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For Immediate Release

**San Francisco Dance Film Festival Presents Dance Screen 2013 in  
association with San Francisco Film Society and San Francisco Ballet**

**September 12-15, 2013 at Landmark's Embarcadero Center Cinema**

**Public call for submissions December 10, 2012 – March 1, 2013**

SAN FRANCISCO, December 10, 2012 – San Francisco Dance Film Festival (SFDFF) announces the opening of submissions for its fourth annual festival scheduled for September 12 – 15, 2013 at Landmark's Embarcadero Center Cinema in San Francisco. The four-day event—*Dance Screen 2013 with San Francisco Dance Film Festival*—will be produced in collaboration with European media arts organization International Music & Media Centre (IMZ). Their Dance Screen, one of Europe's oldest and most prestigious competitions and festivals for dance films, will partner for the first time with a US festival to present not only the best dance films from around the world, but also to host a public forum with professionals from the field of dance, music, filmmaking, technology/media, education and visual arts. The forum will explore the new dynamics involved in creating and distributing this growing art form to a global audience.

**CALL FOR ENTRIES**

Dance film creators and distributors are encouraged to submit films of all genres and dance styles to the competition through SFDFF's website at [www.sfdancefilmfest.org](http://www.sfdancefilmfest.org) by March 1, 2013. Cash prizes will be awarded in both professional and student competitions on the last night of the festival. Categories for entries include feature-length documentary works, captured live performances, and screendance – work choreographed specifically for the screen.

SFDFFF's Executive Director Greta Schoenberg says, "The privilege of hosting Dance Screen is the most exciting thing to happen for dance film in the Bay Area to date. It will be a wonderful opportunity for artists from around the world to engage in creative dialog about the possibilities for this quickly evolving, highly collaborative art form."

The event will be an expanded version of SFDFFF's annual festival, with the addition of the Dance Screen competition, an industry conference including an opportunity for filmmakers to pitch their works in progress or ideas for new projects to international broadcasters and distributors. SFDFFF will also introduce the Co-Laboratory, an experimental filmmaking project for local professional artists to collaborate in the creation of short dance films a week before the festival. With an advisory panel, SFDFFF will act as a matchmaker for local choreographers, filmmakers and composers to create four original interdisciplinary works for the screen. The final results will be premiered on the closing night of the festival, September 15, 2013. Participants will be announced during the summer, 2013. The SFDFFF Co-Laboratory is partially funded by a grant from The Kenneth Rainin Foundation.

SFDFFF's Managing Director, Judy Flannery, commented, "In thinking of ways we could celebrate this unique opportunity in having Dance Screen collaborate with SFDFFF, we came up with the idea of the Co-Laboratory, which would focus a spotlight on our local dance and film communities. Our hope is that the Co-Laboratory will become an annual activity for SFDFFF to encourage the cross-disciplinary collaboration of local artists with the end results shared with a global audience."

*Dance Screen 2013 with San Francisco Dance Film Festival* will be co-presented by the San Francisco Film Society and San Francisco Ballet. Each organization will work with the Bay Area dance and film communities, encouraging local filmmakers, dancers and enthusiasts to participate in the festival and conference. They will also provide marketing, curatorial, and advisory support. San Francisco Ballet Executive Director, Glenn McCoy, stated, "San Francisco Ballet is proud to collaborate with these other remarkable organizations to showcase this emerging art form. This festival marks the first time that Dance Screen has been presented outside of Europe. It is fitting that they chose San Francisco Dance Film Festival, a Bay Area organization that reflects the innovation at the heart of the Bay Area, to be their U.S. presenting partner."



#### **ABOUT THE SAN FRANCISCO DANCE FILM FESTIVAL:**

The San Francisco Dance Film Festival was established in 2010 to give the Bay Area a much-needed platform for the presentation and further development of dance-based films. The Festival seeks to bring dance to wider audiences and supports interdisciplinary collaboration among

artists by providing opportunities for education and creative exchange.

Dancers and filmmakers have worked together since the invention of the motion picture, but the dance film genre has exploded in recent years as digital technologies have become more accessible to independent artists. Today's dance films encompass a wide range of interpretations and include contributions from visual artists, animators, composers and live performers. SFDF's programming covers this broad spectrum by highlighting sub-genres such as "screendance", short experimental dance pieces created specifically for the camera, as well as filmic interpretations of dance performances originally created for the stage. Feature documentaries focus on the process of creating dance—from historical profiles to behind-the-scenes views of today's most innovative choreographers.

With the support of community partners both in the Bay Area and abroad, SFDF has grown quickly as an organization. Within a few short years it has gained international recognition, drawing participants from all over the world for a vibrant annual celebration of dance on camera. Its year-round activities now include filmmaking workshops, lectures at universities and dance schools, and free film presentations at the public library.

"An impressive program of locally made and imported works. The sheer number of perspectives that these dance/film artists brought to their work was inspiring." —*San Francisco Chronicle*

"A wild, beautiful ride" – *San Francisco Examiner*

For more information, visit [www.sfdancefilmfest.org](http://www.sfdancefilmfest.org)



dance**screen**

#### **ABOUT IMZ/DANCE SCREEN:**

The International Music + Media Centre (IMZ), based in Vienna, is a global non-profit association dedicated to the worldwide development, dissemination and promotion of music and dance through the audiovisual media. It is a forum for exchange and reflection whose core objectives are to serve as a high-quality advisory body in this industry and as a mediator between those organisations and individuals involved and interested in the fields of music and dance. It is the IMZ's intention to make the performing arts available to a wide audience around the globe and help arts programmes occupy their rightful place in the media.

Thus, the professional umbrella organisation acts as an interface between leading international producers, distributors, broadcasters of cultural programmes, opera houses, educational institutions and record labels focusing on classical, contemporary and world music, and jazz, as

well as classical and contemporary dance.

With the aim to enhance the co-operation in this media universe, the IMZ, since its foundation in 1961, has established an essential network that has grown to more than 150 members from 26 countries around the world. Its members, whether they are individuals or organisations, are closely connected to the audio-visual music and dance business and who work hard to make a difference in this cultural community.

The IMZ founded dance screen in 1988 as one of the first dance film and video competitions and festivals worldwide. It has ever since been a productive representative platform for a new genre that has engaged and inspired filmmakers, dance and video artists, distributors and broadcasters. It was established to create a dialogue between all these partners and to bring audiences in touch with dance from all over the world.

Past editions of dance screen took place in Amsterdam in cooperation with Cinedans (2010), in Den Haag in cooperation with the Holland Dance Festival, Filmhuis Den Haag (2007), in Brighton (2005), in Monaco at the Monaco Dance Forum (2002) and in Cologne at the Media Park (1999).

For more information about IMZ and Dance Screen, visit [www.imz.at](http://www.imz.at) or [www.dancescreen.com](http://www.dancescreen.com)



#### **ABOUT SAN FRANCISCO BALLET:**

As America's oldest professional ballet company, San Francisco Ballet has enjoyed a long and rich tradition of artistic "firsts" since its founding in 1933, including performing the first American productions of *Swan Lake* and *Nutcracker*, as well as the first 20th-century American *Coppélia*. San Francisco Ballet is one of the three largest ballet companies in the United States. Guided in its early years by American dance pioneers and brothers Lew, Willam, and Harold Christensen, San Francisco Ballet currently presents more than 100 performances annually, both locally and internationally. Under the direction of Helgi Tomasson for more than two decades, the Company has achieved an international reputation as one of the preeminent ballet companies in the world. In 2005, San Francisco Ballet won the prestigious Laurence Olivier Award in the category of "Outstanding Achievement in Dance" and in 2006, it was the first non-European company elected "Company of the Year" in *Dance Europe* magazine's annual readers' poll. In 2008, the Company marked its 75th anniversary with a host of initiatives including an ambitious New Works Festival. Recent highlights include a tour to the People's Republic of China, the celebration of Artistic Director & Principal Choreographer Helgi Tomasson's 25th anniversary

with the Company, and the United States premiere of John Neumeier's *The Little Mermaid*, which was broadcast internationally, as well as nationally on PBS's *Great Performances* "Dance in America" in December 2011. In 2012, SF Ballet's ambitious tour schedule included engagements in London and Washington, D.C., as well as first-time visits to Hamburg, Moscow, and Sun Valley, Idaho.

For more information, visit: [www.sfballet.org](http://www.sfballet.org).

## SAN FRANCISCO FILM SOCIETY™

### **ABOUT SAN FRANCISCO FILM SOCIETY:**

Building on a legacy of more than 50 years of bringing the best in world cinema to the Bay Area, the San Francisco Film Society is a national leader in exhibition, education and filmmaker services. SFFS is headed by Executive Director Ted Hope with the programmatic leadership of Director of Programming Rachel Rosen, Director of Filmmaker360 Michele Turnure-Salleo and Director of Education Joanne Parsont. The Film Society presents more than 100 days of exhibition each year, reaching a total audience of more than 100,000 people. Its acclaimed education program introduces international, independent and documentary cinema and media literacy to more than 10,000 teachers and students. Through Filmmaker360, the Film Society's filmmaker services program, essential creative and business services, professional development classes, and funding totaling millions of dollars are provided to deserving filmmakers of all levels. The Film Society seeks to elevate all aspects of film culture, offering a wide range of activities that engage emotions, inspire action, change perceptions and advance knowledge. A 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation, it is largely donor and member supported. Patronage and membership provides discounted prices, access to grants and residencies, private events and a wealth of other benefits.

For more information visit [www.sffs.org](http://www.sffs.org)