

PAT GRANEY COMPANY: *FAITH*

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presented by

REDCAT

Roy and Edna Disney/CalArts Theater

California Institute of the Arts

CaLARTS



PAT GRANEY COMPANY: *FAITH*

Choreography/Direction:	Pat Graney
Lighting Design:	Ben Geffen and Amiya Brown
Original Costumes:	Frances Kenny
Music:	Arvo Pärt, Cocteau Twins, Lights in a Fat City, Amy Denio, Rachel Warwick

Performers: Nancy Burtenshaw, Deb Rhodes-King, Amii LeGendre, KT Niehoff, Sara Parish, Peggy Piacenza, Kathryn Stewart

Original Lighting Design: Meg Fox

These REDCAT performances are funded in part with generous support from The Herb Alpert Foundation. The Alpert Award in the Arts, a fellowship program that supports innovative practitioners in the fields of dance, film/video, music, theater and visual arts, is administered by CalArts on behalf of The Herb Alpert Foundation.

Faith was originally commissioned by On the Boards in 1991. Through the National Performance Network and individual presenters, *Faith* toured to 12 US cities as well as Bahia, Brazil & Munich, Germany. The Triptych premiered at On the Boards October 21-24 and will be presented at Helena Presents and the Flynn Center in 2012. It is an honor to have the *Faith Triptych* funded through the NPN Reconstruction Fund and three NPN presenters.

Faith is a National Performance Network (NPN) Re-Creation Fund Project co-commissioned by On the Boards in partnership with Helena Presents, the Flynn Center and NPN. The Re-Creation Fund is supported by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, Ford Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts (a federal agency). REDCAT is a Partner of the National Performance Network (NPN). This project is made possible in part by support from the NPN Performance Residency Program. Major contributors include the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, Ford Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts (a federal agency). For more information: www.npnweb.org.

The Reconstruction of *Faith, Sleep & Tattoo (Faith Triptych)* was also supported by the Allen Foundation, Boeing, 4Culture, Seattle Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs, Seattle Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the National Performance Network's Re-Creation Fund.

Faith Triptych was also made possible by the National Endowment for the Arts American Masterpieces: Dance initiative, administered by the New England Foundation for the Arts.



NOTES FROM THE CHOREOGRAPHER

When we started working on *Faith* in 1989, I wanted to create a work that was based on Caravaggio's paintings and his use of light. Other sources for the development of the work include; the writings of Roshi Jiyu Kennett, the paintings of Francesco Clemente, animation work by Zbigniew Rybczynski and paintings in the Sistine Chapel by Michelangelo. With the support of (then) Executive Director of Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival Sam Miller, and the booking support of Loris Bradley, *Faith* reached a wide audience in the US, making it a signature work for the Company.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Seattle-based movement and installation artist **Pat Graney** received Choreography Fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts for 11 consecutive years, as well as from Artist Trust, the Washington State Arts Commission, the NEA International Program, National Corporate Fund for Dance and the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. In 2008, Ms. Graney was awarded both the Alpert Award and a US Artists Award in Dance.

In 1981, Graney presented her first full evening of work at On the Boards, *go red go red, laugh white*, set to the writing of Gertrude Stein. She went on to choreograph more work to the writing of Julio Cortazar and Raymond Carver. In 1986, Graney started exploring the use of music combined with American Sign Language to create *Colleen Ann*, a work commissioned for the French/American Dance Exchange. In 1987, with Beliz Brother, she created a work for 7 gymnasts on 7 sets of uneven parallel bars, set against the backdrop of Marymoor Park; and in 1988 Graney created *Light Years* for Pacific NW Ballet. *Seven/Uneven* toured to the Serious Fun Festival at Lincoln Center and went on to appear at MayFest in Glasgow in 1991. In 1991, Ms. Graney began to create a body of work related to women with *Faith* (1991), *Sleep* (1995), and *Tattoo* (2001). In between creating this triptych of works, Ms. Graney created the full evening works *Vivaldi* and *Sax House*, choreographed 150 gymnasts for the Goodwill Games, and worked with 130 female martial artists for the Movement Meditation Project. Following the 12-city tour of *Tattoo*, Graney created *the Vivian Girls*. In 2008, Graney created *House of Mind*, an installation performance work set in a 5000 square foot raw space featuring an eighteen foot high wall containing 4000 miniatures, and a wall of 100,000 buttons. *House of Mind* will be at the Kohler Art Center for a six-month installation as well as being featured at Art Basel Miami (Miami Light Project) in 2011.

In 1995, the Company initiated their *Keeping the Faith* (KTF) program, serving incarcerated women nationally and internationally. *KTF Transitions*, designed to support women leaving prison, began in 2008 and is currently being expanded. During the past 17 years the Pat Graney Company has served over 5,000 incarcerated women and female

Nancy Burtenshaw is honored to have been asked back as an original cast member of *Faith* after a 20 year hiatus! When Nancy left the Pat Graney Co. in 1992 many things in life changed: She gave birth to her son Owen (now 11); worked as a museum educator; earned her Master's in Teaching K-6; got re-married and became step-mom to three wonderful kids (Sean, Audrey and Sebastian). Nancy is a dedicated yoga practitioner and teacher and now lives in Moscow, Idaho with her son, and loving spouse, Mark.

Amiya Brown (Lighting Designer) grew up in Santa Fe, New Mexico where she studied Ballet and Modern dance at the Santa Dance Foundation. She received her BA in Drama with a minor in Dance from the University of the Incarnate Word. At UIW she studied acting, dancing, painting, and lighting design. After college, she worked as a free lance performer and lighting designer for 5 years. During this time she fell more and more in love with lighting design. Her choice to pursue lighting design full time led her back to school. She received her MFA in Theatrical Lighting Design at the University of Washington in 2010. She now works as a freelance lighting designer, collaborating with choreographers, theatre companies, and visual artists. Notable collaborations include Pat Graney, Amelia Reeber, Aiko Kinoshata, Seattle Dance Project, Book-it Repertory Theatre, Washington Ensemble Theatre, On the Boards, Cornerstone Theatre Company, and Austin Shakespeare.

Deb (Rhodes) King graduated from The Ohio State University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance. She moved to Seattle in 1989 to join The Pat Graney Company. She was part of the original cast of *Faith* in

1991. She toured with the company to Montana, New York and Scotland. Her performances include *Jesus Loves the Little Cowgirls*, *Colleen Ann*, *Table*, *Sax House* and *Faith*. Deb currently lives in Michigan with her husband Stephen and 2 children, Austin and Lauren, and works full-time teaching water fitness classes. Deb is excited and privileged to be part of the *Faith* cast!

Amii LeGendre lived and worked in Seattle for 14 years where she directed LeGendre Performance Group and danced with Pat Graney from 1992-97. She premiered *Sleep* with Pat Graney Company and was rehearsal director for Graney's Movement Meditation Project. Now in NY, she is an adjunct professor at Bard College, performs and makes site-specific work with a performance collective, and is the dance faculty for Bard Prison Initiative, where she teaches dance to incarcerated men. She is currently pursuing her MFA at U Wisconsin, and is the mother of a 5 year old.

KT Niehoff migrated to Seattle from NYC to join the Pat Graney Company in 1992. She struck out in '95 to make her own events, dances, music, films, classes and messes. In '98 she created Lingo – a roving band of artists, brave hearts and lunatics – which has been presented at places like On the Boards (Seattle), The Joyce SoHo (NY), The Southern Theater (Minneapolis) and SUSHI (San Diego). She is grateful to be a 2011 MAP Fund recipient for her next project (premiere 2013), which will be in residence at ACT Theatre in Seattle and Alverno Presents in Milwaukee. Returning to the Graney Company and this seminal work 20 years later has been a once in a lifetime chance for redemption, reflection and ruminations on the power of time, history and what it means to belong.

Sara Parish is a dancer, choreographer, and performance art/multimedia creator. She pursued a MFA in Dance from Arizona State University. She has collaborated with artists such as Cliff Keuter, Shouze Ma, Jennifer Tsukayama, and John Mitchell. She also danced with Visionary Dance Company and Aaron McGloin Dance. Her work has been commissioned by Roxy Theatre, Hale Theatre, WIU, State Street Performing Company and on an individual project basis. She is thrilled to be performing Pat Graney's work and honored to be sharing the stage with an amazing group of women.

Peggy Piacenza is a 2010 undergraduate of the Ada Comstock Scholars program at Smith College. For most of her pre-college life she has worked extensively as a choreographer and performer touring both nationally and internationally.

Kathryn Stewart danced in the original production of *Faith* in 1991 and performed with the Pat Graney Company until 1994. She currently lives in New Paltz, NY where she teaches high school mathematics. While she enjoys dancing around the classroom, she's even more thrilled to be dancing with Pat Graney again. She holds a B.A. in philosophy from Carleton College and a M.A. in math education from Rutgers University. She grew up taking ballet at the Makaroff School of Ballet in Wisconsin and Pacific Northwest Ballet in Seattle.