NEWS
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For Immediate Release

UCLA Department of World Arts and Cultures/Dance Hosts
FREE Two-Day Intensive Dance Workshop
by Renowned Dancer/Choreographer Silas Riener

LOS ANGELES CA – January 25, 2016. The UCLA Department of World Arts and Cultures/Dance invites professional dancers and advanced dance students to a free workshop by postmodern choreographer and former Merce Cunningham Dance Company member Silas Riener from New York. The workshop will take place on Saturday and Sunday, February 6 and 7, from 1:00 – 5:00 PM at UCLA's Glorya Kaufman Hall, Room 214.

Both workshop days will begin with Riener teaching advanced postmodern technique classes. On day one, the technique class will be followed by an opportunity to learn Cunningham repertory. The latter part of day two will be dedicated to a choreography workshop in chance procedures. Workshop participants may attend for one or both days. Participants must register on a first come, first served basis for the workshop by emailing wacdinfo@arts.ucla.edu with their name and which day(s) they will be attending.

This workshop is being presented by the UCLA Department of World Arts and Cultures/Dance in conjunction with The Hammer Museum's exhibition on Black Mountain College, featuring the work and collaborations of Merce Cunningham, John Cage and Robert Rauschenberg. The exhibit opens February 20, 2016. Silas Reiner will perform some of Cunningham's early work at the Hammer, including Cunningham's seminal dance, *Changeling*.

Pay-by-space parking for the workshop is available in Parking Structure 4 (enter UCLA campus from Sunset Blvd. at Westwood Plaza).

Silas Riener graduated from Princeton University in 2006 with a degree in Comparative Literature and certificates in Creative Writing and Dance, with a focus on linguistics. As a dancer he has worked with Chantal Yzermans, Takehiro Ueyama, Christopher Williams, Joanna Kotze, Jonah Bokaer, and Rebecca Lazier; and is currently dancing in projects for Tere O'Connor, Wally Cardona, and Kota Yamazaki. He was a member of the Merce Cunningham Dance Company from November 2007 until its closure at the end of 2011, and received a 2012 New York Dance and Performance Award (Bessie) for his solo performance in Cunningham's Split Sides. While performing with MCDC, Riener completed his MFA in Dance at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts (2008). Since 2010 he has collaborated with choreographer Rashaun Mitchell on site-specific dances and immersive theatrical experiences. Riener was the movement designer for the architecture and design firm Harrison Atelier in 2012/2013 and choreographed the site-

specific performance/installations Pharmacophore: Architectural Placebo at the Storefront for Art and Architecture, and VEAL at the Invisible Dog Art Center. His work has also been curated at Architecture OMI, CATCH, as part of LMCC's River to River Festival, at Danspace Project, and at the BFI Gallery in Miami. His work with Rashaun Mitchell appeared in Carla Fernández exhibition The Barefoot Designer at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in 2014. Riener has taught workshops on performance and technique at Concord Academy SummerStages in Boston, throughout Turkey at several universities, in the Dance Program of Princeton University and Barnard College, and at the Merce Cunningham Trust. In 2013 along with with Rashaun Mitchell he was named one of Dance Magazine's "25 to Watch", and was invited to participate as an inaugural member of LMCC's Extended Life Dance Development Program. He was a 2014 New York City Center Choreographic Fellow and a Mellon Artist-in-Residence at The Newhouse Center for the Humanities at Wellesley College, and a 2015 Artist-in-Residence at Gina Gibney Dance Center Dance-in-Process, and at the Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry at Carnegie-Mellon University. More information can be found at http://www.rashaunsilasdance.com/.

The UCLA Department of World Arts and Cultures/Dance is led by a renowned faculty of scholars, activists, curators, filmmakers, and choreographers dedicated to critical cross-cultural analysis and art-making. The department is the place to make dances, explore digital media, curate exhibitions, become an arts activist, and develop scholarly expertise in culture and the arts. It draws upon multiple disciplines and artistic approaches while encouraging students to position their work within broad social contexts. The World Arts and Cultures BA emphasizes arts activism, visual cultures, and critical ethnographies. The Dance BA integrates composition, training, and improvisation, while challenging students to locate dance politically, culturally, and historically. The MFA in Dance promotes adventurous choreographic inquiry and engages with global discourses around the body and performance. The MA/PhD programs address theories of corporeality, performance, visuality, and culture, offering interdisciplinary training that fosters independent research. The Art & Global Health Center enables undergraduate and graduate students to explore art as a life-saving activity. WAC/D's path-breaking programs are committed to academic excellence, diversity, freedom of expression, activism, and social transformation through the arts. To find out more, please visit www.wacd.ucla.edu.

The UCLA School of the Arts and Architecture (UCLA Arts) attracts artists, architects, dancers, designers, musicians and scholars, who draw on the school's unique curriculum, which interweaves work in performance, studio and research studies, providing students with a solid creative, artistic and intellectual foundation, as well as a liberal arts education from one of the country's finest research universities. Students gain a global view of the arts while integrating contemporary practice and theory in their chosen discipline. Providing a full range of course offerings and degree programs, the school comprises six degree-granting units (Architecture and Urban Design, Art, Design | Media Arts, World Arts and Cultures/Dance, and The UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music, which houses the departments of Ethnomusicology and Music), six centers (the Art & Global Health Center, the Art | Sci Center, cityLAB, the Experiential Technologies Center, the Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts and the NOW Institute), two museums (the Fowler Museum at UCLA and the Hammer Museum) and a major performing arts program (the Center for the Art of Performance at UCLA). For more information, visit www.arts.ucla.edu.

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