

For Immediate Release
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COMPLEXIONS CONTEMPORARY BALLET RETURNS TO THE JOYCE
THEATER WITH PREMIERES BY

**DWIGHT RHODEN,
co-artisticdirector/choreographer
**JODIE GATES, former company member
**TAYE DIGGS, TV & film star

January 9-14 (Tuesday/Wednesday/Sunday at 7:30 PM
Thursday/Friday/Saturday at 8 PM
Saturday & Sunday at 2 PM)

The Joyce Theater, 175 Eighth Avenue (at 19th Street)

Tickets: \$42

Reservations: 212/242-0800, Joyce Box Office, or
<http://www.joyce.org/>

The acclaimed COMPLEXIONS CONTEMPORARY BALLET (Dwight Rhoden and Desmond Richardson, co-Artistic Directors), will return to The Joyce Theater, January 9-14, with three premieres:

**"Loose Change," (New York premiere), a solo for Desmond Richardson choreographed by film and television star TAYE DIGGS;
**world premiere by former company member JODIE GATES, also a former principal dancer with the Joffrey Ballet and Ballet Frankfurt;
**world premiere of Dwight Rhoden's "Chapters," a dance/theater work to the music of Marvin Gaye. Program also features Rhoden's "Hissy Fits" and "B Sessions."

Receiving its World Premiere is the much-anticipated "Chapters," Rhoden's dance/theater work set to the timeless music of Marvin Gaye. Preview of a full-evening work scheduled for premiere in 2008-09, "Chapters" centers around a group of ambitious friends living in New York, and the day to day challenges of their lives in the Big City.

Co-founder and co-artistic director of COMPLEXIONS, Dwight Rhoden has created more than sixty works for COMPLEXIONS since its debut in 1994. Rhoden has also created works for the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, where he was a principal dancer, the Joffrey Ballet, New York City Ballet, Dance Theater of Harlem, and

Dayton Contemporary Dance Company. Rhoden was described in The New York Times as "a master of invention," whose choreography was like "hot molten lava, flowing with undeniable power."

Also by Rhoden are "Hissy Fits," and "B Sessions." Commissioned for the New Jersey Performing Arts Center's Alternate Routes Series, and premiered there last October, "Hissy Fits" is a suite of high voltage dances for an ensemble of eleven. The choreographer's very contemporary sensibility is complemented by music by J.S. Bach. Pianist HENRY WONG DOE will appear live, performing the music of Beethoven to which Rhoden has set his 2005 "B Sessions." In this quartet, Rhoden stretches his contemporary dance language beyond its limits to celebrate each dancer's unique sense of movement.

JODIE GATES, former dancer with COMPLEXIONS, is delighted to have been invited back to "the family" as choreographer of an as yet untitled world premiere. Ms. Gates has created a quartet that uses a method of structured improvisation that mirrors composer Alan Terricciano's improvised score for cello and piano, which will be performed live at each performance. This work for two couples is inspired by Gates' observations of how human behavior is interpreted through everyday gestures. The most transparent and authentic form of communication is through the silent messages of body language, which often reveal more truths than the spoken word. Gates' new work was commissioned by the American Music Center Live Music for Dance Program.

Film and TV star TAYE DIGGS can also be claimed by the dance community. The multi-talented artist's solo, "Loose Change, for Desmond Richardson, original music by David Ryan Harris, will receive its World Premiere at the Joyce season. Diggs began his dance training in his native Rochester with Garth Fagan and Timothy Draper, and his relationship with Rhoden/Richardson goes back a dozen years, when he was a frequent student in their class at STEPS. The actor/singer/dancer is currently co-artistic director, with Andrew Palermo, of dre.dance, which is in residence at Tribeca P.A. Center and looks forward to a third New York season at Joyce SoHo next June.

Diggs' performing credits include roles on and Off Broadway in Chicago, Wicked, and Rent, to name a few. His numerous film appearances include Chicago, and How Stella Got Her Groove Back, and on TV he has been seen in the Allie McBeal shows and the upcoming ABC series Daybreak.

"Loose Change" was created by Diggs for Desmond Richardson, hailed as "one of the greatest modern dancers of our time" by The New York Times.

Closing Night Benefit Party, January 14 at Rubin Museum of Art
COMPLEXIONS Contemporary Ballet will celebrate this 13th season with a closing night Benefit Cast Party, to be held at Chelsea's exquisite Rubin Museum of Art, 150 West 17th Street (just 2 blocks from the Joyce). The evening will begin with the Joyce performance and move on to cocktails, a roaming buffet, silent auction and dancing. Tickets are \$250-\$350. To purchase tickets for the Benefit, please call the COMPLEXIONS office at 212/777-7771 or e-mail CastParty@complexionsdance.org