at Farkas Hall.

Among the new academic dance courses added this spring is [Gaga](#), the movement language created by Ohad Naharin, artistic director and choreographer of [Batsheva Dance Company](#) in Tel Aviv, Israel. The course is taught by new Theater, Dance & Media (TDM) dance faculty member [Mario Zambrano](#), a former member of Batsheva Dance Company and certified Gaga instructor. Zambrano also danced with Ballet Frankfurt, Nederlands Dans Theater, and Hubbard Street Dance Chicago. He attended University of Iowa's prestigious Writers' Workshop and is a [published novelist](#).

As part of the integration of Gaga into Harvard's dance education offerings, students of The Harvard Dance Project, a credit course and performance ensemble led by Director of Dance Jill Johnson, participated in an intensive with Batsheva dancer Bobbi Jene Smith who introduced the students to Gaga and taught Naharin repertory. The intensive focused on the work *Echad Mi Yodea*, originally from *Kyr* (1990), which the students will be performing in the mixed program titled *FIVE PIECES* on April 6-9, 2017, at Farkas Hall.

In addition to *Echad Mi Yodea* by Ohad Naharin, a piece for 17 dancers set to a contemporary version of the Hebrew Passover song by the same name, *FIVE PIECES* includes an excerpt from *The Vile Parody of Address* by William Forsythe, which was originally premiered in 1988 by Ballet Frankfurt; a tap duet entitled *I Raise Hell* by MacArthur winner Michelle Dorrance and Melinda Sullivan; *Degrees of Difference* by Jill Johnson, an ensemble piece to a recording of Gertrude Stein; and a new crowd-sourced work, comprised of one-minute solos by 25 Harvard Dance Project student dancers, which uses the themes of beauty and failure as choreographic points of departure. *FIVE PIECES* is supported by The Martin J. Bromley Innovation Fund for Dance at Harvard University and the Blodgett Distinguished Artist Program.

“The Martin J. Bromley Innovation Fund for Dance has enabled us to expand dance studies at Harvard in impactful and immeasurable ways. Dr. Nuzzo is a powerful advocate for the advancement of dance scholarship at Harvard, and we are incredibly grateful for this generous gift,” said Director of Dance Jill Johnson.

Performances on April 6-8, at 7 PM, and April 9, at 3pm, are at Farkas Hall, 12 Holyoke St. Tickets are available online at [boxoffice.harvard.edu](http://boxoffice.harvard.edu) or in person at the Harvard Box Office, 10 Holyoke St. (Tues-Sun., 12-6pm). Prices are \$5 students/seniors and \$10 general admission if purchased in advance, or \$10 for students/seniors, \$20 general admission at the door. You may contact the Dance Program directly for group discounts. For more information visit [ofa.fas.harvard.edu/dance](http://ofa.fas.harvard.edu/dance) or call the Dance Program main office: (9:30am-5:30pm) 617-495-8683.

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#### DANCE PROGRAM MISSION STATEMENT

Rooted in tradition, committed to innovating, the [OFA Dance Program](#) supports studies in dance composition, improvisation, performance, choreographic design and history of dance with an emphasis on collaboration and trans-disciplinary inquiry. Part of the concentration in Theater, Dance & Media, the Dance Program also offers a secondary field of concentration in drama with a focus on dance; for-credit courses; and co-curricular dance courses at all levels, plus opportunities to perform repertory, commissioned work, and installations. The Dance Program provides mentorship and support for student-led dance companies, a vibrant community of Harvard dancers who represent over twenty dance traditions from across the globe. The Program regularly hosts guest artists and choreographers who teach master classes and hold residencies throughout the academic year, fostering exceptional opportunities for students to work with luminaries and innovators in the field and in disciplines linked to dance.

#### THEATER, DANCE & MEDIA CONCENTRATION MISSION STATEMENT

Harvard's newest concentration, [Theater, Dance, & Media](#), invites students to become art makers and researchers ranging across theater, dance, and performance-based media. Using Harvard's immense resources, from the Theatre Collection to the Dance Center and the American Repertory Theater, students learn to hone their creative instincts, work collaboratively in small groups, and participate in professional departmental productions. Courses range from physical movement, directing and design to creative writing, aesthetics and digital humanities and emphasize the combination of theory, history and practice. Equally invested in technical skills and a broad liberal arts education, the concentration aims to launch a generation of graduates who will use their experience in storytelling, performance, and media for careers inside and outside the arts.

#### HARVARD UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

[The Harvard University Department of Music](#) is devoted to the study and practice of music, and exists to provide a first-rate musical education that gives students advanced skills in music as well as knowledge of music history and repertory. The Music Department offers both an undergraduate and a graduate program.