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Press Room



Images of Company Wang Ramirez are available for download from the Cal Performances press room.

CAL PERFORMANCES AT UC BERKELEY PRESENTS COMPANY WANG RAMIREZ IN AERIAL DANCE WORK BORDERLINE SATURDAY-SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24–25, 2018

The company's visit is part of the 2017–18 Berkeley RADICAL Blurring Boundaries thematic strand, which shines the spotlight on artists whose work dissolves the boundaries of their art forms

Berkeley, January 16, 2018 — Cal Performances at UC Berkeley presents the Cal Performances debut of acclaimed international dance troupe Company Wang Ramirez, in the hip-hop-meets-tangtheater work Borderline, Saturday February 24 at 8pm and Sunday February 25 at 3pm, in Zellerbach Hall. The company, co-directed by Korean-German dancer Honji Wang, whose stylistic influences include ballet and martial arts, and French-Spanish dancer Sébastien Ramirez, a gifted B-boy, explores the complexities of human relationships and modern identities through hybrid dance-

theater works. *Borderline* features a cast of five performers hooked up to an aerial rigging system, allowing them to defy gravity as the choreography explores visual metaphors of flight, struggle, freedom, and constraint. The movement combines an urban hip-hop sensibility with visual design and storytelling influenced by Greek and Korean mythology, and is propelled by an original electronica score by Jean-Philippe Barrios (aka Lacrymoboy).

With their use of new forms of movement and storytelling to convey complex ideas about the struggles, challenges, and joys of contemporary life, the creative duo of Wang Ramirez embodies the spirit of the 2017–18 season Berkeley RADICAL *Blurring Boundaries* programming strand. For a couple whose personal and creative relationships embrace and transcend differences in ethnicity, nationality, and artistic training, hybridity is a way of life, not a stylistic choice. *Blurring Boundaries* shines the spotlight on artists whose work dissolves the traditional boundaries of their art forms, creating performances that cut across cultures and disciplines, accepted definitions of classical and contemporary, and even notions of time and space. The works presented in this series also reveal how individual artists explore, reframe, and often push against what is accepted as "traditional" or "classical" in their particular art forms. Wang Ramirez' use of aerial rigging in *Borderline* is just one example of how the company embraces new information and technologies to examine larger issues and questions in their work.

Ticket Information

Tickets for *Company Wang Ramirez: Borderline* on Saturday, February 24 at 8pm, and Sunday, February 25 at 3pm in Zellerbach Hall range from \$30–\$68 (prices subject to change). Half-price tickets are available for UC Berkeley students. Tickets are available through the Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall, at (510) 642-9988, at <u>calperformances.org</u>, and at the door. For more information about discounts, go to <u>calperformances.org</u>/discounts.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE: CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Saturday, February 24, 8pm Sunday, February 25, 3pm Zellerbach Hall Bancroft Way at Dana Street UC Berkeley campus

Dance

Company Wang Ramirez
Borderline
Honji Wang and Sébastien Ramirez, choreographers
Jean-Philippe Barrios (aka Lacrymoboy), music

Program: Korean-German dancer Honji Wang and French-Spanish dancer Sébastien Ramirez explore the complexities of human relationships and modern identities through their dance-theater aesthetic. *Borderline* features a cast of six dancers hooked up to an aerial rigging system, allowing them to defy gravity as the choreography explores visual metaphors of flight, struggle, freedom, constraint.

Berkeley RADICAL: This performance is part of Cal Performances' Berkeley RADICAL *Blurring Boundaries* strand, which shines the spotlight on artists whose work dissolves the very boundaries of their art forms, creating performances that cut across cultures and disciplines, accepted definitions of classical and contemporary, and even notions of time and space. More information at <u>calperformances.org/berkeley-radical-blurring-boundaries</u>.

| Tickets : \$30–\$68 (prices subject to change) | |
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