

aleba gartner associates
648 broadway • suite 607 • new york, ny 10012
tel: 212/206-1450 • fax: 646/536-2730 • e-mail: aleba@aol.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 11, 2006

Tickets & Information: 212/854-7799

Press Contacts:

Aleba Gartner, 212/206-1450; aleba@aol.com

Lauren Bailey, 212/854-2382; lrb2113@columbia.edu

BEST NIGHT AT THE BALLET: "WATCHING LIGETI MOVE" at MILLER THEATRE

New York Magazine —The Year's Best: The Cultural Elite 2005 Issue

Gotta dance!

Miller Theatre at Columbia University
kicks off its 2006-2007 season with

"NEW BALLET CHOREOGRAPHERS"

4 new commissioned ballets by **TOM GOLD, EDWAARD LIANG, BRIAN REEDER**

Dancers include **Wendy Whelan, Maria Kowroski, Albert Evans**

Live music by **Jefferson Friedman, Philip Glass, Arvo Pärt, John Zorn**

Wednesday, September 13, 7:00PM

Friday, September 15, 8:00PM

Saturday, September 16, 8:00PM

A Co-production with Works & Process at the Guggenheim

From executive director George Steel, Miller Theatre's "programming superhero" (*Village Voice*):

"We want the Miller stage to be a focal point for dance as well as music,
and are very proud to open the season with these four new ballet commissions."

Dance at Miller

Last year Miller Theatre opened its season with "Watching Ligeti Move," a program of new ballets by Christopher Wheeldon. *New York Magazine* named it "Best Night At The Ballet" in its "Year's Best" issue. Far from being a one-time event, this was just the beginning of what portends to be a new era of dance at Miller. The venue hopes to make dance an important cornerstone of its curriculum, along with *Composer Portraits, Jazz, Bach in Context, and Early Music*. Miller's mission is a specific one: *to present new ballets to new music performed live*—with the immediacy afforded by the theatre's intimate scale (a set of circumstances too rarely encountered in today's ballet world).

September 13, 7:00PM (Opening Night / early curtain)

September 15, 8:00PM

September 16, 8:00PM

NEW BALLET CHOREOGRAPHERS

Furthering its commitment to the creation of new dance, which includes a brand-new dance floor on its stage, Miller has teamed up with **Works and Process at the Guggenheim** to present three performances of four newly commissioned ballets by three emerging choreographers: **Tom Gold, Edwaard Liang,** and **Brian Reeder** (Gold and Liang are currently dancers with New York City Ballet and Reeder is a former dancer with American Ballet Theatre). Created for an exceptional and distinguished cast, including **Wendy Whelan, Maria Kowroski,** and **Albert Evans,** these new works are sure to be both a display of excellence in form and an exploration of the future of ballet choreography. The dances will be accompanied by music by **John Zorn, Arvo Pärt, Philip Glass,** and **Jefferson Friedman,** performed live by the **Masada String Trio,** pianist **Marilyn Nonken,** and the **Chiara String Quartet.**

ARTISTS: Choreography by **Tom Gold, Edwaard Liang, Brian Reeder**
Music by **Jefferson Friedman, Philip Glass, Arvo Pärt, John Zorn**
Performed by **Chiara String Quartet, Masada String Trio, Marilyn Nonken**, piano

DANCERS: **Ashley Boudier, Albert Evans, Craig Hall, Sterling Hyltin, Maria Kowroski, Georgina Pazcoguin, Tiler Peck, Ana Sophia Scheller, Sean Suozzi, Wendy Whelan, and dancers from the American Ballet Theatre Studio Company**

BIOS: **TOM GOLD** was born in Illinois and began his dance training at age 11. He came to the School of American Ballet, the official school of New York City Ballet, in 1986 and joined the New York City Ballet's corps de ballet the following year. In 1993, Mr. Gold was promoted to Soloist. With New York City Ballet, Gold has danced featured roles in George Balanchine's *Bourrée*, *The Four Temperaments*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Stars and Stripes*, and *Western Symphony*; William Forsythe's *Behind The China Dogs*; Peter Martins' *Ash*, *Fearful Symmetries*, and *Swan Lake*; and Jerome Robbins' *Fancy Free*, *The Four Seasons*, and *West Side Story Suite*, among numerous others. He originated roles in Mr. Martins' *Slonimsky's Earbox*, Kevin O'Day's *Swerve Poems*, Susan Stroman's *Double Feature* and *Duke!*, Richard Tanner's *Episodes and Sarcasms*, and Lynne Taylor-Corbett's *Chiaroscuro*. Gold danced in the film version of *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker™*, produced by Elektra Entertainment/New Regency Films, and has toured with *Tharp!* and *Donald Byrd the Group*. He appeared in the *Live From Lincoln Center* broadcast of the Peter Martins/Ray Charles collaboration, *A Fool For You*, and in the *Live From Lincoln Center* broadcast of "New York City Ballet's Diamond Project."

EDWAARD LIANG was born in Taiwan and was raised in California. In 1989, Liang entered the School of American Ballet, the official school of New York City Ballet. He joined New York City Ballet in 1993 and was promoted to Soloist in November 1998. Liang danced with NYCB until 2001, when he joined the cast of *Fosse*. He later danced as a Guest Artist with Complexions and with the Nederlands Dans Theater 1 before returning to New York City Ballet as a Soloist in 2004. With NYCB, Liang has danced featured roles in George Balanchine's *Agon*, *Cortège Hongrois*, *The Four Temperaments*, and *Western Symphony*; Jacques d'Amboise's *Irish Fantasy*; Peter Martins' *Ash*, *Reliquary*, *Swan Lake*, and *The Sleeping Beauty*; David Parsons' *Touch*; Jerome Robbins' *Fanfare*, *The Four Seasons*, and *Glass Pieces*; and many others. Liang originated featured roles in Mr. Martins' *Harmonielehre* and Christopher Wheeldon's *After the Rain* and *Polyphonia*. Liang has choreographed a number of works for groups such as Nederlands Dans Theater 1 (*Flight of Angels*), Configurations (*Mixed Nuts*), and Peter Boal & Company (*Distant Cries*). He has also set Paul Lightfoot's *Signing Off* for Les Ballets de Monte Carlo. Liang was featured in the *New York City Ballet Workout* book and video and appeared on a PBS *Great Performances* broadcast of "Dance in America: From Broadway: *Fosse*."

BRAIN REEDER was born in Pennsylvania and began his dance training at Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet. Reeder has danced with New York City Ballet, Ballet Frankfurth, and American Ballet Theatre. Reeder created four original works for American Ballet Theatre's Studio Company (2002-2005). For the Washington Ballet, he choreographed for the 7X7 Series and a *Peter & the Wolf* ballet for the studio company. In collaboration with the Washington Ballet, he was the recipient of a 2005 New York Choreographic Institute Fellowship Grant. Also in 2005, Reeder was commissioned by Works & Process at the Guggenheim to create a work to the music of French composer Mark André. The Ballet Pacifica performed his first full length *Nutcracker* in the 2005 winter season. Reeder has been an artist-in-residence at St. Paul's School, Brown University, and Emory University. He is currently working for American Ballet Theatre's Education Department and at the ABT's summer intensive program. Reeder has been recognized by *Time Out New York* as one its "ten best" in dance for 2002 and was selected in the top 25 to watch in 2005 by *Dance Magazine*. His works have been viewed by international audiences in places such as London, Tokyo, Costa Rica, and Bermuda.

TICKETS: \$35; CU Students \$7; Non-CU Students and CU Faculty/Staff (with valid ID) \$21;
Guggenheim Museum Members \$21

*Columbia University's Miller Theatre is located north of the Main Campus Gate
at 116th St & Broadway on the ground floor of Dodge Hall.*

For single tickets, the public should call the Miller Theatre Box Office at 212/854-7799, M-F, 12-6 pm.
Tickets can also be purchased online at www.millertheatre.com.

For photos, please contact Lauren Bailey at 212/854-2382 or lrb2113@columbia.edu.

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