FSU School of Dance presents *An Evening of Dance*

Tallahassee, FL – October 16, 2015. The Florida State University School of Dance will present *An Evening of Dance* on November 6 at 8:00 pm, and November 7 at 2:00 and 8:00 pm in the Nancy Smith Fichter Dance Theatre in Montgomery Hall, located on the FSU campus. A pre-show improvised performance will begin at 7:15 and 1:15 respectively.

An evening of dance will present the choreography of guest artist Alex Ketley, returning choreographic fellow of the Maggie Alsee National Center for Choreography (MANCC), as well as works by five School of Dance faculty members including a dance film by faculty member Hannah Schwadron.

The evening will open with a restaging of Tim Glenn’s work *aXis*, originally premiered in 2010 at FSU. In continual transformation, *aXis* began as *Across, Through* a work created in 1995 for the Tim Glenn & Company Repertory Ensemble. The current evolution of *aXis* features an original musical score by School of Dance faculty member Dan Smith entitled *Stardust*. Glenn has been assisted in the restaging by Santa Fe College Assistant Professor Sarah Harkness-Sebastian, a member of the original cast.

Hannah Schwadron’s choreography for the dance film *Klasse*, directed by filmmaker and FSU School of Communication Faculty member, Malia Bruker, situates viewers in war-torn Hamburg, Germany in the midst of the Holocaust. Filmed in a historical classroom at the school where Schwadron’s grandmother was once a student, the work breathes renewed life into letters written between classmates as they left one-by-one on the kindertransport out of the country. The cast is composed of middle school students from the Ida-Ehre-Schule, and collaborating professional dancers.

Retiring this December after 32 years as faculty of the School of Dance, Professor Anthony Morgan is re-staging his work *Punctuated Equilibrium*. The piece features 4 dancers performing daring acts and playful feats with 8 foot ladders to a musical score by Patrick Pennefather. Originally choreographed in 1994 and re-mounted in 1997 and 2002, Morgan describes the work as a “construction site turned into a circus”.

Anjali Austin will present *THREADS*, a solo performance which developed out of research inspired by a collection of 33 quilts she inherited from her grandmother, Ms. Gussie Arnold Hill. A fifth generation Floridian, Austin says, in the work “I investigate and illuminate the African-American experience in the South through personal family histories, and the path that led to my career in ballet”. Her interdisciplinary research has resulted in quilt exhibitions and performances throughout the United States.

With a cast of thirteen dancers, Rick McCullough will be premiering a contemporary ballet piece titled *Clarion*. The three movement work features an extended duet and examines themes of dominance and jealousy. McCullough describes the electronic score by Anna Meredith as “driving, mysterious, and sometimes mystical”. 
The evening will close with a work by former School of Dance guest faculty and returning MANCC artist Alex Ketley. A San Francisco-based choreographer and the director of the contemporary dance company The Foundry, Ketley returned to FSU this fall through MANCC to develop his new work, "Deep South." After his residency company members Marlie Couto, Courtney Mazeika, and Sarah Woods remained at FSU to stage an excerpt from Ketley's work Poem. The work engages an array of choreographic impulses Ketley has pursued over the last several years. Ranging from The Foundry's studies in the studio, to traveling projects that explore what dance means to people throughout rural parts of the United States, these influences mingle in a work that seeks varying ways movement can achieve a sense of visual traction.

Make sure to arrive early for the performance to allow the FSU dancers to usher you into the theatre with a pre-show improvisational experience created by FSU dance majors. The dancers have been guided by faculty member Hannah Schwadron in an ongoing process of developing their skills as versatile improvisers.

Tickets for An Evening of Dance performances are $18 for adults, $16 for senior citizens, $12 for children and non-FSU students and $10 for FSU students with ID. All seating is general admission. For ticket information, contact the Fine Arts Tickets Office at 850-644-6500 or online at www.ticket.fsu.edu. Tickets may also be purchased directly before each performance and November 5 & 6, 12-4 pm at Montgomery Hall.

For more information call Joyce Fausone at 850.645.2449 or via email at jfausone@fsu.edu, or check online at dance.fsu.edu. The School of Dance is within the College of Fine Arts at Florida State University.