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Boston, MA – On April 23rd and 24th at 8pm in Boston University’s Dance Theater, BoSoma Dance Company presents their 2010 Spring Season with Contrapose Dance. This performance highlights two of Boston’s professional contemporary dance companies.

BoSoma presents high energy, athletic and stimulating contemporary dance performances with its own signature of vibrant, vital movement. BoSoma will premiere three new works. *The Dinner Table*, choreographed by Katherine Hooper, explores the ever changing and sometimes lost American ritual of sitting down to dinner as a family for a time to reflect, connect and decompress from a busy day. *Tomorrow*, a solo choreographed by Irada Djelassi, set to a beautiful intriguing piece of music by the Grand Valley State University New Music Ensemble & Bill Ryan (Zoe Keating Remix). Tara McCrystal, one of BoSoma’s long time noted company members, coils through twisted movements as one morning realizes she is not who she was yesterday. This is a personal and individual relationship with yesterday, today and tomorrow. The final company premier is set in full-length skirts; eight dancers celebrate the pure joy of movement. This piece is upbeat and lively, inspired by several world dance forms such as African as well as tango and salsa. BoSoma will again perform their full company piece *PUSH*, noted by the Boston Globe as being “vigorously athletic and artistically sculptural”.

Courtney Peix founded Contrapose Dance in 2007 out of a desire to present new, exciting and entertaining works that engage and thrill audiences. The company aims to bring a fresh energy to the dance scene in Boston and beyond by serving as a platform for innovative choreographers. Contrapose Dance presents contemporary works designed to plumb deep emotions and celebrate the exhilaration of pure movement. For this performance, Contrapose Dance has commissioned three new works by acclaimed Boston Choreographers Gianni Di Marco, Marcus Schulkind, and Nicole Pierce.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY DANCE THEATER 915 Commonwealth Avenue, **Boston**, MA 02215

Performances will be April 23rd and 24th at 8pm. Tickets are \$30 for general admission and \$25 for Students, seniors and the Boston Dance Alliance Members. Tickets may be purchased at (617) 358-2500, seating is limited.

“Push,” choreographed by BoSoma co-artistic directors Katherine Hooper and Irada Djelassi, was propelled by the rhythmic drive of Japanese drum troupe Kodo, and the piece for nine women was vigorously athletic and artistically sculptural, from slow-motion runs to angular leaps that twisted midair. The dancers looked as if they were ready to explode at a moment's notice, moving with coiled intensity and kinetic pop through eye-catching patterns. Groupings came together and split apart in quick shifts through space.” ~ Karen Campbell of the Boston Globe

“Athleticism and excitement are the signature calling cards of BoSoma, they use them to transcend all the barriers we use everyday to keep people, ideas, beliefs at a distance....” ~ David Polanzak, Arts & Entertainment Editor, Boston Events Guide

BoSoma Dance Company

BoSoma Dance Company was established in 2003 by Co-Artistic Directors, Irada Djelassi and Katherine Hooper. BoSoma is a Boston based professional contemporary dance company that produces high energy, athletic and stimulating performances with its own signature of vibrant, vital movement. BoSoma's mission is to make dance a captivating art form through dynamic contemporary performance and first rate education for our community. BoSoma is also committed to collaborate with local musicians and visual artists with the intent of reaching out to audiences of different artistic mediums. The company believes that it is mutually beneficial for arts organizations to work together and develop meaningful partnerships for sustainability. BoSoma has performed at numerous places both nationally and internationally. Recently the company was showcased at the Elan Summer Dance Festival in Provincetown, MA and in Radolfzell, Germany.

Irada Djelassi began her dance training at the age of two in Central Massachusetts at Mass Motion Dance Academy (formally known as the Terri Gordon Dance Centre). She continued her education at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, where she received a BFA in Dance and held a Chancellors Award in dance all four years. While in college Irada produced and performed in several dance and musical theater performances throughout the Five Colleges. After college Ms Djelassi moved to Manhattan to further her education. While studying in New York, she taught at the American Youth Dance Theater on the Upper East Side. During her stay in New York, Irada was asked to teach for the Dance Department of a Performing Arts Magnet School in Worcester, Massachusetts, which eventually led to her relocation to Boston. Irada has performed choreography by Andre Tyson of Alvin Ailey, Leslie Partridge, Billbob Brown, Nia Love, Janis Brenner, Katherine Hooper, Jin Wen Yu, as well as others. She has participated in the World Jazz Dance Congress for two years. She is currently the Assistant Director of Mass Motion Dance where she is developing The Dance Project, a community service based teen performance group. She is also a board member of Allston Village Main Streets in Boston.

Katherine Hooper began her professional training at the University of North Carolina and finished her BFA at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Five College Dance Program. As an undergraduate, she co-developed an Arts Collective and an Improvisation Group while producing, directing and choreographing 2 full-scale productions. Following graduation, Katherine moved to Colorado where she co-founded Performance Works, Ltd., a contemporary dance and theatre company. For five years, as the choreographer and co-artistic director of the company, she taught and performed throughout the area inspiring local dancers and non-dancers to achieve their personal best through movement. While in Colorado, Katherine also certified through Polestar Education in Pilates Matt Work which has enhanced her passion for creating highly athletic and dynamic movement. In 2001 and 2002, Katherine was commissioned to choreograph original works for the Patricia Kenny Dance Collection, formerly of the David Parsons Dance Company. In 2004, she taught a week long workshop at Peridance Center in Manhattan. Katherine is the owner/director of Mass Motion Dance North in Peabody, and the Regional Manager of the Atlantis Sports Clubs.

Contrapose Dance Company

Contrapose Dance was founded in 2008 by Courtney Peix out of a desire to present new, exciting and entertaining works that engage and thrill audiences. The company aims to bring a fresh energy to the dance scene in Boston and beyond by serving as a platform for innovative choreographers. In permitting choreographers to take creative risks, the company hopes to build a larger audience that responds to the strength, creativity, and underlying humor of the company repertory.

Building on a backbone of classical training, Contrapose Dance presents contemporary works designed to plumb deep emotions and celebrate the exhilaration of pure movement. We seek not only to reach existing dance audiences but also to widen the circle by reaching out to communities that may not have continual access to professional dance. Contrapose Dance hopes to bring a new generation of dance lovers to a place where tradition and originality meet.