THE EXCITEMENT OF DANCE, MUSIC, THEATRE AND STORYTELLING COMES TO YOU!

DIAVOLO / ARCHITECTURE IN MOTION

T.R.U.S.T.
Enclosed is a packet of information about the scheduled program. Please review all of the documents carefully, as they are the materials you will need to sponsor a successful program.

**THE DAILY SCHEDULE**

It is important that the daily schedule be maintained as specified on the confirmation document. If special circumstances occur once the project has begun, notify Music Center staff as soon as possible. Changes may be accommodated pending artist availability (which can be limited). We request that all participants be seated in the performance area and ready to begin at the scheduled times.

**STUDENT SUPERVISION AT SCHOOL SITES**

In accordance with California law, The Music Center requires that a classroom teacher be present with students at all times. It is expected that teachers will attend events with their class and actively participate in the learning experience.

**YOUR FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS**

About a week after the performance, you’ll receive an invoice in the mail. You have 30 days to pay upon receipt of the invoice. We do ask that you wait until you receive the invoice before sending payment.

**ARTIST INTRODUCTION & STAGING REQUIREMENTS**

Please introduce the artist with the enclosed introduction. There is also specific information you will need to prepare for the arrival of each artist. Please give the tech sheet to the school personnel in charge of setting up the performance area well in advance of the scheduled dates. Be sure to have ready any equipment which may be required.

**CURRICULUM CONNECTION FOR CLASSROOM TEACHERS**

These pre- and post-event classroom activities are designed to enhance the understanding and enjoyment of the program. Please duplicate this preparation material and distribute to all teachers whose students will be attending the event to allow them to fully prepare the students.

**PRESS RELEASE AND POSTER**

A pre-made press release is available should you wish to publicize the event. A premade poster is also included so that your school community can be aware of the upcoming event.

We applaud your commitment to arts education and look forward to working with you.

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to call us at 213-972-4310.
"I would like to introduce today's performance which is presented by The Music Center of Los Angeles County. This performance is entitled "T.R.U.S.T.," created and performed by Diavolo / Architecture in Motion. Diavolo is an exciting group of dancers, gymnasts, and actors who use everyday objects in their unique performances. Their dances explore such themes as trust and collaboration. Please welcome Diavolo / Architecture in Motion!"

Feel free to encourage the adult members of your audience to share the experience on social media! Tag us on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram at @MusicCenterLA and we might repost your photos!
TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

SPACE
• 25' wide x 25' deep x 14.5' high minimum (no props or sets stored on stage or in wings)
• Temporary floors should not be raised
• Please be sure to measure carefully

EQUIPMENT
• Two electrical outlets
• Easily accessible sound system
• Two microphones (one wireless if possible)
• 1/8th inch auxiliary input

SURFACE
• Freshly mopped (not waxed)
• Irregularities covered with tape
• Extraneous clutter removed
• Wood, marley or linoleum is REQUIRED

ARRIVAL
• 90 minutes prior to the scheduled start time to prepare and set up, private access to space is REQUIRED

OUTDOOR PERFORMANCES
• A site inspection by Diavolo Education Director must be arranged prior to any outdoor commitment
• Shaded, sheltered area away from wind, sun, and distraction.
• No blacktop, concrete, or grass
• Electrical power source needed

PARKING
• Three spaces, one space should be as close to the performance area as possible for loading and unloading

ASSISTANCE
• Please have a school representative ready to welcome the performers and to stay and help as needed.

DRESSING AREA
• One private, secured dressing area with water for four

START TIME
• Please prepare to start the program on time
• Students should be in the auditorium, seated and ready to begin at the listed times
DIAVOLO / ARCHITECTURE IN MOTION—T.R.U.S.T.

ART FORM: Dance
STYLE: Contemporary
CULTURE: Western European and American

MEET THE ARTIST:

Parisian born Jacques Heim is the dynamic creator and director of Diavolo, which takes a daring, compelling, and uncompromising look at contemporary human life through physicality. Mr. Heim, a transformative director for over 20 years, has studied dance, film, and choreography in France, the United States, and England; he has an MFA in Theatre, Dance, and Film from the California Institute of the Arts. He created Diavolo Dance Theatre in 1992 after graduating from Cal Arts. Due to the unusual and innovative way that Diavolo works with architectural structures, the creative team at Cirque du Soleil hired him to choreograph a show in Las Vegas entitled "Ka," which opened in 2005 and is still running. Diavolo has performed internationally in Scotland, Japan, Chile, Mexico, Canada, South Korea, Brazil, Italy, Spain, Holland, Germany, and Austria. Most recently, he was a Creative Director for the Opening Ceremony of the 16th Asian Game in Guangzhou, China and a consulting choreographer on Ice Age Live!

ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE:

Diavolo is composed of dancers, gymnasts, and actors who all work as teammates. As collaborators they work on, and around, outrageous surrealistic sets and structures. “T.R.U.S.T.” featured in this performance, is a piece choreographed in several sections. The first sections take place in the space on and around a simple platform, a traveling ottoman, and an acrobatic wheel. All of these are manipulated by the dancers as they help each other explore the shared pathways and gravity. They tumble, catch, and slice through the air with perfect precision and teamwork. The next sections have the dancers interact with more familiar structures - like benches, ladders, and a door. As they work with these structures they reveal the importance of cooperative partnering, problem solving, and cooperative space sharing. The final section brings the dancers together as they move through a maze filled with obstacles and tight spaces. The audience will see their ability to overcome adversity and develop confidence. Diavolo’s gravity-defying movements create metaphors for the challenges of human relationships and the struggle to maintain one’s balance in today’s technical, and often detached world.

PREPARING FOR THE EXPERIENCE:

Diavolo investigates the influences of environment, possessions, and relationships in life. They capture the frequently humorous patterns of human behavior that reveal the everyday struggles we all face in modern society.

Although no two pieces are alike, Diavolo has developed a specific method of working and collaborating. Each new work begins with the selection of a physical set piece that serves as the catalyst for building ideas and movement. Examples include a doorway, staircase, or table. Whether it is a pre-existing or specially constructed structure, Jacques makes his selection based on its role and importance in everyday life. Its architectural qualities, geometric shape, or mechanical functionality are also part of the selection rationale.

The next step in the creative process is to explore ideas through improvisation and collaboration. The performers begin to explore ways to move on and around the set, discovering what kind of movement is possible for individuals, as well as groups. Slowly, the performers begin to reveal the landscape of the set so that it becomes more than just an object. The set designer also plays an important role at this stage of development, constantly adjusting the set and finding ways to both assist and challenge the performers.

After the initial exploration, Mr. Heim begins to shape and edit the piece around the skills of the individual performers, creating solos, duets, and group studies. It is only at this point that the theme of the piece is established. After costumes and lighting designs are added, the final stage in developing the dance is to layer in the sound. The composer comes in, only when the piece is nearly finished, to create the music in much the same way as a film score is written. The creative process is truly collaborative, with each person’s contribution being vital to the success of the finished piece. Ultimately, Diavolo’s movement vocabulary is assembled in the manner of a building a collage that becomes an artistic, moving picture of powerful and lasting images.
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- How did the performers demonstrate teamwork?
- What was your favorite set piece (ottoman, bench, door, ladder, or box)? Describe how the set piece was used to challenge the dancers and shape the theme of the dance.
- What ideas or feelings did you get from watching each dance?
- Can you think of an everyday object or structure to use in a dance piece? How would you have the dancers interact with the object? What thematic ideas come to mind?

FRAMEWORK FOCUS—SCIENCE:

Much of Diavolo’s work explores the concepts of gravity and weight. Choose three different objects of varying size and weight (e.g., a feather, a book, a silk scarf). Drop each object from shoulder height. Examine how each falls to the ground. Is the rate of speed at which they fall constant or does it fluctuate according to the weight and size of each object? Spread students out in the space and direct them to observe how different objects fall when dropped. Ask them to imitate these ideas by safely falling to the ground. Change the speed and use contrasting qualities. If you are falling like the feather your descent will be slow and light (indirect path). If you are a book, it will be fast and heavy (direct path). How might a ball, or a coin, fall? Use adjectives to describe each falling action. In groups, observe each other and look for these contrasts. Also, in exploring these different qualities of falling, the fall will take longer than in real time.

Think about what happens to astronauts in space. Can they actually fall? Discuss weightlessness. Explore moving as if you were on the moon; how does this lighter force of gravity impact your body and movements? How does the speed at which you can travel change? Walk normally for 8 counts, and then walk as if weightless for 16 counts. Build a series of movements that combine traveling through the space with normal speed and gravity and then showing a slower speed and weightlessness. Add falling to the ground as a new movement. (Example: 8 counts walking normally; 8 counts as if weightless; 8 counts falling in slow motion; and 8 counts rising back up quickly; holding a final pose for 8 counts.)

ACTIVITIES TO ENHANCE THE EXPERIENCE:

- Three key elements of Diavolo’s process are the use of structures, teamwork and collaboration. As a group they not only create their dances together, but they build on each others ideas, problem solve and critique each other. In this activity, classroom chairs (or desks) serve as the structure. Move and arrange the chairs into an interesting shape in the center, or front, of the classroom. Take a moment to observe the shape that has been created with all the chairs. Then, make any changes which might improve the design. Look at the different levels that have been created, the angles and spaces in between. Divide the students into groups of five. As one group works, the other groups watch. Each group has 3-4 minutes to explore moving through, over, under, and around the structure. The purpose is not to compete with one another, but to work together to explore the different possibilities for movement. After each group has had 3-4 minutes to explore the structure, each group then comes up with an idea or theme for a piece, and then creates a 1 minute dance using the following criteria:
  1. Explore going around and through the structure.
  2. Explore going over and under the structure.
  3. Have a moment of stillness.
  4. Create at least 3 frozen shapes or designs that are held still.
  5. Have a clear beginning, middle, and end.

- Have each group share their dance and listen to feedback:
  - What was successful?
  - What could be improved?

Did each group work well as a team?

Finally, each group chooses a piece of music to accompany their dance. They refine and develop their dances before a final sharing.

- Diavolo has several possible meanings. But a favorite is dia—Spanish for “day,” and vola, Latin for “I will fly.” Write an essay titled, “The Day I Will Fly.”

SUGGESTED RESOURCES:


Author: Madeleine Dahm. Edited by Susan Cambique-Tracey. © The Music Center of Los Angeles County

www.musiccenter.org/ontour @MusicCenterLA
AND THE MUSIC CENTER ANNOUNCE
DIAVOLO TO PERFORM ON

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and The Music Center today announced the upcoming performance of Diavolo. As part of the school’s continuing efforts to enrich its curriculum and its students’ educational experience, the school will present a special performance of Diavolo. The performance is presented by The Music Center’s education department which provides many offerings including live performances, classroom workshops, scholarship and training programs, online arts curriculum, on-campus events and professional development.

Expanding the boundaries of what is considered to be dance, Diavolo/Architecture in Motion leaps, flies, spins and dances on a variety of commonplace items, creating powerful images reflective of the human condition. Using benches, doors or stairs, the company builds appreciation for movement by breaking down barriers to dance and creates a dance vocabulary based on everyday activities. Founded by Jacques Heim, Diavolo/Architecture in Motion is comprised of performers of varied abilities and training - dancers, gymnasts, rock climbers and actors. Through trust and collaboration, Diavolo/Architecture in Motion illustrates that teamwork is as essential in dance as it is in life.

The Music Center on Tour is the premiere resource for high-quality performing arts performances in Los Angeles County. For more than 35 years, schools and communities have benefited from the program’s roster of diverse and compelling performing artists who serve as models of artistic excellence, inspire creative thinking and introduce young audiences to the world’s diverse cultural traditions. Music Center artists represent and celebrate the finest artistic contribution of the world’s cultures – from the colorful regional dances of Mexico and the exquisite music of the China, to the pulsating rhythms of Brazil and the golden harmonies of 20th century America.

Schools can choose from more than 70 performances in music, dance, theatre and storytelling from an internationally acclaimed roster of artists seen across the globe in films, theaters, concert halls, television shows and museums.

About The Music Center
As L.A.’s performing arts destination, The Music Center is L.A.’s home to the world’s greatest artistic programs and events. With four iconic theaters and four renowned resident companies – Center Theatre Group, the LA Master Chorale, the LA Opera and the LA Philharmonic – and recognized for its illustrious dance programming, Glorya Kaufman Presents Dance at The Music Center, The Music Center is a destination where audiences find inspiration in the very best of live performance, as well as nationally recognized arts education and participatory arts experiences. With The Music Center On Location, the non-profit performing arts organization brings events and activities to locations outside of its Downtown Los Angeles campus. The Music Center also programs and manages Grand Park, a 12-acre adjacent greenspace, with year-round free programming. For more information, visit musiccenter.org Follow The Music Center on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram (@MusicCenterLA).

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For more information, please contact The Music Center at 213-972-3338. Members of the media are welcome to cover this performance. Please contact The Music Center prior to sending a reporter or photographer to the school.
THE MUSIC CENTER PRESENTS

DIAVOLO / ARCHITECTURE

IN MOTION

DATE: ___________________________ TIME: ___________________________

SCHOOL: ___________________________

musiccenter.org/ontour
ARTS INTEGRATION PARTNERSHIPS
The Music Center’s teaching artists work in the classroom facilitating student learning and modeling effective instructional strategies for teachers. Essential skills and vocabulary in music, theater, dance, or visual art are connected to universal themes and integrated with other content areas.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Our Professional Development targets arts integration strategies for K-12 teachers in dance, music, theatre, and visual arts. Teachers learn creative and effective approaches for integrating the arts into their content areas. Additionally, The Music Center offers the Summer Arts Studio for Educators. This program consists of events tailored for classroom teachers, arts teachers and educators.

STUDENT MATINEE PERFORMANCES
Each year Glorya Kaufman Presents Dance at The Music Center offers free student matinee dance performances. All performances include a teacher orientation session and curriculum guide for students.

THE BLUE RIBBON CHILDREN’S FESTIVAL
The Blue Ribbon Children’s Festival, designed specifically for fifth grade students, is an annual admission-free program at The Music Center. Students experience a live professional performance at a world-class performing arts center, then gather together to perform a short choreographed dance inspired by the production.

VERY SPECIAL ARTS FESTIVAL
The Very Special Arts Festival is an annual admission-free event celebrating the artistic achievements of students with disabilities and their mainstream peers. The festival features student and professional performances on two stages, visual and performing arts workshops, and a student art exhibit created around a central theme.

SPOTLIGHT
Much more than a competition, Spotlight is a scholarship and training program, which encourages personal and artistic growth, while exploring new possibilities in the arts.

ARTSOURCE®
The Music Center’s Artsource® curriculum is designed to bring the expressive world of the arts into classrooms. The materials are available online free of cost.

OTHER ON CAMPUS MUSIC CENTER OFFERINGS:
Glorya Kaufman Presents Dance at The Music Center, Dance Downtown, Symphonian Campus Tours, Grand Park

PROGRAM SUPPORT PROVIDED BY: