

# BAM

## 2017 NEXT WAVE FESTIVAL

BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC PETER JAY SHARP BUILDING 30 LAFAYETTE AVENUE BROOKLYN, NY 11217—1486

### **Bill T. Jones' *A Letter to My Nephew*, an evocative meditation on a troubled life and world, at BAM Oct 3—7**

**Bloomberg Philanthropies is the Season Sponsor**

#### ***A Letter to My Nephew***

Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company  
In association with New York Live Arts  
Conceived and directed by Bill T. Jones

Choreography by Bill T. Jones with Janet Wong and the Company  
Original score composed by Nick Hallett  
Set design by Bjorn Amelan  
Lighting design by Robert Wierzel  
Costume design by Liz Prince  
Projection design by Janet Wong  
Sound design by Samuel Crawford

**BAM Harvey Theater** (651 Fulton St.)  
Oct 3—7 at 7:30pm  
Tickets start at \$30

**Aug 28, 2017/Brooklyn, NY**— Bill T. Jones' latest work is an intimate and impressionistic collage for nine dancers, setting a portrait of Jones' beloved nephew Lance T. Briggs—a talented dancer who struggled with illness and addiction—against the current political landscape. Composed like a series of postcards sent home, *A Letter to My Nephew* launches a swirl of images around Briggs—a vogue ball, a breathtaking vista—as he lies in a hospital bed. Flashing like a feverish hour of the evening news, this new work is an evocative composition of imagery, movement, and sound. Drawing from conversations with his nephew—as done in his recent work *Analogy/Lance*—Jones continues to navigate familial relationships within the context of a larger socio-political history. Performed in Paris, Singapore, Boston, and Macau, each iteration of *A Letter* serves as a snapshot of life in a specific place, incorporating references to local culture, customs, and architecture as they relate to world events. Through a delirious mix of live music by composer Nick Hallett, whose score is performed by baritone Matthew Gamble and Hallett, and a barrage of battleground imagery from video designer Janet Wong, Jones' words to his nephew are brought to vivid life.

**Bill T. Jones** is a multi-talented artist, choreographer, dancer, theater director, and writer who has received major honors ranging from a 1994 MacArthur “Genius” Award to Kennedy Center Honors in 2010. Mr. Jones began his dance training at the State University of New York at

Binghamton, where he studied classical ballet and modern dance. In 1982 he formed the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company (then called Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane & Company) with his partner, the late Arnie Zane. In addition to creating more than 140 works for his own company, Mr. Jones has received many commissions to create dances for modern and ballet companies, including Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Boston Ballet, Lyon Opera Ballet, and Berlin Opera Ballet, among others. He won Tony Awards for Best Choreography for *FELA!* (2010) and *Spring Awakening* (2007). In 2011, Mr. Jones was named Executive Artistic Director of New York Live Arts, an organization that strives to create a robust framework in support of the nation's dance and movement-based artists through new approaches to producing, presenting and educating. Jones was previously at BAM with *A Rite* (NWF 2013), *A Quarreling Pair* (NWF 2008), *Bill T. Jones 20th Anniversary* (Winter/Spring 2004), and many other appearances since his BAM debut in 1983.

**For press information, contact Christian Barclay at [cbarclay@bam.org](mailto:cbarclay@bam.org) or 718.724.8044.**

Credits:

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The creation of new work by Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company is made possible in part by the company's Partners in Creation: Anonymous, Anne Delaney, Zoe Eskin, Eleanor Friedman, Ellen Poss, Slobodan Randjelovic & Jon Stryker, and Carol Tolan. We also thank founding PIC members Abigail Congdon & Joe Azrack, Barbara & Eric Dobkin, and Marcia Radosovich.

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General Information:

BAM Howard Gilman Opera House, BAM Rose Cinemas, and BAMcafé are located in the Peter Jay Sharp building at 30 Lafayette Avenue (between St Felix Street and Ashland Place) in the Fort Greene neighborhood of Brooklyn. BAM Harvey Theater is located two blocks from the main building at 651 Fulton Street (between Ashland and Rockwell Places). Both locations house Greenlight Bookstore at BAM kiosks. BAM Fisher, located at 321 Ashland Place, is the newest addition to the BAM campus and houses the Judith and Alan Fishman Space and Rita K. Hillman Studio. BAM Rose Cinemas is Brooklyn's only movie house dedicated to first-run independent and foreign film and repertory programming. BAMcafé, operated by Great Performances, offers a dinner menu prior to BAM Howard Gilman Opera House evening performances.

Subway: 2, 3, 4, 5, Q, B to Atlantic Avenue – Barclays Center (2, 3, 4, 5 to Nevins St for Harvey Theater)  
D, N, R to Pacific Street; G to Fulton Street; C to Lafayette Avenue  
Train: Long Island Railroad to Atlantic Terminal – Barclays Center  
Bus: B25, B26, B41, B45, B52, B63, B67 all stop within three blocks of BAM  
Car: Limited commercial parking lots are located near BAM. Visit BAM.org for information.

For ticket information, call BAM Ticket Services at 718.636.4100, or visit BAM.org.

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