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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 17th, 2010

CONTEMPORARY RUSSIAN DANCE COMES TO JOYCE SOHO

*Visiting choreographers present new work at Joyce SoHo in New York **Monday, July 12th**,
attend American Dance Festival in Durham, NC.*

Monday, July 12, 2010 at 7:00pm
New Russian Choreography
Joyce SoHo
155 Mercer Street (bet. Houston and Prince), NYC
Free. Seating is limited. Please use the form on [our website](#) to RSVP.

CEC ArtsLink is pleased to once again bring vibrant contemporary dance from Russia to the US by showcasing leading young choreographers in new collaborations. On Monday, July 12th, we invite you to a one-night-only showing of a brand-new work created and performed by [Ksenia Belenkova](#), [Tatiana Domovidova](#), [Pavel Kurov](#), and [Natalia Lisina](#).

The four featured choreographers will explore the themes of identity, communication and “us” versus “them” in a collaborative, semi-improvisational piece created during their US residency. Four different personas and energies, four mythical worlds based on the choreographers’ home cities in Russia, will collide on the stage. Through movement and dance, they will forge a connection with each other and with a fifth, entirely foreign city—New York. The performance will be followed by Q & A with the artists and a light reception.

Prior to arriving in New York, the choreographers will spend two weeks in residence at the [American Dance Festival](#) in Durham, North Carolina, where they will take master classes and collaborate with peers from around the world. This is the fourth year that CEC ArtsLink is partnering with the American Dance festival to host such a group.

Modern and contemporary dance have been exploding on Russia’s cultural scene in recent years, but American audiences are largely unfamiliar with this trend and still think primarily of the ballet tradition in connection with Russia. CEC ArtsLink is excited to bridge this gap and give audiences both at ADF and in New York City the rare opportunity to witness a new generation of Russian dance. The residency will also be a valuable immersive experience for the choreographers, who will have the chance to exchange professional knowledge and creative ideas with colleagues and learn from established masters in the country where modern dance was born.

The choreographers’ residency and performance are part of the [Open World Cultural Leaders Program](#), an endeavor of the Open World Leadership Center at the Library of Congress, with partnership and funding from the [National Endowment for the Arts](#) and the [Renova Group of Companies](#).

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CEC ArtsLink, through a multi-faceted program of cultural exchange, serves to create and sustain constructive, mutually beneficial relationships in the arts between the United States and Eastern and Central Europe, Russia, Central Asia and the Caucasus. Working with artists, arts organizations and community-based groups, CEC ArtsLink provides an essential structure for ongoing dialogue, contributing to a culture of openness and trust between nations.

With years of experience as a leader in cultural exchange between the United States and Central and Eastern Europe, Russia, Central Asia, and the Caucasus, CEC ArtsLink has long been a behind-the-scenes player in numerous esteemed cultural events, as a supporter and facilitator of residencies, projects, and networks for artists and art managers at venues across the U.S. and around the world. Today, we are pleased to bring an on-going series of cultural events to the public through our partnerships in New York, around the United States, and abroad. Visit www.cecartslink.org for more about upcoming events and on-going projects.

Open World's Cultural Leaders Program aims to forge better understanding between the United States and Russia by enabling emerging Russian leaders in the arts to experience America's cultural and community life, and to work with their American counterparts. Support for the cultural program is provided through partnership and funding from the **National Endowment for the Arts**. Open World is a unique, nonpartisan initiative of the U.S. Congress. Delegates range from judges to mayors, from innovative nonprofit directors to experienced journalists, and from political party activists to regional administrators. Over 11,000 Open World participants have been hosted in all 50 U.S. states since the program's inception in 1999.

Founded in 1934 in Bennington, Vermont, the **American Dance Festival** remains an international magnet for choreographers, dancers, teachers, students, critics, musicians, and scholars, drawing them together to experiment, explore, learn, collaborate, and create in a supportive environment. Students and community members interact directly with luminaries in the field, learning first-hand from those who define modern dance. ADF's wide range of programs includes performances, artist services, humanities projects, publications, community outreach, educational programs and classes, archives, media projects, and national and international projects. ADF has been presenting the best in modern dance for 76 years and has been called "the world's greatest dance festival" by *The New York Post*.

The mission of **The Joyce Theater Foundation** is to serve and support the art of dance and choreography, promote the richness and variety of the art form in its fullest expression, and enhance the public interest in, and appreciation of, dance and the allied arts of music, design, and theater. Founded in 1982, [The Joyce](#) is considered one of the premiere performance venues for dance and attracts an annual audience of more than 140,000. In addition, The Joyce now oversees [Joyce SoHo](#), a dance center in Lower Manhattan. This intimate venue of just 74 seats offers a unique opportunity for artists to develop their work and for audiences to experience emerging artists.

For more information, please contact Anna Kadysheva, Program Coordinator, CEC ArtsLink, at (212) 643-1985 x17 or akadysheva@cecartslink.org. To learn more about the artists mentioned here, and opportunities for artists and arts organizations administered by CEC ArtsLink, please visit www.cecartslink.org.

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