

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 19, 2008

L.A. Contemporary Dance Company (LACDC) presents

POP ROCKS

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

What: LACDC's latest adventure, **Pop Rocks**, blends two usually dissonant dance genres and celebrates the risk of that endeavor! For two nights, a High School gymnasium will be converted into a unique performance space where, just as Pop Rocks candy and Coca Cola create an explosion, LACDC's combination of **hip hop and modern dance is sure to create an explosion** on the dance floor for all ages to enjoy.

Who: **Choreography by** Kate Hutter, Leslie Scott, Jolieba Jackson, Mecca Vazie Andrews, Jamila Glass, Michael Crotty, Devin Fulton, and Bahareh Ebrahimzadeh

Music mixed live by DJ Elsewhere sampling music by Daft Punk, M.I.A., 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 McMahan, Michelle Mierz, Denise Nissen

When: **Friday, June 27th and Saturday, June 28th, 2008 – 8pm**

Where: **Culver City High School, Del Goodyear Gymnasium**

4401 Elenda Street; Culver City, CA 90230

Unique venue with free parking!

Admission: \$15 general admission, \$5 children (18 and under)

Tickets: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/34129> or 800-838-3006

Los Angeles, CA – 6/19/08 – POP ROCKS – L.A. Contemporary Dance Company (LACDC) continues to break new ground with its latest project, Pop Rocks. Audience members of all ages will enjoy the excitement of hip hop and modern dance accompanied by familiar DJ-spun songs, all taking place in Culver City High School's gymnasium. LACDC invited 8 choreographers from varying backgrounds to present their ideas of how to fuse modern and street styles together, and challenge the dancers to reinvent their notions of what is contemporary dance. The Pop Rocks choreography ranges from pop-lock to hip hop to Afro-Brazilian and Modern.

In addition to seeing the performance, the audience will have a chance to come down from the bleachers and onto the stage to learn a piece of choreography from the show, providing them with a feeling of not only experiencing the concert but also actively participating in it. LACDC invites the public into a comfortable, sporty setting where they can take part in the

action and enjoy this exciting dance event at an affordable price for families of any size with \$5 tickets for kids 18 and under.

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.lacontemporarydance.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.'s "Boyz"

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, score improvisations with a focus on bound and rebounded energy and form 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; something I admire so greatly in hip hop dance.

Music: Daft Punk, Thom Yorke, and others

Leslie Scott – For the past few years Ms. Scott has been choreographing, teaching, and dancing in Los Angeles in variety of venues. She has been featured in films; *Hyde park*, videos, TV productions, Commercials, with networks such as MTV, VH1, FOX, HBO, UPN, TNN, and WB, as well as major award shows such as *Billboard Music awards*, and live performances such as the *Choreographer's Ball*. Ms. Scott is a faculty member of the *EDGE Performing Arts Center*, and tours with their dance convention *LADF*. Aside from being an extremely talented dancer and choreographer, Ms. Scott is one passionate teacher who welcomes anyone with passion for dancing to her class with open arms!

Concept: On a two week break from teaching in Berlin, Leslie Scott puts commercial hip hop on these modern dancers to prove that we're all "sick of the same old thing."

Music: 50 Cent and The Pack

DJ Elseware – Elseware is recognized as one of the most diverse DJs the West Coast has to offer, rocking crowds on dance floors across Hollywood, Santa Monica, Beverly Hills, and greater Los Angeles. His original music mash-ups and hypnotic mix sets garnered him corporate VIP clients such as Nike, Bloomingdales, Red Bull, L'Oreal, Steve N Barry, Nordstrom, and performances at high-profile events such as Gen Art, Tar Fest, Wet Seal, 17 Magazine, 9Star Skate, Teen Vogue, and more. He became one of the first DJs to perform on stage with a modern dance group when he worked with the highly acclaimed Collage Dance Theatre that is highly praised by local newspapers such as the LA Times. Elseware's resume also includes some of LA's hottest night clubs such as Century Club, White Lotus, Tatou, Club Pearl, Temple Bar, Club 217, Circle Bar, Ivar, etc. In 2006, Elseware received the exclusive offer to become a teaching professor at the highly esteemed Scratch Academy founded by the late Jam Master Jay of Run DMC. At the Academy, Elseware continues the legacy of Jam Master Jay and shares the art of DJing with hundreds of aspiring DJs each teaching semester. Currently, Elseware is the resident DJ for Circle Bar in Santa Monica and Club Tatou in Downtown LA and spins regularly for promotion companies Proof Positive and Forte Social at Hollywood hotspots.

For more information on other artists, please visit www.lacontemporarydance.org

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