

FLYAWAY

For Immediate Release

Media Contact
Shannon Atlas
415.203.4363
Shannon_atlas@mac.com

FLYAWAY PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS:

THE RIGHT TO BE BELIEVED

May 25-27 & June 1-3, 2017

UC Hastings College of the Law at 333 Golden Gate Ave, SF



photo: RJ Muna pictured: Yayoi Kambara

SAN FRANCISCO, March 1, 2017 – **Flyaway Productions** presents ***The Right to be Believed***, a site specific dance that explores the right to be believed for women, **May 25-27 & June 1-3, UC Hastings College of the Law’s Outdoor Wall. *The Right to be***

Believed will give spectacular language to a serious sociopolitical issue that has not been carefully examined since Anita Hill challenged Justice Clarence Thomas in 1991. This site specific dance explores the lack of credibility for women that is simultaneously both a legal, social and economic problem.

The project, created by Jo Kreiter, Artistic Director of Flyaway Productions, is inspired by Rebecca Solnit's article of the same topic in the October 2014 issue of *Harpers* magazine: by unprocessed rape kits too numerous to count; by the statistic asserted in John Krakauer's *Missoula* that 90 percent of reported rapes do not result in prosecution; by the rising number of pretextual abortion laws that infantilize and belittle women, while creating serious obstacles to abortion access; and by continuing inequities in work life law, where small differences in how men and women are treated lead to large gaps in wages, promotions and prestige.

The Right to be Believed will use flight, inversion and a defiance of gravity to subvert limitations, to delight in the body despite unjust constraints, and to claim public space as a proving ground for women to be taken seriously in the nation's collective imagination.

Jo Kreiter, Artistic Director of Flyaway Productions says, "When I conceived *The Right to be Believed*, little did I know that this project would speak directly to the heart of our current political turmoil, and resistance. Three years ago, I sat in the library and opened *Harper's Magazine* (Oct. 2014). There I found an article Rebecca Solnit wrote called "Cassandra Among the Creeps," which presented a historic and contemporary lens on women and credibility. Solnit's article touched a nerve."

Kreiter continues: "My response is *The Right to be Believed*. When I searched online for "women and credibility", Google delivered images of "purses and pornography." I laughed, cried and chose to cook up a block-long, evening length dance to counter these images. I look forward to creating this project in a public space, where our laws, institutions and cultural assumptions affect us."

The Right to be Believed is a collaboration between Flyaway Productions, UC Hastings and its Center for Work Life Law, the Oakland-based composers of FR333 (MADLINES and XOA), photojournalist Lynn Johnson (National Geographic, LIFE), and Flyaway's artistic team.

The project is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, The CA Arts Council, The Fleishhacker Foundation, and San Francisco's Grants for the Arts.

CALENDAR LISTING

Flyaway Productions presents The Right to be Believed, a site specific dance asserting women's credibility.

WHO:

Choreography/ Direction: Jo Kreiter
Composers: FR333 (MADlines and XOA)
Rigging Design: Karl Gillick
Photo Journalism: Lynn Johnson
Projection Design: Ian Winter
Lighting Design: Matthew Antaky
Dancers: Bianca Cabrera, Sonsheree Giles, MaryStarr Hope, Yayoi Kambara, Megan Lowe, Sonya Smith

WHAT: *The Right to be Believed*, a site specific dance that claims public space as a proving ground for women to be taken seriously in the nation's collective imagination.

WHEN: May 25-27 and June 1-3
Two shows a night at 8:30 and 9:30 pm
Each show runs 30 minutes

WHERE: UC Hastings College of the Law, 333 Golden Gate, San Francisco
On the outdoor wall

TICKETS: FREE

About Flyaway Productions

Flyaway Productions exposes the range and power of female physicality. Since 1996, Flyaway has challenged dominant ideas about women's strength. We make critically-acclaimed performances in unconventional spaces. Flyaway is a coalition builder that brings together journalists, organizers, community organizations, unions, and non-profits into the creative process to mine truthful stories, and to engage non-traditional audiences in the work.

Our work lives at the intersection of social justice and acrobatic spectacle. It's been described as "politically-driven civic intervention" in the book Moving Sites by Victoria Hunter. Flyaway has unveiled the hidden history of women who built the Bay Area's bridges; of older homeless women; of women activists who have carved out safe space via The Women's Building, and of women touched by wage insecurity in the garment industry. Flyaway's arts and activism program for low income teenage girls, GIRLFLY, achieves both artistic and activist outcomes.

We create 'off the ground' spectacle to make a lasting impression with an audience; our work is mostly communicative when its steeped in the right balance of awe, provocation, and daring. Our tools include community collaboration, a masterful use of place, a feminist lens and a body-based push against the constraints of gravity.

Flyaway dances are performed on steel objects, both architectural and fabricated, with dancers suspended anywhere from two feet to one hundred feet above the street. The company's site-specific dances have been performed off the beaten track in San Francisco on The Women's Building, on the Library at SF State, on the 9 story wall of the Renoir Hotel at 7th& Market Streets, bringing a human face to urban decay and renewal, and on the property of UC Hasting College of the Law, shedding light on the lives of homeless women in San Francisco's Tenderloin neighborhood. We have been supported by the National Endowment for the Arts, Center for Cultural Innovation, New Music USA, The Gerbode Foundation, MAP, the Creative Work Fund, the Wattis, Kenneth Rainin and Miranda Lux Foundations, CA Arts Council, Grants for the Arts and the SF Arts Commission, and have received four IZZY awards from the SF dance community. The SF Bay Guardian describes Flyaway as makers of "art at the heart of the democratic ideal."

#