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CONTACT:

Robert Cable, Stanford Live

650-736-0091

rcable@stanford.edu

Photos: <http://live.stanford.edu/presscenter/>

**STANFORD CELEBRATES WORK OF FRENCH CHOREOGRAPHER
JÉRÔME BEL WITH MULTIDAY FESTIVAL, NOV 13–DEC 3**

Presented in association with Stanford Dance Division, events include first professional dance performance at Bing Concert Hall

Stanford, CA, October 14, 2013—Dance returns to the Stanford Live season next month with a festival of works by the French choreographer **Jérôme Bel** on the Stanford University campus.

Presented in association with the **Stanford Dance Division**, the celebration will include performances of three works— *The Show Must Go On* (November 13 at Memorial Auditorium), *Cédric Andrieux* (November 18 at Bing Concert Hall) and *Pichet Klunchun and Myself* (December 2 at Bing Concert Hall)—in addition to a free conversation with Jérôme Bel himself (December 3 at Pigott Theater).

Bel enjoys a reputation as “one of the most charismatic and galvanizing choreographers working today” (*New York Times*). In *The Show Must Go On*, for which Bel received a Bessie Award in 2005, the choreographer challenges the relationship between fine art and audience expectations. With a minimal set up characteristic of the Bel’s work, this production will include a mix of Bay Area professional dancers with untrained Stanford (students, faculty, staff) and Silicon Valley “civilians” who, as prompted by a live D.J., will act out the lyrics to their own classic pop soundtrack via headset.

The solo piece *Cédric Andrieux*, which will mark the first professional dance performance on the Bing Concert Hall stage, is part of a series of thoughtful works Bel has created with dancers who have made their mark on the art form. In this autobiographical 80 minutes with Andrieux, the dancer tells his story and also dances phrases and short sections of the famous ballets and Merce Cunningham choreography that defined his career. A question-and-answer session with *New York Times* dance writer **Claudia LaRocco** will immediately follow the performance.

-More-

The final program is entitled *Pichet Klunchun and Myself*, a filmed dance dialogue between Bel and the classical Thai dance master Pichet Klunchun who come together for an exchange of ideas and movement. Jérôme Bel will be present at this screening and will answer questions about his work onstage following the film in a discussion with Stanford faculty member **Peggy Phelan**.

In addition to performances, the festival will include discussions—such as a free lunchtime conversation with Bel—and events for Stanford students. **Janice Ross**, director of the Dance Division, says the idea to bring Bel to Stanford is connected to the mission of the new immersion program at Stanford she is directing called ITALIC (Immersion in the Arts: Living in Culture). According to Ross, he is the “ideal artist” since his performances are “intellectual, sophisticated, and funny and bridge the divide of the arts and humanities in the university.”

Festival Jérôme Bel is generously supported by the Drs. Ben and A. Jess Shenson Fund in the Stanford Arts Institute together with the new residential Freshman program, ITALIC.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Born in Montpellier in 1964, Jérôme Bel was inspired by the 1983 Festival d'Avignon, where he saw Pina Bausch's *Nelken* and Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker's *Rosas danst Rosas*. He became a student at the Centre National de Danse Contemporaine (CNDC) in Angers from 1984 to 1985 and then danced in the companies of choreographers Angelin Preljocaj, Régis Obadia, Daniel Larrieu, and Caterina Sagna until 1991. In 1992 he assisted Philippe Decouflé with the direction of the opening ceremony for the XVIth Winter Olympics in Albertville, France, and then he embarked on his career as a choreographer by studying philosophy and dance history.

His performances are distinguished by their propositional nature. *Nom donné par l'auteur* (1994) is a choreography of objects. *Jérôme Bel* (1995) is based on the total nudity of the performers. *Shirtology* (1997) presents an actor wearing many T-shirts. *The Last Performance* (1998) quotes a solo by the choreographer Susanne Linke, as well as *Hamlet* and Andre Agassi. *Xavier Le Roy* (2000) was claimed by Jérôme Bel as his own, but it was actually choreographed by Xavier Le Roy. *The Show Must Go On* (2001) brings together 20 performers, 19 pop songs, and one DJ. *Véronique Doisneau* (2004) is a solo on the work of the dancer Véronique Doisneau, from the Paris Opera. *Isabel Torres* (2005), for the ballet of the Teatro Municipal of Rio de Janeiro, is its Brazilian version. *Pichet Klunchun and Myself* (2005) was created in Bangkok with the Thai traditional dancer Pichet Klunchun. *Cédric Andrieux*

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(2009), based on the Merce Cunningham dancer, followed. *3Abschied* (2010) is a collaboration between Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker and Jérôme Bel based on *The Song of the Earth* by Gustav Mahler. *Disabled Theater* (2012) is a piece with the performers of Theater Hora, a Zurich-based company consisting of professional actors with learning disabilities.

TICKETS

Tickets range from \$20-\$50 for *The Show Must Go On* (November 13), \$32-\$50 for *Cédric Andrieux* (November 18) and \$20 for the film *Pichet Klunchun and Myself* (December 2). All tickets are \$10 for current Stanford University students and discounts are also available for faculty, staff and non-Stanford students. Tickets are available in person at the Bing Concert Hall Box Office, by phone at **650-725-2464 (BING)** or online at <http://live.stanford.edu>. The Bing Box Office is located at 327 Lasuen Street. Regular operating hours are Tuesday-Friday from 12:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Weekends and performance days vary (call for specific hours).

VENUE INFORMATION

Bing Concert Hall is located on the Stanford University campus at 327 Lasuen Street on the corner of Lasuen and Campus Drive. Memorial Auditorium and Pigott Theater are located at 551 Serra Mall at Galvez, across from Hoover Tower. Parking on campus is free of charge after 4:00 PM and on weekends at all times. Directions are available at <http://live.stanford.edu/Venues/parkingmapsdirections.php>.

ABOUT STANFORD LIVE

Stanford Live is multi-disciplinary performing arts on the campus of Stanford University. The organization is committed to sharing, celebrating, and advancing the art of live music, dance, theater and opera. It unites celebrated and emerging artists with the Stanford campus and greater Bay Area communities in a broad range of experiences to engage the senses and emotions, stimulate minds, and enrich lives. Stanford Live value artistic vitality, learning, and an inclusive community.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

What: **Festival Jérôme Bel**
Program: *The Show Must Go On*
When: Wednesday, November 13, 7:30 p.m.
Where: Memorial Auditorium, 551 Serra Mall, Stanford University
Tickets: \$20-\$50 (adults); \$10 (Stanford students)
Description: A mix of the Bay Area professional dancers with untrained “civilians” (including Stanford students, faculty and staff), each performing to their own classic pop soundtrack via headset.

What: **Festival Jérôme Bel**
Program: *Cédric Andrieux*
When: Monday, November 18, 7:30 p.m.
Where: Bing Concert Hall, 327 Lasuen Street, Stanford University
Tickets: \$32-\$50 (adults); \$10 (Stanford students)
Description: In this autobiographical 80-minute solo, Andrieux dances phrases and short sections of the famous ballets and Cunningham choreography that defined his career.

What: **Festival Jérôme Bel**
Program: *Pichet Klunchun and Myself (2005): A Film*
When: Monday, December 2, 7:30 p.m.
Where: Bing Concert Hall, 327 Lasuen Street, Stanford University
Tickets: \$20 (adults); \$10 (Stanford students)
Description: In an intimate dance dialogue, Bel and classical Thai dance master Pichet Klunchun come together in this film for a fascinating exchange of ideas and movement.

What: **Festival Jérôme Bel**
Program: *Things I Have Done with Dance*
When: Tuesday, December 3, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Where: Pigott Theater, 551 Serra Mall, Stanford University
Tickets: Free
Description: A free conversation with Jérôme Bel will close the festival.

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