

**ATTN: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**ONLINE PRESSROOM with photos, video, links, and more on the show:**

<http://lacontemporarydance.org/pressroom.html>

**June 3, 2008**

L.A. Contemporary Dance Company (LACDC) presents

**POP ROCKS**

*Old School Meets New School in a Hip Hop / Modern Dance Fusion*

- What: A unique and eclectic evening of choreography blending **hip hop and modern dance** in the uncommon setting of a High School's gymnasium to reinvent the look and feel of concert dance.
- Who: **Choreography** by Kate Hutter, Leslie Scott, Jolieba Jackson, Mecca Vazie Andrews, Kevin Williamson, Jamila Glass, Michael Crotty, Devin Fulton, and Bahareh Ebrahimzadeh  
**Music** mixed live by DJ Elsewhere sampling music by Daft Punk, M.I.A., Lali Puna, Kraftwerk, Kanye West, Hot Tramps, Busta Rhymes, Janet Jackson, J-Dilla, James Brown, Maxayn, Radiohead, Blackalicious, Prince, etc.  
**Performances** by Alexia Agdeppa, Paulo Alcedo, Arletta Anderson, Michael Crotty, Diana Delcambre, Tia Durand, Devin Fulton, Jamila Glass, Amanda Hamm, Kate Hutter, Nichol Mason, Diana Mathews, Yumi Matsuzaki, Stephanie McMahon, Michelle Mierz, and Denise Nissen
- When: **Friday, June 27<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008 – 8pm**
- Where: **Culver City High School, Del Goodyear Gymnasium**  
4401 Elenda Street; Culver City, CA 90230  
*Unique venue with free parking!*
- Admission: \$25 reserved seats, \$15 general admission, **\$5 children (18 and under)**
- Tickets: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/34129>

**Los Angeles, CA – 6/3/08 – POP ROCKS** – From the kids of rock and roll to the MTV generation, audiences of all ages will enjoy this evening of dance, music and interactive performances by the L.A. Contemporary Dance Company (LACDC). Accompanied by a live DJ, the dancers and choreographers of LACDC will weave together an evening of inventive dance pieces created by blending contemporary and street dance styles. The Culver City High School Gymnasium will be transformed into a rock concert venue with seating on both sides of the dance floor allowing audiences to have a new perspective on the performers. Also, a short dance lesson will be taught at intermission to give audience members a piece of choreography to perform with the company and use on the dance floor.

In the midst of a "dance renaissance", as evidenced by the overwhelming popularity of television shows *So You Think You Can Dance* and *Dancing With the Stars*, Pop Rocks comes at an opportune time to inspire new audiences to attend live dance performances, particularly those showcasing an array of dance styles. At Pop Rocks, audiences will witness an explosive and energetic dance and music jam featuring the innovative union of two separate but uniquely compatible dance styles: hip hop and modern. LACDC invites the public into a comfortable, sporty

setting where they can take part in the action while enjoying this exciting dance event that is affordable to families of any size with \$5 tickets for kids under 18.

### **About the company and the artists:**

**LACDC** – The L.A. Contemporary Dance Company is a non-profit repertory dance company serving the greater Los Angeles area. LACDC is a resident company of the Diavolo Dance Lab at the Arts Brewery in downtown L.A. LACDC recently performed at the L.A. County Museum of Art to celebrate the opening of the new Broad Contemporary Art Museum, and participated in the Evening for Educators program in March and the NexGen Family Sundays in April through LACMA's outreach programming and education department. In April, LACDC presented its annual spring season concert, *Modern Myths and Monsters*, at the Diavolo Dance Lab. For more information on the company, please visit [www.ladanceco.org](http://www.ladanceco.org)

**Kate Hutter** – Kate Hutter is co-founder and Artistic Director of the L.A. Contemporary Dance Company, as well as an independent choreographer in the Los Angeles area. Kate is an alumna of the Walnut Hill School and a graduate of the University of Southern California with a BFA in Theatrical Design. She also holds a MFA in choreography from Purchase College, SUNY. Kate has won awards from the USC School of Theatre for Outstanding Choreography 2001-2004 and the Stanley Musgrove Award and the James and Nony Doolittle Award for her unique contributions in the theatre, as well as the MFA Dance Award for outstanding achievement in her program. Kate continues to create new works for the L.A. Contemporary Dance Company, choreograph for theater productions, commercials and school commissions, teach open classes at the Diavolo Dance Lab and develop new ways of bringing dance to the public and educating students through LACDC's outreach programming.

*Concept:*

*Short piece: White girl hip hop - Contemporary phrases are pushed to match the giddy pop energy of M.I.A.'s "Boyz" by adding rebound, grounded stances and isolated breaks into previously fluid movements, as well as some iconic hip hop moves that only white girls are notorious for looking so ridiculous doing.*

*Music: M.I.A.*

*Long piece: Inspired by the manipulation of time and phrasing in hip hop choreography, this piece will weave pop-lock inspired movements into intricate partnering phrases, scored improvisations with a focus on bound and rebounded energy and large moving sections that force the dancer to use a grounded, fast and agile physicality to perform the quick changes in direction and punched movements in strict rhythm and time to the music*

*Music: Daft Punk and Kanye West*

**Jolieba Jackson** – Jolieba Jackson was born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area. In 2006, Jolieba received her B.A. from UCLA in World Arts & Cultures. She has studied and performed with renowned choreographers including Rennie Harris, Joe Goode, Annie Rosenthal, Mestre Amen Santo, Germaine Acogny & Ana Maria Alvarez. Jolieba also trains with Hip-Hop legends, Popin Pete & Suga Pop (Electric Boogaloos). Jolieba is a member of Hip-Hop company Versa-Style.

In 2006 & 2007, Jolieba traveled to Senegal & Brazil to dance with Jant-Bi (Germaine Acogny) & Ballet Folclorico do Brasil (Mestre Amen Santo). Fall 2008, Jolieba will visit Cuba, where she has been invited to dance with L.A. company Contra-Tiempo (Ana Maria Alvarez) & teach a Hip-Hop workshop.

In addition, Jolieba pursues her work in film & television. She has been featured in National campaigns for Apple iPod, Nike, Puma & Sketchers.

Jolieba is an eclectic artist that derives movement from a soulful place. Jolieba is the founder & director of D.A.N.C.E. (Dance & Arts Nurture Creativity & Excitement).

*Concept: A soulful and upbeat piece that combines Funk and House Hip-Hop styles.*

*Music: J-Dilla, James Brown, Maxayn*

*Much more information on the collaborating artists available at:*

<http://lacontemporarydance.org/pressroom.html>