



our **STORY**

ron
de
jesus
DANCE



After 17 seasons as a leading dancer with Hubbard Street Dance Chicago (with interludes to master flamenco, the Graham and Horton Technique, and works by Paul Taylor, Bill Evans, and Lar Lubovitch) Ron De Jesus envisioned his transition from performer to choreographer as an opportunity to create a dance company in which dance would serve as a source of inspiration and innovation for both its performers and audience.

De Jesus was able to realize his vision after starting Ron De Jesus Dance as a non-profit in New York City in 2007. After a successful move to Chicago in 2010, RDJDance has matured into an applauded contemporary dance company comprised of ten professional dancers. Given his diverse professional experiences and passion for new choreography, collaborations, and innovative production concepts, each RDJDance performance conveys the human experience while introducing a new voice to a timeless art.

it started with a **VISION...**





In addition to its growing acclaim as a premiere Dance Company, RDJDance has also become both a champion for both the arts and Chicago's diverse neighborhood and academic communities. In the past several years, RDJDance has performed/choreographed around the country and in Chicago, conducted educational workshops for young artists in Chicago communities, and participated in choreographic residencies at various universities.

Rather than use expression as something to be consumed and discarded, RDJDance has aimed to create performances and interactive, participatory workshops designed to enhance creativity and facilitate dialogue within and across cultures. Like many arts, RDJDance hopes that through performance and instruction, dance may be considered a universal language that can become a meaningful element in the lives of individuals and their communities.

To date, the company has created successful partnerships and performances with world-renowned institutions such as the Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts in Detroit Michigan, Chicago's Joffrey Studios, the Wrigley Theater, New York's the Joyce SoHo, and Queens Theater.

gained **MOMENTUM...**





“Ron De Jesus Dance proved terrific, the jazzy, smart selections to Michael Buble including one dynamite male sextet to “Mack the Knife” and great presence and stylistics from long-haired Kristine Bendul.”

SID SMITH
Chicago Tribune

“Mr. De Jesus [has] an innate personal charisma that elevates a character or choreography to something beyond itself.”

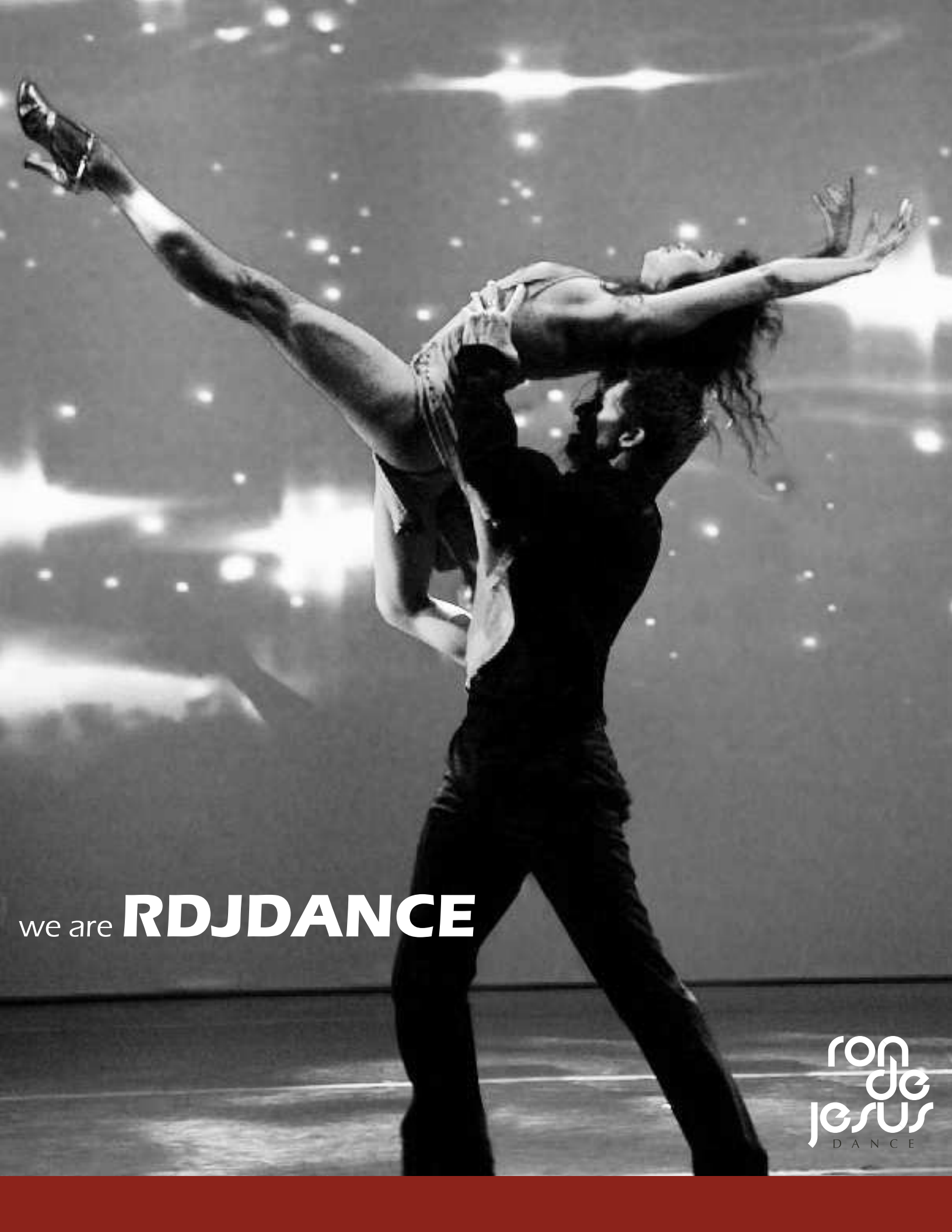
The New York Times

“Ron De Jesus’s ‘Prey,’ a blood-red tornado of absurdly difficult dancing to a crescendoing assault by Japan’s Kodo drummers, is the program’s main course and best piece I’ve seen by the Chicago choreographer and longtime Chicago dancer.”

**ZACHARY
WITTENBURG**
TimeOut Chicago

and is **UNSTOPPABLE.**





we are **RDJDANCE**

ron
de
jesus
DANCE



MISSION

The mission of Ron De Jesus Dance is to present the choreographic vision of the founder to communicate his unique language of dance through performances that challenge, inspire and engage diverse audiences.

VISION

The vision of Ron De Jesus Dance is to enhance the creative potential of both the dance community and the community at-large through performances of the choreographic works and interactive outreach of the company.

our **CORE**





Unique choreographic voice of Ron De Jesus

(innovative, multi-sensory, contemporary)

Resonance with a broad audience

(accessibility to dance and broader communities)

Outreach

(education, enhance creative understanding in the community)

Collaboration

(with dancers, musicians and other artists)

Highest artistic standards

our **VALUES**





RON DE JESÚS is an internationally recognized dancer and choreographer from Chicago, IL. His talents have taken him through 17 years as a leading dancer with Hubbard Street Dance Chicago to choreographic work on many award winning performances. His strength and grace as a dancer landed him in the original cast of the Twyla Tharp/Billy Joel musical "Movin' Out" and the artistic creative team for Tharp's Frank Sinatra "Come Fly Away" B'way show. As well as performances with widely respected companies including the Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater, Joseph Holmes Dance Theater, and the Chicago Reparatory Dance Ensemble. As a choreographer, Ron's vision is bringing the power of dance to new levels. He has repeatedly been recognized for his achievements, including awards from the New York Musical Theater Festival's Awards for Excellence, the Melinda Atwood/Jerry Mitchell "DanceBreak Choreographic Competition," and the "National Choreographers Initiative" of Irvine, California. Ron embraces clean lines and fluid movement to create performances that captivate and inspire audiences. He has worked with the NBA Ballet in Japan, the Washington Ballet, the Aspen Sante Fe Ballet, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, the Alabama Ballet, the Sacramento Ballet, the Dance Theatre of Tennessee, Norwegian Cruise Lines, Ballet Hispanico, Staatsballet Berlin, BalletMet, Giordano Dance Chicago, Thodos Dance Chicago, and Eisenhower Dance Ensemble. He has been the resident choreographer for Music Hall of the Performing Arts.

Ron was the assistant choreographer for the Madonna and Rose O'Donnell film "A League of Their Own" as a dancers he has appeared in the films "Road to Perdition", "Stay" and Julie Taymor's "Across the Universe"

Ron established Ron De Jesus Dance with the goal of training and educating a new generation of dancers and choreographers. The company has proven to be a powerhouse in the industry with fresh performances that break the traditional rules of dance. RDJDance is gaining attention with recent performances including the opening of Chicago's "Dance for Life", a number in Dance/USA, a sold out performance season in NYC at the Joyce SoHo. Ron aspires to share his passion for dance through RDJDance, making an impact on the industry that transcends his peers.

Among his many accomplishments, Ron is the Artistic Ambassador of Northeastern Illinois University, Assistant Professor at University of Michigan, the Artistic Associate for the Stageplays Theater Company, a répétiteur for Twyla Tharp Productions and the Artistic Director of RDJDance.

about **RON DE JESÚS**





Osiris & Isis

ARCC Chicago
April 2012



Leather Tongues

ARCC Chicago
March 2013



Dance For Life

Auditorium Theater, Chicago
2011, 2012, Kick off 2013
Palm Springs
2011

select **PERFORMANCES**





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get in **TOUCH...**



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