



GroundWorks DanceTheater

David Shimotakahara, Artistic Director

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For more information on Olu Dara: www.oludara.info

GroundWorks DanceTheater to present *WORLD PREMIER* of *JUST YESTERDAY* by DIANNE McINTYRE in collaboration with composer OLU DARA

**Performances at the beautiful new BREEN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
on the campus of St. Ignatius in Ohio City**

Cleveland, Ohio (*January 4, 2010*) – Northeast Ohio's premier dance company will perform the **world premier** of *Just Yesterday* by internationally renowned choreographer **Dianne McIntyre** and composer **Olu Dara** at the Breen Center for the Performing Arts on Friday and Saturday, January 22 and 23, 2010. Concerts both nights will begin at 8 pm.

McIntyre created the commissioned work while in residence with GroundWorks DanceTheater, now in its 11th season. **Dara**, with whom she has worked for over 20 years, composed the musical score which will be performed live by guitarists Dan Wilson and Phillip Smith. "*Just Yesterday*," said Artistic Director David Shimotakahara, "connects us to stories from past generations and finds resonance in the space between what is remembered and what is lost."

The program will also include *Delayed* by Zvi Gotheiner (www.zvidance.com) and *Polarity* by Shimotakahara. The Breen Center is at 2008 W. 30th Street on the campus of St. Ignatius High School in Cleveland (Ohio City).

McIntyre, a Cleveland native, has choreographed works for film, television, the Broadway stage and London theater, as well as the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Ensemble, and Dayton Contemporary Dance Company. After earning her BFA from the Department of Dance at The Ohio State University, she moved to New York in 1970 and founded "Dance in Motion," a collaborative dance/music ensemble. She has won numerous dance awards and grants, including the 2007 Guggenheim Fellowship.

Olu Dara has been prolific in the world of music, dance and theater since 1963, and is best known for creating a roots-based musical style that combines blues, jazz, gospel, R&B, Caribbean and African rhythms. He's been compared to trumpeter Louis Armstrong and called the modern equivalent of the itinerant traveling musician/historian of years past. Dara's main recordings are "*In the World: From Natchez to New York*" and "*Neighborhoods*." He has been honored with the New York Jazz Award for Stylistic Fusion, France's d'Or International Trophy in Blues and three AUDELCO Awards. In addition to playing the "pocket" trumpet, guitar, harmonica and a wooden aboriginal instrument, Dara is a vocalist. "I sing about women, food and life in general,"

Tickets are \$22 for general admission and \$15 for seniors and students. Discounts are available for groups of 10 or more when reserved in advance. Tickets are available through the Breen Box Office at 216-961-2560 or www.ignatius.edu/breencenter. For more information call GroundWorks at 216-691-3180.

GroundWorks DanceTheater was recently named "Best Dance Company in Cleveland" by *Scene Magazine*, and was voted "One of 25 to Watch" by *Dance Magazine*. GroundWorks was founded by Shimotakahara in 1998 and is dedicated to the development and presentation of new choreography and collaborations, most notably with composers of new music. The six-member Company celebrates the richness of choreography in contemporary dance and performs new works by Shimotakahara and artistic director Amy Miller, as well as

commissioned work by nationally and internationally acclaimed choreographers including Lynne Taylor-Corbett, Gina Gibney, David Parker and others.

GroundWorks DanceTheater's annual programs are made possible thanks to the generous support of: The National Endowment for the Arts, The Ohio Arts Council, Cuyahoga County residents through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture, The Cleveland Foundation, The George Gund Foundation, Akron Community Foundation, The GAR Foundation, The Knight Foundation, Toby Devan Lewis Philanthropic Fund, AHS Foundation, The Murphy Foundation, The Kulas Foundation, the Lehner Family Foundation, The Judith Gerson Fund, Northern Ohio Golf Charities, Target Stores, Cleveland *Scene*, The University of Akron School of Theater Dance and Arts Administration, Michael Owen/Millworks Gallery, Cleveland City Dance, Individual Contributors, and Members of the GroundWorks Board of Trustees.

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