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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 29, 2010

**DANCE WITH THE BRIDE HOSTS EXCLUSIVE PHILADELPHIA ENGAGEMENT
OF *FLY: FIVE FIRST LADIES OF DANCE*, OCTOBER 29 & 30, 2010.**

**FEATURING MODERN DANCE ICONS BEBE MILLER, JAWOLE WILLA ZOLLAR,
GERMAINE ACOGNY, DIANNE MCINTYRE AND CARMEN DE LAVALLANDE
IN RARE SOLO WORKS.**

Philadelphia, PA - The **Painted Bride Art Center** proudly presents the Philadelphia Premiere of ***FLY: Five First Ladies of Dance***, the not-to-be missed modern dance event of the 2010 season. Renowned choreographers **Bebe Miller, Jawole Willa Jo Zollar, Germaine Acogny, Dianne McIntyre and Carmen de Lavallade** – the absolute FLY-est ground breaking “divas” of dance – will share the stage for two unforgettable evenings on **Friday, October 29 and Saturday, October 30 at 8pm** as each dancer appears in commanding and rarely seen signature solo works. **Single tickets are \$25 and are on sale now. Crush card holders get 20% off single tickets. Students and seniors receive a 25% discount.**

Philadelphia audiences will have the opportunity to get up-close-and-personal with these dance luminaries in special related ***FLY: Five*** events. A panel discussion with the artists, **Inside the Dancer’s Studio**, will take place **Thursday, October 28 at 7pm**. Tickets are \$10 and space is limited. **Dr. Brenda Dixon-Gottschild** will host a free **Pre-show Discussion** on **Saturday October 30 at 6:30pm** focusing on her latest memoir about Philadanco founder Joan Myers-Brown. ***FLY: Five*** also coincides with ***JO-ET-TICS: Line Dance, Stretch & Trim*** a new weekly movement workshop part of the Bride’s ***Just MOVE*** initiative and **continues on Tuesdays through October 26. The fee is \$5 per class.**

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PAINTED BRIDE ART CENTER/DANCE WITH THE BRIDE / FLY: FIVE /ADD-2

For tickets or more info about these events, visit paintedbride.org or call the Box Office at 215-925-9914. The Painted Bride Art Center is located at 230 Vine Street in Old City, Philadelphia. The box office is open Tuesday through Saturday, 12pm until 6pm. For further background information and breaking news related to FLY: Five visit, fly.atthebride.com.

Representing three generations (1950s, 60s, 70s), these history-making women are masters of dance rooted in the African and African American culture and have inspired many with their strength, tenacity, and grace. Through intimate conversation in studio and riveting solo performances on stage, each "FLY First Lady" conveys her unique contribution to the growth and vitality of modern American dance. "Although each performance was unique, all had a raw honesty, clarity and visceral emotional power," said *Attitude: the Dancers' Magazine*.

A former dance partner of Alvin Ailey, **Carmen de Lavallade's** career has crossed from film to opera, Broadway to dancing with many of the major choreographers of the last half-century. She will perform ***The Creation***, which was choreographed for her husband, Geoffrey Holder in 1972. *Dance Magazine* calls it "a saucy illustration of the Biblical take on how our world came to be and could make a believer out of Darwin."

Senegal's **Germaine Acogny** is the founder of the critically-acclaimed all-male Compagnie Jant-Bi and considered by many to be the "mother of contemporary African dance." She performs a mesmerizing work-in-progress that is both reminiscent of, and completely different, from her work with her company, co-choreographed with Pierre Doussaint.

Founder of the 1970s-80s Harlem-based Sounds in Motion Company and a Broadway choreographer (*Joe Turner's Come and Gone*), **Dianne McIntyre's** signature works include ***Take-off from a Forced Landing*** (1984) and ***Their Eyes Were Watching God*** (1986), based on Zora Neale Hustson's novels. Dancing to live jazz and hints of songs, McIntyre performs her piece *If You Don't Know*, which draws on the memory of three of her mentors who she respects and wishes we knew better.

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PAINTED BRIDE ART CENTER/DANCE WITH THE BRIDE / FLY: FIVE /ADD-3

In **Bebe Miller's *Rain***, a patch of live grass sits center stage, a set and silent partner to the red velvet-clad dancer. A remount of her 1989 work, Miller describes it as a "work built by struggle, ultimately redeemed." A native New Yorker she has been a choreographer for more than 25 years and created more than 40 original works in the U.S. and abroad. She founded Bebe Miller Dance Company in 1985.

Inspired by the plight of the displaced residents of New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina, **Jawole Willa Jo Zollar** created ***Bring 'Em Home***. The founder-Artistic Director of **Urban Bush Women** and a former student of Dianne McIntyre, Zollar has created work for Alvin Ailey, Ballet Arizona, and Philadanco among others. She and her company have been active in rebuilding the cultural life of New Orleans.

Next up, **Dance with the Bride presents Dance Theater X (DTX)** in a newly commissioned work titled ***World Headquarters on December 3-4***. This dance theater engagement at the Bride includes a **master class** with dancer-choreographer, **DTX founder Charles Anderson on December 4**.

Entering its 41st season, the Painted Bride continues to present a diverse roster of risk-taking talents spanning a wide spectrum of disciplines including music, dance, theater and visual arts. Looking forward after 40, the Bride maintains its stance at the "intersection of culture and creativity" to deliver the best the living arts has to offer – work that engages, excites, transforms, inspires and exhilarates.

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PAINTED BRIDE ART CENTER/DANCE WITH THE BRIDE / FLY: FIVE /ADD-4

Funder credits

FLY: Five First Ladies of Dance is supported by The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage through Dance Advance. The national tour was made possible by a grant from Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation with support from the National Endowment for the Arts. Funded, in part, by the National Dance Project of the New England Foundation for the Arts, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and additional funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Ford Foundation, and the Community Connections Fund of the MetLife Foundation.

World Headquarters is a National Performance Network (NPN) Creation Fund/Forth Fund Project co-commissioned by Painted Bride Art Center in partnership with Central District Forum for Arts & Ideas and NPN.

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Press note:

For additional information, detail confirmation, or to schedule an artist interview call Phil Sumpter, Director of Marketing and Communications at (215) 925-9914 ext. 15

Visit fly.atthebride.com for an exclusive behind the scenes look at FLY: Five – artist biographies, recent artist interviews, and the history of Black dance in Philadelphia.

FLY: Five Events at a Glance

JO-ET-TICS: Line Dance, Stretch & Trim

Movement Workshop Series

Tuesdays, September 21 – October 26

6:30 – 8pm | \$5 per class

Whether a movement novice or experienced dancer, fitness freak or seeking motivation, the Bride invites you to join renowned choreographer and line dance instructor Joette Wood-Patrick for a weekly dose of JO-ET-TICS. Combining fitness and dance in the Bride's comfortable setting with family, friends, and colleagues. This participatory dance program, part of the Bride's *Just Move* series.

FLY: Inside the Dancer's Studio

Panel discussion with the Artists

Thursday, October 28 | 7pm

\$10

Philadelphia dance fans are invited to participate in a riveting, intimate conversation with and *FLY* dance legends Bebe Miller, Jawole Willa Jo Zollar, Germaine Acogny, Dianne McIntyre and Carmen de Lavallade. Facilitated by Philadelphia-based dance journalist and author Dr. Brenda Dixon-Gottschild.

FLY: Pre-show Discussion

Book Talk

Saturday, October 30 | 6:30pm

Free

Join an intimate dialogue with respected dance critic from our region, Dr. Brenda Dixon-Gottschild as she discusses her recent literary work: *Joan Myers Brown & The Audacious Hope of the Black Ballerina – An American Memoir*.

FLY: Five First Ladies of Dance

Evening Performances

Friday-Saturday, October 29-30 | 8pm

\$25 | 20% off for Crush Card Holders

Renowned African American choreographers **Bebe Miller, Jawole Willa Jo Zollar, Germaine Acogny, Dianne McIntyre and Carmen de Lavallade** – the absolute FLY-est ground breaking “divas” of dance – take the Bride stage for two unforgettable evenings as each dancer appears in a commanding and rarely seen signature solo work. This is the not-to-be missed modern dance event of the 2010 season.