

Hedwig Dances

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HEDWIG DANCES HEDWIG DANCES CONTINUES 35TH ANNIVERSARY

WORLD PREMIERE OF **KAOS**

Saturday SEPTEMBER 26 2020 | 3:00 pm

ONE PERFORMANCE ONLY

A VIRTUAL WORK BY RIGO SAURA

*Followed by Discussion
with Creators and Dancers*

Chicago, IL - Hedwig Dances, the Chicago-based contemporary dance theater ensemble, known for its theatricality and originality, continues its new dance exploration with the online **world premiere of KAOS by Hedwig Choreographer Rigoberto Saura**. “Though our first preference is live performance in a theater with all those production values of costumes, light, sound, and the close proximity of dancers with the one another and the audience, the limitations of Covid 19 has empowered our creative team to innovate ways of making live dance in remote settings to keep our dancers and audience safe, while interleaving compelling pre-recorded video and sound with live elements for a fresh, engaging end result,” says Founder and Artistic Director Jan Bartoszek.

In making *KAOS*, Saura responds to recent transformative world events and reflects on the collective fear of exposure to unsafe, chaotic situations as a brave beginning to re-imagine new forms of order. Saura’s dance is complemented by an original sound score created by Cuban-born, Netherlands-based composer Henry Labrada, whose composition fuses pre-recorded voice, electronic music and DJ techniques. The *KAOS* premiere **takes place online ONE TIME ONLY on Saturday September 26 at 3 PM Central**. Tickets prices are tiered. General Admission is \$25 per person, with discounts for seniors and students, and a special discounted Covid 19 Hardship rate. Tickets may be purchased at the Hedwig site: bit.ly/KAOSPremTkt

This small and resourceful dance company is using the public social media forum in the hopes of extending its reach and thereby gaining new friends and supporters. “By taking our company’s work to the internet with it’s almost unlimited reach, we’re hoping to leverage this accessible forum, with a free backstage pass of sorts, to look at the collaborative creativity that is still in process. In so doing, we hope to gain an international presence for the world premiere of *KAOS* on **Sept 26** at 3 PM,” said Jan Bartoszek.

About the KAOS Collaborators

Jan Bartoszek is an American choreographer and the Founding Artistic Director of Hedwig Dances. Through her interdisciplinary dance work, she fosters a spirit of collaboration with other artists; merging choreography, objects, media, text, and music to create dances that resonate with complexity and depth. Ms. Bartoszek has choreographed over 65 dances, presenting them in Chicago's vibrant theaters, national performance venues, and internationally in Cuba, Germany, Honduras, Mexico, Brazil and Canada. Her dance work has garnered numerous accolades including an Emmy-nomination for her film "Arch of Repose" and awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Performance Network, NEFA/RDDI, the MacArthur International Connections Fund, and the Illinois Arts Council, among others. The Chicago Dance Coalition granted her a Ruth Page Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Dance Community for "her work at the Chicago Cultural Center, serving as an educator, mentor, presenter, administrator, and promoter of dance in the city with inspirational excellence."

Rigoberto Saura (KAOS choreographer) graduated from the National School of Modern and Contemporary Dance in Havana, Cuba and was a member of the National School of Dance faculty. Mr. Saura is a former soloist dancer of Danza Contemporánea of Cuba and worked with internationally recognized choreographers: Mats Ek and Ana Laguna, Itzik Galili, Juan Kruz (Sasha Waltz and Guests), Osnel Delgado (Malpaso Dance Company), and Rafael Bonachela (Sydney Dance Company). He moved to Quito, Ecuador as assistant choreographer with the Pepe Hevia Dance Company and was a soloist in the National Ballet of Ecuador, the resident choreographer in Ecuador's Urban Ballet, and Composition Master of the Metropolitan School of Art. Currently, Mr. Saura resides in Chicago, Illinois where he is a resident dancer, teacher, and guest choreographer at Hedwig Dances, Concert Dance Inc., and Ruth Page Center for the Arts. His development as a choreographer has continued to create works for New Dances 2019 and was winner of the DuPage Choreography Showcase and Competition in Illinois, and for the L.A. Contemporary Dance Company in California. Mr. Saura is currently engaged in a robust and demanding performance/choreography schedule with local, national, and international companies.

Henry Labrada (KAOS composer) is a Cuban-born dancer and musician based in the Netherlands. He is a graduate of Havana's National Dance School and a former soloist with Danza Contemporánea de Cuba and with Rosario Cardenas Danza Combinatoria. For KAOS, he collaborates with Saura to produce a sound score that fuses pre-recorded voice, electronic music, and DJ techniques.

About Hedwig Dances

Hedwig Dances is a contemporary dance theater ensemble celebrating 35 years under the artistic direction of its Founder, Jan Bartoszek. In-Residence at The Ruth Page Center for the Arts, Hedwig Dances' bold, interdisciplinary collaborations combine poetic choreography, projected images and haunting original music. The Company is named in honor of Ms. Bartoszek's grandmother. The critically acclaimed and award-winning dance ensemble has presented over 1,500 performances at prestigious national and international venues. The Company has twice performed in exclusive performances at Joyce SoHo (New York

City). Additional engagements include Bauhaus Dessau (Dessau, Germany), Teatro Nacional De Cuba Sala Avellaneda (Havana, Cuba), Teatro Diana (Guadalajara, Mexico), Grace Street Theater (Richmond, Virginia), Margaret H'Doubler Performance Space (Madison, Wisconsin), Lee Theater (Spring to Dance Festival, St. Louis, Missouri), among myriad other performances, residencies, and outreach programs over the past three decades. Hedwig Dances and its associated artists have been honored with two Ruth Page Awards and a Chicago Dance Award. For 20 years (1992 – 2011), Hedwig Dances served as the Dance Company-In-Residence at the Chicago Cultural Center under the visionary leadership and invitation of the late Lois Weisberg (Commissioner, Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs, 1989-2011).

HEDWIG DANCES FUNDERS

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