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Chicago's Center for Independent Dance
and Performance Arts

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Hi-res digital images available on request

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Links Hall presents *In Pieces*,
performed by the Striding Lion Performance Group,
October 15 – 17, 2010.

Chicago, IL – Striding Lion Performance Group celebrates its 10th Anniversary Season with *In Pieces*, an evening of new dance theater works by **Annie Beserra** and **Adriana Durant**, featuring music by **Fluid Minds**.

This marks **Annie Beserra's** return as the Founding Artistic Director. Choreographers Beserra and Durant explore society's obsession with celebrities and fears of falling into obscurity. *In Pieces* features two works including – Chemical Reactions, choreographed by Adriana Durant, and Slip, choreographed by Annie Beserra.

In Pieces runs Friday and Saturday, October 15 and 16, at 8pm and Sunday, October 17, at 7PM at Links Hall 3435 N. Sheffield Ave., Chicago, IL. 60657. Tickets are \$20 General Admission/\$15 Students. For more information call **773.281.0824**, or purchase tickets online at www.Linkshall.org.

"The 10th Anniversary is a chance to reflect, to celebrate, to challenge, and to move forward with the all the strength and awareness that the last 9 years gifts us," says Beserra. "We celebrate Striding Lion's foundational dedication to collaborative community. . . This year is about bringing these new and old practices together to build a cohesive, creative force that feeds and challenges our artists and audiences alike."

~Program Details~

Chemical Reactions - choreographer Adriana Durant explores how the brain and the body engage obsession and fame in a red-carpet-lined trio danced by Adriana Durant, Annie Beserra and Daniel Goode.

Slip - choreographer Annie Beserra takes a long hard look at humans' fear of obscurity and the desperate measures they'll take to avoid that dreadful fall. The piece is accompanied by the live rock-band Fluid Minds playing *Gamma Wave*, their newest EP inspired by the 40Hz brain waves thought to imply consciousness and attentive focus.

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“Adriana Durant and I . . . both work very organically in the studio - working from an initial movement or conceptual idea; getting into the studio and working with phrases we've developed and tasks we assign our dancer/collaborators; then allowing the resulting physical imagery, serendipitous accidents, and dynamic structures to lead us where they will . . . In beginning with celebrity and obscurity, I think we were both responding to what we see as everyday obsessions... the daily battle of the ego to know and be known, to stand out, to be heard, to avoid being forgotten.” – Annie Beserra

The Company:

Under the direction of Annie Beserra, Striding Lion Performance Group (formerly Striding Lion InterArts Workshop) is an association of dance theater artists and collaborators dedicated to bringing innovative and thought provoking performance programming to diverse audiences. Through performance events, residencies, classes, and workshops, Striding Lion strives to break down the barriers between artist and audience member by making the study and performance of Dance Theater accessible and meaningful for all.

Striding Lion has been pursuing its mission of building collaborative community through interdisciplinary arts performance and education programming since its founding in 2001. The Company is committed to the empowerment of the independent artist, to the enrichment and entertainment of diverse audiences, and to the evolution and advancement of artistic expression.

~Bios~

ANNIE BESERRA/ Artistic Director

Annie Arnoult Beserra co-founded Striding Lion in 2001 with Amanda Berg Wilson and Carissa Johnson and is proud to be returning as Artistic Director in this 10th Anniversary Season. Her work with Striding Lion and Beserra Dance Theater (a Striding Lion project) has earned critical acclaim from The Sun Times, The Chicago Reader, Time Out Chicago and The Village Voice. Beserra has an MFA in Dance from The Ohio State University and a BA in Dance and Comparative Literary Studies from Northwestern. Beserra's choreography has been performed in Chicago, New York City, Columbus, OH, and Anchorage and Fairbanks, AK. Here in Chicago she has choreographed for Piven Theater Workshop, The Vittum Theater, Roadworks at the Steppenwolf Garage, XSIGHT! Performance Group, Lucky Plush Productions, Evanston Dance Ensemble and Northwestern University. She was a member of Billy Siegenfeld's Jump Rhythm Jazz Project from 1996-2000 and has performed in her own work and for choreographers throughout Chicago. She has been a guest artist at the Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival, The University of Alaska at Anchorage, Northwestern University, Southern Methodist University, Western Michigan University, UC Irvine, Louisiana Dance Theater, and Alaska Dance Theatre. She is an adjunct faculty member at Northwestern University and a member of the Society of Dance History Scholars, and has presented her dance research at Le Centre National de la Danse in Paris.

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ADRIANA DURANT/ Artistic Associate

Adriana Durant is a choreographer, performer, and teacher. She has an MFA in dance from The Ohio State University and a BFA in Performance from Emerson College in Boston. Between degrees, Adriana taught, created, and produced dance in Chicago for nine years. In Chicago, she was Artist-In-Residence at Links Hall, where she frequently performed and taught modern technique. She has performed professionally as an improvisational dance artist, dancer for numerous independent choreographers, and as a member of *Mordine and Company Dance Theatre*. Adriana has also performed in works by Bebe Miller, Amy Raymond, HiJack Dance Company, Peter Schmitz, Peter DiMuro, and Compagnie Felix Ruckert. Adriana's choreography has been performed in Chicago, New York City, Boston, Washington DC, Columbus and Athens Ohio, where she is currently a Visiting Assistant Professor at Ohio University, teaching ballet, modern, composition, and improvisation.

Fluid Minds

Citing influences ranging from rock and hip hop to reggae and funk, Fluid Minds band members - John Gray, Frank Clayton, Mike DeGuzman, and Christian Rogala (Striding Lion Artistic Associate) - are multi-instrumentalists who have created a style of their own. Their music has been played on ESPN's Sports Center, Adult Swim, PBS' Roadtrip Nation, Fox Sports, Q101, The Loop, and WLUW. *Gamma Wave* fuses a heavy rock base with electronic/digital elements and synthesizers. The album is available as a FREE digital download at HYPERLINK "http://www.fluidmindsmusic.com" www.fluidmindsmusic.com.

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October 15 – 17, 2010

Striding Lion Performance Group kicks off its 10th Anniversary season with **In Pieces**

The return of Founding Artistic Director **Annie Beserra**

Featuring: Joy Davis, Genevieve Garcia, Adam Gauzza, Daniel Goode, Calyn Guberman,
Annie Kahane, Abby Suskin, and Amanda Timm

Presented in two parts:

Chemical Reactions choreographed by **Adriana Durant**

Slip choreographed by **Annie Bessera**, with music by **Fluid Minds**

Friday and Saturday / October 15 and 16 / 8PM

Sunday / October 17 / 7PM

Tickets \$20 General / \$15 Students

Links Hall encourages artistic innovation and public engagement by maintaining a facility and providing flexible programming for the research, development and presentation of new work in the performing arts.

Links Hall is located at 3435 N. Sheffield Avenue, Chicago, IL 60657—convenient to the BROWN, PURPLE & RED line stop at Belmont and RED line Addison stop in Chicago's Lakeview neighborhood. For more information call **773.281.0824** or visit www.LinksHall.org

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