

CONTACT:
Christina Kellogg 510.643.6714
ckellogg@calperformances.org
Joe Yang 510.642.9121
jyang@calperformances.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 12, 2012

**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS THE WEST COAST PREMIERE OF
BILL T. JONES' STORY/TIME FRIDAY & SATURDAY,
FEBRUARY 24 & 25 AT 8:00 P.M. IN ZELLERBACH HALL**

BERKELEY, January 12, 2012—Awarding-winning choreographer, writer and artist **Bill T. Jones** reinvents the age-old art of storytelling when his **Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company** brings the West Coast premiere of *Story/Time* to Zellerbach Hall **Friday and Saturday, February 24 and 25 at 8:00 p.m.** *Story/Time*, which features an acoustic and electronic score by intermedia artist **Ted Coffey**, is built around more than 70 short stories by Jones; each performance of *Story/Time* is a unique production, arranged by chance for Jones and his troupe of ten dancers. “Moment by moment the Jones/Zane choreography knows how to grab your attention. Pronounced contrasts of dynamics, space, direction and scale proliferate. Attention seeking, indeed, is very close to the heart of the Jones/Zane endeavor” (*New York Times*).

For *Story/Time*, choreographer **Bill T. Jones** took inspiration from *Indeterminacy*, a performance work by 20th-century writer and composer **John Cage**. In Cage’s version, the artist took 70 short stories—each a minute long or less—and strung them together by a chance-driven musical score. Similarly, *Story/Time* features Jones reading often-poignant short stories from his own life and that of his family, placed in sequence by chance; onto these stories Jones and his collaborators layer elements of dance and moving image to form a multifaceted performance piece. The effect becomes like that of a vibrant cityscape or a crowded room, with physical actions and emotional moods constantly changing, and this nonstop, always-shifting action challenges viewers to find meaning and human connection in a fast-paced world. Because elements of chance are built into *Story/Time*—a technique used often by one of Jones’s favorite choreographer, and partner to Cage, Merce Cunningham—each presentation of the work is unique.

Story/Time is the first collaboration between Jones and **Ted Coffey**, a composer, performer and teacher at the McIntire Department of Music at the University of Virginia. In

-MORE-

addition to the dancers in the company, other contributors to *Story/Time* are **Robert Wierzel** (lighting design), **Bjorn Amelan** (décor) and **Liz Prince** (costume design). *Story/Time* will have its world premiere at Peak Performances in Montclair, NJ on January 21, 2012.

Listen to an exclusive interview with Bill T. Jones by choreographer and UC Berkeley dance professor Lisa Wymore; Jones talks about the genesis of and rehearsal process for *Story/Time*: http://calperformances.org/learn/watch_listen/.

BILL T. JONES

Bill T. Jones was born in Florida in 1952 and grew up in New York State. He began his dance training at State University of New York (SUNY) at Binghamton, studying classical ballet and modern dance. After a period living in the Netherlands, he returned to SUNY in 1973 and founded American Dance Asylum; in 1982 he formed the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company with his partner, Arnie Zane (1948–1988). Over nearly three decades Jones has choreographed and created more than 140 works for his own company and originated dozens more for modern dance and ballet companies worldwide.

Jones has won countless accolades and awards, including a MacArthur Foundation “Genius” grant in 1994 and Tony Awards in 2007 and 2010. He was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2009 and was a Kennedy Center Honoree in 2010. He has appeared on many television programs, including HBO’s documentary series, *Masterclass*, and Bill Moyers Journal on PBS. He has received honorary doctorates from Yale University, Art Institute of Chicago, Bard College, Columbia College, Skidmore College, the Juilliard School, and Swarthmore College, in addition to the Distinguished Alumnus Award from SUNY Binghamton.

BILL T. JONES/ARNIE ZANE DANCE COMPANY

The **Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company**, now in its 29th year, is one of the most innovative and powerful forces in the world of modern dance. Born out of the collaboration between founders Bill T. Jones and Arnie Zane in 1982, the company became an international sensation in 1983 when it premiered *Intuitive Momentum*, a work created with legendary jazz

drummer **Max Roach**. Since its founding the 10-dancer Jones/Zane company has performed in more than 200 cities in 30 countries.

The company is famed for its unusual—and intense—collaborations with creative artists of many media. Among the artists who have worked with the Jones/Zane company are the late painter and activist **Keith Haring**, jazz singer and songwriter **Cassandra Wilson**, the **Orion String Quartet**, the **Chamber Society of Lincoln Center**, and conceptual artist **Jenny Holzer**. The company has had more than 100 works created for it, many of which are evening-length dance performances. It has appeared at venues and festivals including the Brooklyn Academy of Music; the Biennale de la Danse in Lyon, France; the Harlem Stage Gatehouse; and the Ravinia Festival. The company and its founders have been subject of documentaries, books, articles, and gallery shows, and the company has won numerous awards including several New York Dance and Performance Awards (“Bessies”). The Jones/Zane company has partnerships with Bard College, where its collaborative model of creation is taught as part of the dance curriculum, and the Lincoln Center Institute, which uses company works in its training and in-school repertory programs.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company** performing **Story/Time** on **Friday and Saturday, February 24 and 25** in Zellerbach are priced at **\$30.00, \$40.00, \$46.00, \$52.00, \$60.00, and \$68.00**. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperformances.org; and at the door. Half-price tickets are available for purchase by UC Berkeley students. UC faculty and staff, senior citizens, other students and UC Alumni Association members receive a \$5 discount (Special Events excluded). For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988, or visit the Cal Performances web site at www.calperformances.org.

For select performances, Cal Performances offers UCB student, faculty and staff, senior, and community rush tickets. Rush tickets are announced three hours prior to a performance and are available in person only at the Ticket Office beginning one hour before the performance; quantities may be limited. Rush ticket sales are limited to one ticket per person; all sales are cash

only. Rush ticket prices are \$10.00 for UCB students; \$15.00 for UCB faculty and staff (UCB ID required) and seniors age 65 or older; and \$20.00 for all other community members. Information is available on Cal Performances' Facebook page and at 510-642-9988; press 2 for the rush hotline, three hours prior to a performance only.

#

Cal Performances thanks Wells Fargo, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and Bank of America for their major support of the Season.

KDFC is media sponsor of the 2011/12 Season

#

CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

**Friday & Saturday, February 24 & 25,
at 8:00 p.m.**

**Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus
Bancroft Way at Telegraph Ave., Berkeley**

Dance

Story/Time

Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company

Bill T. Jones, choreography, writer and director

Ted Coffey, music and moving images

Program: Bill T. Jones brings his new work *Story/Time* to Cal Performances for its West Coast premiere; the work is based on more than 70 very short stories from Jones's life.

Tickets: \$30.00, \$40.00, \$46.00, \$52.00, \$60.00, and \$68.00, available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperformances.org; and at the door.

– Cal Performances –