



Contemporary
Arts
Center
New Orleans

CAC PRESENTS THE WORLD PREMIERE OF SIDRA BELL DANCE NEW YORK'S 'MÖNSTER OUTSIDE'

MÖNSTER OUTSIDE

Friday - Saturday, November 17-18 at 7:30pm
CAC Theater

NEW ORLEANS, LA – Following her acclaimed performances of *ReVUE* at the CAC in 2014, Sidra Bell returns with the world premiere of her new work, *MÖNSTER OUTSIDE*, created in collaboration with innovative Swedish composer Per Störby, his critically acclaimed chamber ensemble New Tide Orquesta, and set designer Amy Rubin to develop a voyeuristic discourse about the nature of outliers in contemporary society.

Marrying dance, theater, chamber music, vocal scoring and scenic and lighting design, the work will locate and depict aspects of human joy and despair via the experience of the “outsider.” The title *MÖNSTER OUTSIDE* is a play on Swedish-English cognate irregularities; in Swedish, “mönster” translates as “patterns.”

This work will engage audiences in the process of deconstructing social structures that create outsiders in our society, those who live and operate outside of the norm. It comments on nature and its relationship to the pursuit of technology that causes dissonance and detachment from humanity. Onstage, the work will use a theatrical interplay of Sidra’s virtuosic movement vocabulary that references social and club sources.

The work veers between playful and disturbing, as narrated by the band’s experimental vocalization. The piece will be performed in a multitiered stage arena of moving parts and screen filters designed by the dynamic design team Amith Chandrashaker and Amy Rubin.

Adrienne Totino, writing in the *Coal Hill Review* (Pittsburgh), notes that “Sidra Bell is more than a choreographer; she is a philosopher who thinks deeply about life and art. In addition to her MFA in choreography, she holds a degree in history from Yale, lectures at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia and was an adjunct professor at Barnard College. Her smarts come through in the dances she makes, but not in a traditional or predictable way.”

MÖNSTER OUTSIDE was made possible by the New England Foundation for the Arts’ National Dance Project, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The presentation of *MÖNSTER OUTSIDE* was made possible by the New England Foundation for the Arts’ National Dance Project, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. This project is made possible in part by support from the National Performance Network (NPN) Performance Residency Program. For more information: www.npnweb.org.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Sidra Bell, is currently a Master Lecturer at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, an Adjunct Professor at Ball State University in Indiana, was artist in residence at Harvard University, and was an Adjunct Professor at Barnard College in New York City. She has a BA in History from Yale University and an MFA in Choreography from Purchase College Conservatory of Dance.

Bell has won several awards, notably a 1st Prize for Choreography at the Solo Tanz Theater Festival in Stuttgart, Germany in 2011 for Grief Point. and a 2015 National Dance Project Production Award from the New England Foundation for the Arts. The collaborating soloists on works she created also won performance awards for two different solos at the Stuttgart Solo Tanz Theater Festival (1st and 2nd Prizes respectively). Her work has been seen throughout the United States and in Denmark, France, Austria, Bulgaria, Turkey, Slovenia, Sweden, Germany, China, Canada, Aruba, Korea, Brazil, and Greece. The company was lauded as #1 in Contemporary Dance by the Pittsburgh Examiner in 2014 for garment, in the Pittsburgh Post Gazette's 2010 Best in Dance for ReVUE, and in the 2012 Year in Review in ArtsATL's notable performances for Nudity.

Advance Tickets: \$35 General Admission | \$25 CAC Members

Day of Show: \$40 General Admission | \$30 CAC Members

Buy Online: cacno.org

Buy at CAC Box Office: 504 528 3800

For more information on the company, visit www.sidrabelldanceney.org

ABOUT THE CAC

The Contemporary Arts Center (CAC) is a multidisciplinary arts center dedicated to the presentation, production, and promotion of the art of our time. Formed in 1976 by a passionate group of visual and performing artists when the movement to tear down the walls between visual and performing arts was active nationwide, the CAC expresses its mission by organizing world class curated exhibitions, performances, and public programs that educate and enlarge audiences for the arts while encouraging collaboration among diverse stakeholders composed of artists, institutions, communities, and supporters throughout the world.

For more information on the CAC visit cacno.org.