



For Immediate Release:

Break the Floor Productions
In Partnership with The Montalbán Present
MOVES at The Montalbán
A 3-Day Festival Celebrating Emerging Talent in Dance
Friday, March 15 – Sunday, March 17, 2019

LOS ANGELES, CA – February 15, 2019 – **Break the Floor Productions** in partnership with **The Montalbán** in Hollywood present, ***MOVES at The Montalbán***, a festival that offers audiences the chance to see the latest emerging talent in the world of choreography and dance. Over the course of the inaugural festival’s three-day engagement – from Friday, March 15th through Sunday, March 17, 2019 – the inside of the historic theatre will host engaging live dance performances while dance classes abound on The Montalbán’s rooftop deck. All styles of dance will be seen and taught over the weekend with pre- and post-show entertainment as well. Tickets are available for \$40/\$65 nightly, or festival passes are available for \$80/\$120 (general admission/VIP packages). The Montalbán is located at 1615 Vine Street, Hollywood, CA 90028. To learn more or buy tickets, please call the box office at 323-461-6999 or visit: <https://www.themontalban.com/moves-at-the-montalban>.

The ***MOVES at The Montalbán*** line-up includes winners of the coveted Capezio A.C.E Award for outstanding choreography, which is presented each year to the top choreographers of the future. The latest winners whose work will be featured in ***MOVES at The Montalbán*** include **Entity Contemporary Dance** company (co-directed by **Marissa Osato** and **Will Johnston**), tap company **Rhythmic** (directed by **Nick Young**), and contemporary choreographer **Lukas McFarlane**. The festival will feature these emerging artists as well as veteran choreographers of various backgrounds providing attendees with work from a wide array of disciplines.

A longtime producer of the Capezio A.C.E. Awards, Break the Floor Productions is proud to bring the original inception of ***MOVES at The Montalbán*** to Los Angeles. **Nikole Vallins**, a producer with Break the Floor Productions says, “We’ve wanted to create a dance festival here, in Los Angeles, for years and we’re thrilled that the recent winners of the Capezio A.C.E. Awards will be able to show off their talents to all of the dance fans in LA. Presenting this festival at the iconic Montalbán Theatre in Hollywood just adds to the amazing opportunity for these outstanding choreographers and dancers.”

Previous winners of the Capezio A.C.E. Award include **Talia Favia**, **Martha Nichols**, Emmy nominee **Al Blackstone** and two-time Outstanding Choreography Emmy Award winner **Travis Wall**.

Rhythmic presents: *Fuze* – Friday 3/15 @ 8:00pm

Directed by *So You Think You Can Dance* alum Nick Young, Rhythmic is a tap company that breaks the barriers of traditional tap dance by incorporating storytelling and emotion. In their inaugural variety show, not only will Rhythmic be presenting their own original tap work, but Young has invited several of his favorite choreographers who push the envelope in their respective

genres to bring their eclectic work to the stage. *Fuze* will offer crowds a rare opportunity to witness an incredible night of diversity in dance on Friday, March 15th at 8pm.

Entity Contemporary Dance – Saturday 3/16 @ 8:00pm

Having performed in the U.S., Singapore and Hong Kong, Entity Contemporary Dance interweaves modern, jazz and hip-hop dance techniques to present dynamic repertory that explores the depths of human emotionality and connectivity. Co-directed by Marissa Osato and Will Johnston, Entity's mission is to forge connections across communities and bridge the gap between commercial and concert dance. Audiences can experience the world premiere of Entity's newest full-length work at *MOVES at Montalbán* on Saturday, March 16th at 8:00pm.

Lukas McFarlane – Sunday 3/17 @ 5:00pm

A wunderkind of dance, Lukas McFarlane has been taking the contemporary dance world by storm ever since being crowned the "Best Dance Act" in the UK and Ireland on the hit TV show *Got to Dance* when he was just 19-years old. Since then, McFarlane has worked with artists like Taylor Swift and Celine Dion, and he's shared his creative and choreography skills on *The Voice UK*, *The X Factor*, and *So You Think You Can Dance* in four different countries including the U.S. Now, this fresh face in the dance world brings his unique take on the contemporary artform to The Montalbán with his all-new, pulse-pumping theatrical experience *Astoria* on Sunday, March 17th at 5:00pm.

ABOUT:

Nick Young –

Nick Young is a dancer/choreographer based in Los Angeles, CA. Originally from Wisconsin, he trained at his mother's dance studio in tap, jazz, hip hop, contemporary, and ballet. Young starting touring with country singer Kenny Rogers for his nationwide Christmas tour when he was 9 years old. At 19, he auditioned for Season 8 of *So You Think You Can Dance* and was awarded a spot in the Top 20 specializing in tap. As a choreographer, Young's work has been featured on *So You Think You Can Dance* and *World of Dance*. His self-produced tap video to The Beatles' "Come Together" went viral receiving over 10 million views. He is the founder and artistic director of "Rhythmic," a tap company based in Los Angeles. Its new show *On Top of The World* has been a big hit, debuting at the 2018 Bermuda Festival for the Performing Arts, and playing in Los Angeles and San Diego. Young is currently in pre-production on a new short film based on Rhythmic's show, which he will be directing, producing, and starring in.

Rhythmic –

Created in early 2017, Rhythmic is a brand-new tap company founded by Nick Young. Rhythmic recently appeared on the NBC hit competition show *World of Dance*. Despite being eliminated in the show's second round – the duels – it was apparent that Young and his dancers had made an impression. Since then, they have performed in Bermuda, Los Angeles, and San Diego.

Rhythmic is not your average tap company. They seek to do more than simply entertain, they look to create an emotional experience largely thought to be restrictive to the art of tap. If Rhythmic's first few years in existence are any indication, this company has a bright and innovative future ahead of it.

Marissa Osato –

A Los Angeles native, Marissa Osato is a choreographer, director, and educator who creates emotionally-driven, embodied narratives to find cross-cultural universality within shared experiences. Osato is the Co-founder/Co-artistic Director Entity Contemporary Dance, an LA-based dance company that has taught workshops and performed original repertory in the U.S. and Asia. Osato earned an MFA in Choreography from California Institute of the Arts (CalArts), and a BA in Dance and BA in Literary Journalism from the

University of California, Irvine. As a dancer and choreographer, Osato has worked with recording artists such as Imagine Dragons, Coldplay, Rihanna, Kelly Clarkson, Patti LaBelle and Chaka Khan. As a [2019 winner](#) of Joffrey's ninth annual *Winning Works Choreographic Competition*, Marissa Osato will create a new work for the Joffrey Studio Company and Academy Trainees that will premiere at MOCA Chicago March 2019. www.marissaosato.com

Will Johnston –

Coming from the San Francisco Bay Area, Will Johnston received the majority of his training at A.K.A Dance Company under the direction of Kelly and Alex Velasquez. Johnston holds an M.F.A. in Dance from the University of California, Irvine as well as a B.F.A in Dance Performance, a B.F.A in Dance Choreography, and a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering. Johnston's credits include work with Clear Talent, Sonya Tayeh, Stacey Tookey, Justin Giles, Erica Sobol, Donald McKayle, Loretta Livingston, Jodie Gates, Wade Robson, Tyce Diorio, Teddy Forance, Christopher Scott, and Phillip Chbeeb. He's also worked on TV shows *So You Think You Can Dance*, *Dancing with the Stars* and *Glee* and with various music artists including Son Lux, Sigur Ros, FARR, Deborah Cox, Jordin Sparks, X Ambassadors, Katy Perry, and Rita Ora. Johnston has taught and choreographed across the United States, Canada, Singapore, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Taiwan, Japan, and Australia.

Entity Contemporary Dance –

Entity Contemporary Dance was founded in 2009 by choreographers Will Johnston, Marissa Osato, and **Elm Pizarro** with the intent to forge connections between the Southern California hip-hop and contemporary dance communities. Based in Los Angeles and directed by Will Johnston and Marissa Osato, Entity Contemporary Dance is a professional contemporary dance company that interweaves modern, jazz, and hip-hop dance techniques to present dynamic repertory that explores the depths of human emotionality and connectivity. Fostering creative, communal collaboration and emphasizing a cross-genre dance education, Entity Contemporary Dance's mission is to bridge the gaps between commercial and concert dance in Los Angeles. Entity has performed in numerous festivals, benefit shows, and industry showcases throughout California and has produced two full-length works, *Braxton vs. Oregon* (2014/2015) and *PEEL* (2016/2017), which ran in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Singapore, and Hong Kong. Entity Contemporary Dance holds open company class every Wednesday at 5:30pm at EDGE Performing Arts Center in Hollywood, CA, as well as annual summer and winter intensives. www.entitycontemporarydance.com

Lukas McFarlane –

Lukas McFarlane is a 25-year-old Creative/Choreographer from Canada. His career skyrocketed when he was crowned the UK and Ireland's best dance act, winning Sky1's hit TV show, *Got to Dance* in 2013 at just 19-years old. This led him to work with huge artists such as Carly Rae Jepsen, Taylor Swift and Celine Dion early on in his career. But McFarlane's passion had always lied in creation and he is fast becoming a well-known and widely respected creative artist working as assistant creative director to none other than Brian Friedman on *The X Factor* as well as choreographing on the show itself. McFarlane has also choreographed for the BBC's *Strictly Come Dancing*, being the first to introduce Contemporary on the show in 16 seasons, ITV's *The Voice UK* and *Change Your Tune*. He has worked with global brands such as GAP, LYNK&CO and UNIQLO and choreographed for international artists such as James Arthur, Vance Joy, Hayden Calnin, Saara Aalto and Gabrielle Aplin. He has worked on *So You Think You Can Dance* in four countries including the U.S. and is also well versed in creating live shows to audiences of more than 60,000 at events such as *British Summer Time Hyde Park* and the *Eurovision Song Contest*. He regularly shares his passion for teaching all over the world

and is Founder and Creative Director of London-based dance company UnTitled Dance Company, which has performed its work to sold out audiences internationally.
www.lukasmcfarlane.com

Break the Floor Productions –

Break the Floor Productions is one of the world's preeminent dance entertainment companies, encompassing touring theatrical productions, dance workshops, photo and video production, corporate events and apparel. With a broad range of business prospects and a reach of over 500,000 dancers annually, the company is largely responsible for the transformation of dance entertainment. Led by owner Gil Stroming, Break the Floor strives to provide opportunities for elite choreographers and dancers to present their work in front of live audiences. Break the Floor has produced tours of Travis Wall's Shaping Sound shows *Dance Reimagined* and *After the Curtain*. This summer, the Break the Floor production of Al Blackstone's *Freddie Falls in Love* will be performed for New York audiences at the prestigious Joyce Theater.

The Montalbán–

The Montalbán, Hollywood's classic theatre reborn for a new era of performing arts and screened entertainment, is located at 1615 Vine Street just south of the world-famous Hollywood & Vine intersection. The gorgeous Beaux Arts building – which first opened its doors in 1927 – was the first legitimate live Broadway-style theater in Hollywood, and is one of the few remaining mid-sized and fully equipped proscenium theaters in Los Angeles. Featuring orchestra, mezzanine, loge and balcony seating, it is known for its excellent sightlines and acoustics. The venue is also proud of its versatile rooftop space – outfitted with a bar, concession stand and full kitchen – where films are screened many nights throughout the year.

Over the years, The Montalbán has been owned by Howard Hughes, CBS Radio, A&P grocery chain heir Huntington Hartford and the Greek Theater's James Doolittle. UCLA took over in the 1980s until the **Ricardo Montalbán Foundation** bought the building in 1999. Emmy Award-winning actor **Ricardo Montalbán**'s vision was to create a presence in Hollywood that provided inspiration and employment for young Latinos as well as other underrepresented people throughout the community. The Foundation and Theatre, under the direction of Montalbán's son-in-law **Gilbert Smith**, are committed to Montalbán's vision as they continue to create opportunities for artists dedicated to the performing arts and produce, present and support meaningful and world-class presentations that emphasize artistic collaboration, diversity and interdisciplinary work with community participation.

Please be advised that there is no ADA access to the rooftop. Rooftop access is via stairs ONLY.

LINKS:

- *MOVES at The Montalbán* - <https://www.themontalban.com/moves-at-the-montalban>
- *MOVES* Facebook Event Page - <https://www.facebook.com/events/537417473423250>
- *MOVES* Instagram Event Post - <https://www.instagram.com/p/BtjUMOHDCW>
- Break the Floor Productions Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/breakthefloorprod>
- Break the Floor Productions Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/breakthefloorprod>
- The Montalbán's Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/TheMontalban>
- The Montalbán's Twitter - <https://twitter.com/themontalban>
- The Montalbán's Instagram - https://www.instagram.com/the_montalban

SOCIALS:

Nick Young: @nick_young

https://www.instagram.com/nick_young

Rhythmic: @rhythmatictapco
<https://www.instagram.com/rhythmatictapco>

Entity Contemporary Dance: @entitycontemporarydance
<https://www.instagram.com/entitycontemporarydance>

Marissa Osato: @marissaosato
<https://www.instagram.com/marissaosato>

Will Johnston: @willearnston
<https://www.instagram.com/willearnston>

Lukas McFarlane: @lukasmcfarlane_
https://www.instagram.com/lukasmcfarlane_

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For more information, photos, to schedule an interview or request press passes, please contact Green Galactic's Lynn Tejada at 213-840-1201 or lynn@greengalactic.com.