



LEGACY: 50 Years of Dance on the Edge presents an exhibition of visionary works by **Maida Withers**, celebrated choreographer and GW professor, via a visual retrospective that premieres an immersive installation with guerilla artist/political projectionist **Robin Bell**. *LEGACY* unfolds throughout the atrium galleries of the Corcoran School of the Arts and Design, drawing viewers into the bold, witty, and sometimes weighty world of Withers' dance. From September 23 to December 10, *LEGACY* merges dance films and archival recordings to envelope viewers in five decades of dance on the edge.

Since 1974, Maida Withers and the Dance Construction Company have championed dance as a vessel for multimedia interaction and technological experimentation. *LEGACY* continues Maida's boundary-breaking work by "bringing dance into the visual exhibition sphere," says Lauren Onkey, Director of the Corcoran. "We present *LEGACY* at the Corcoran to celebrate dance and multimedia works, and because of Maida's long time position as an honored artist and faculty member in the dance program and the involvement of distinguished dance alumni within her company."

In the exhibition, a broad selection of historical works, videos and films celebrate a remarkable half century of work by Maida Withers and the Dance Construction Company. Maida has been called "our prime evangelist of the novel and strange byways of dance, a tireless advocate of causes... and a human juggernaut in the force of her wit, stamina and intelligence," says Alan M. Kriegsman, *Washington Post*.

"*LEGACY* explores how images from the past create new contextual meaning when the past becomes the future, a journey into the

mind of an experimental dance artist emboldened by technology. *LEGACY* explores and supports the transformation of consciousness through the arts," says Maida Withers.

"We are looking forward to bringing *LEGACY* to life at the Corcoran. *LEGACY* highlights combining Maida and the Dance Construction Company's extensive archive and my projection work we are creating a new piece that explores the intersection of dance, visual art and social action," says Robin Bell.

At the center of Maida's history is her fierce commitment to the kinetic body, activism and collaboration. Alongside the visual archives, collaborators include Brazilian computer artist **Tania Fraga**, Ukrainian dancer/choreographer **Anton Ovchinnikov**, electronic composers and musicians **John Driscoll**, **Steve Hilmy** and **Yoko Sen**, performance poet **Alex Caldiero**, and others who are featured in the exhibition with live performances taking place at the opening night and gala weekend events.

PROGRAMS

Opening Performances & Panel Discussion: 50 Years of Dance on the Edge in DC

September 23 | 5:30–8 PM | 6:30–7:30 Panel Discussion | [RSVP](#)

Legacy Celebration & Performances

October 7 | 6–9 PM | [RSVP](#)

Visiting Artist Discussion & Presentation

October 8 | 2–5 PM | [RSVP](#)

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Exhibition: *Legacy: Fifty Years of Dance on the Edge*

Dates & Hours: September 23–December 10, 2022

Gallery Hours: Wednesday–Saturday 1–5pm

Location: Corcoran School of the Arts & Design, Flagg Building, 500 17th St NW, Washington, D.C. 20006

Previous Press on Maida Withers and Maida Withers Dance Construction Company (MWDCCo)

DCist, 2006 | *Washington Times*, 2006 | *Washington Post*, 2015 | *GW Today*, 2016 | *Art Daily*, 2018

Robin Bell and Bell Visuals

New York Times, 2017 | *Washington Post*, 2019 | *Washingtonian*, 2020 | *DCist*, 2021 | *NBC News 4*, 2022

[Maida Withers Company Website](#) | [Robin Bell Website](#) | [Link for Images](#) | [Promotional Video](#)