

Bodiography Presents "The Red Carpet Roll Out"—a Celebration of a Decade of Contemporary Ballet by Bodiography in Pittsburgh



by Christopher Cussat

On Friday, February 24, and Saturday, February 25, 2012 at 8:00 p.m., the Bodiography Contemporary Ballet celebrates its 10th anniversary in Pittsburgh by inviting patrons to dress to the nines and join the company at the Byham Theater in a stroll down the Red Carpet to the sound of Pittsburgh's *Crossing Boundaries*. The evening will showcase a decade of Artistic Director, Maria Caruso's, choreography—including her rock ballets set to the music of Stevie Nicks, Pearl Jam, Red Hot Chili Peppers, and the Dave Matthews Band. In addition, selections from her more recent medically inspired ballets,

"HEART: function vs. emotion" and "108 Minutes" set to live original scores by the acclaimed, Cello Fury.

"The Red Carpet Roll Out" is a unique opportunity to celebrate the growth of my work over the past decade," Caruso explains. The performance begins with an exploration of Caruso's early rock ballets and moves into her most recent, full-length works dedicated to raising awareness in the areas of medicine, science, and education. "Medicine, in particular, has always been a passion of mine. I am grateful for the opportunities that I have had to explore my choreographic talents in an effort to develop a distinct presentation that beautifully articulates my art form while displaying the parallels that we share with scientists, clinicians, physicians, and educators," she notes.

The evening will be capped by the premiere of Caruso's "Eyes Wide Open"—a moving examination of visual expression and perspective as seen through the eyes of some of Bodiography's medical, scientific, and artistic collaborators over the past decade. Movement will derive from photographs from the collections of Dr. Robert Kormos, Dr. Gregory Rohrer, and Mr. Eric Rosé, including natural and built landscapes, all without human presence. The focus of the work will be the change in perspective that the viewer undergoes in response to the varied intentions of the individual photographers. Each of the highlighted photographs will guide the audience on a sensory journey through Caruso's abstract visualization of the four seasons, concluding in the summer months at the historic Carrie Furnace.



(Photo taken by Dr. Robert Kormos)

Lauren Flanagan



Caruso believes that the marriage of dance and medicine/science has proven to be an effective and engaging opportunity to share the human condition and the passions of those who work relentlessly to save lives. "It is both an honor and privilege to afford the opportunity to be recognized as an artist and professional dance company with a continued vision to create full-length ballets, with live original scores, that raise awareness about new developments in healthcare," she adds.

"I also feel the need to express my gratitude to the company of artists that I work with on a daily basis that are equally as inspired by the work of those that we honor in our ballets. I am awestruck daily by the commitment of their bodies of expression, the original soundscapes of the acclaimed musicians of Cello Fury, and the inspiring stories that we bring to life on the stage," Caruso concludes.

Get your tickets today for this unique event and experience. Plus, the glamour doesn't end when the curtain goes down. Tickets to a post-performance VIP party at the neighboring Renaissance Hotel are also available. Meet Caruso and the Bodiography dancers while enjoying unlimited hors d'oeuvres and cocktails. Tickets for both performance and after-party are available by calling 412-456-6666.

Please visit Bodiography at www.bodiographybc.com for more information about artists, residencies, projects, and tour dates. †

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