

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**Heidi Duckler Dance**

**Presents**

***The Best of The Quest* digital book**



HDD dancers Raymond Ejiofor, William Jay Ysvisaker, and Rebekah Denegal | Photo by Rush Varela

LOS ANGELES (December 17, 2020) – Los Angeles-based dance company Heidi Duckler Dance (HDD) publishes *The Best of The Quest*, HDD's first ever interactive digital book celebrating the company's 35th year anniversary.

*The Best of the Quest* documents THE QUEST, a project of 10 premieres over 10 days across Los Angeles and includes exclusive photography, film, music, animation, and essays. The QUEST represented HDD's 35-year enduring dedication to inclusiveness and justice in dance, arts education, and our community. *The Best of the Quest* archives this once-in-a-lifetime experience, increases accessibility to these works, and memorializes the company's journey over the years.

Whether you are a dance fan, art enthusiast, or lover of Los Angeles, this one-of-a-kind digital experience makes a fantastic holiday gift to self and others. Proceeds from the digital book will go towards supporting HDD's educational programs in communities across Los Angeles, innovative performances, and employment of artists and teachers.

Following the December 20th book release, Heidi Duckler Dance will host a virtual book signing for *The Best of the Quest* on January 7th, 2021 at 6 PM. HDD's Founder and Artistic Director, Heidi Duckler, will digitally sign copies and collaborative artists and partners will read excerpts from the book.

*"The visual, sonic and emotional content of The Quest performances were finely tuned to give us the city we have lost at this moment, and to remind us, through tales told in dance by diverse and skilled dancers, that we must continue to move forward – all that that implies. The dancers... move us and move for us. The work is beautiful and poignant. The dances are tales captured in our brains to be re-run again and again at quiet moments."*

- Excerpt from *The Best of The Quest* by Deborah Weintraub, Chief Deputy City Engineer & Architect, City of Los Angeles & HDD Board Member

**Watch the book teaser here:** <https://vimeo.com/473596592>

**Tickets:** \$35 at <https://heididuckler.org/35th-anniversary-book/>

#### **Details for Calendar Listings:**

What: *The Best of the Quest* digital book

Who: Heidi Duckler Dance

When: Book release: December 20th, 2020

Book signing: January 7th, 2021 @ 6PM PST

Where: Downloadable with purchase [here](#)

*Heidi Duckler Dance (HDD) is rooted in democratic dance, art education and spatial justice, creating site specific work since 1985.*

#### **About Heidi Duckler Dance:**

Initially founded in 1985, HDD is a pioneer in producing interdisciplinary performances. The company develops and rehearses each multi-sensory experience in the site where the work is

performed. HDD advances social equity in under-resourced communities by providing opportunities for audience members and students to interact with meaningful spaces, both public and private, that they may not otherwise have access to. These innovative experiences allow participants to view these places, and their communities, in new and interesting ways. Over the past 34 years, HDD's Artistic Director, Heidi Duckler, has created over 300 original works locally, nationally and internationally, including in many LA neighborhoods such as: Downtown LA (the Historic Core, Arts District, Produce District and Fashion District), Boyle Heights, Koreatown, Studio City, Van Nuys, Hollywood, Venice, San Pedro and South LA. Duckler's work has been internationally recognized in Hong Kong (Hong Kong Urban Arts Festival 2007), Russia (Link Vostok International East-West Arts Exchange 2010), Montreal (Transatlantique Quartier 2013), Germany (Tanzmesse, 2014 and 2018), Australia (Brisbane Festival 2014), Cuba (Ciudad en Movimiento 2016) and Chile (Puerto de Ideas 2018). This year HDD was awarded grants for upcoming performances and arts education initiatives including; LA County Arts Commission, Dance/USA and Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and awards from the California Community Foundation, James Irvine Foundation, California Arts Council, LA Dept of Cultural Affairs, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Green Foundation, DEW Foundation, Annenberg Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts. HDD produces over 25 original productions each year, and over 4,000 diverse residents are served annually.



**Heidi Duckler, Founder/Artistic Director**

Heidi Duckler is the Artistic Director and founder of Heidi Duckler Dance in Los Angeles, California and Heidi Duckler Dance/Northwest in Portland, Oregon. Titled the “reigning queen of site-specific performance” by the LA Times, Duckler has created more than 300 dance pieces all over the world. Duckler earned a BS in Dance from the University of Oregon and an MA in Choreography from UCLA, and is currently a Board Member of the University of Oregon's School of Music and Dance Advancement Council. Awards include the Distinguished Dance

Alumna award from the University of Oregon School of Music and Dance, the Dance/USA and the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation's Engaging Dance Audiences award, and the National Endowment of the Arts American Masterpiece award. Duckler was a recipient of the 2019 Oregon Dance Film Commission and her work received the award for Best Choreography For the Lens at Verve Dance Film Festival.



**Traci Larson, Graphic Designer**

Traci Larson is a graphic designer and front-end developer with 14 years of professional experience. As a systematic thinker, she loves to understand the big picture and connect the dots between strategy and execution, and she especially prides her practice on working with artists, musicians and arts institutions. She founded Visual Issues, a multi-disciplinary creative studio that specializes in visual identity design, in 2014. She began her career working with legendary transmedia designer and artist April Greiman, and then with contemporary architect and designer Andrea Lenardin Madden. Her work has received awards from and been featured in numerous publications such as *Print*, *Frame*, and the *The Dieline*. She earned her BFA in Communication Arts with an emphasis in Graphic Design from Otis College of Art and Design in Los Angeles.