



Ballet Austin Presents
Light / The Holocaust & Humanity Project
Critically acclaimed contemporary ballet by Stephen Mills returns as the centerpiece of an unprecedented community-wide human rights initiative

WHO: Ballet Austin
Concept/Choreography by Stephen Mills
Music by Steve Reich, Evelyn Glennie, Michael Gordon, Arvo Part, Philip Glass

WHAT: Ballet Austin's *Light / The Holocaust & Humanity Project*

WHEN: 8:00 pm on March 23 & 24; 3:00 pm on March 25

WHERE: Dell Hall at The Long Center for the Performing Arts

TICKETS: \$15 - \$74 at www.balletaustin.org, 512.476.2163
Ballet Austin Box Office at 501 W. 3rd Street

AUSTIN, TX – January 17, 2011 – Ballet Austin announces the well anticipated return of *Light / The Holocaust & Humanity Project*, a full-length contemporary ballet that turns the spotlight on discrimination and the ultimate triumph of the human spirit.

As one of the most resonant of Ballet Austin Artistic Director Stephen Mills' works, *Light / The Holocaust & Humanity Project* offers a timely reminder of the importance of the protection of human rights. Set to the music of five of the most important living composers, *Light / The Holocaust & Humanity Project* is inspired by the poignant journey of one survivor. The 75-minute ballet is performed without intermission.

When it premiered in 2005, *Light / The Holocaust & Humanity Project* brought national attention to Ballet Austin, with recognition across the country including national reviews and restaging by the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre in 2009. *Light / The Holocaust & Humanity Project* earned Mills the Austin Anti-Defamation League's Audrey & Raymond Maislin Humanitarian Award.

Ballet Austin's production of *Light / The Holocaust & Humanity Project* serves as the cornerstone of a three-month, city-wide partnership promoting the protection of human rights against bigotry and hate through arts, education, and public dialogue. The community collaboration runs from Martin Luther King Jr. Day through Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day), January 16 - April 19, with events/initiatives led by more than

Critical Acclaim for
Light / The Holocaust & Humanity Project

"... A masterful exposition on one of history's darkest episodes. Visually and emotionally gripping..."

– Austin-American Statesman

"Mills' dream has grown from a dance into a march of understanding and compassion." – Austin Chronicle

"A far cry from fluffy fairytales, Stephen Mills' Light / The Holocaust & Humanity Project challenges ballet to take on big issues." –Dance Magazine

40 community partners. Joining Ballet Austin as Lead Partners for the community collaboration are Anti-Defamation League Austin, KLRU-TV, the City of Austin, Austin Independent School District, and the Austin Police Department. For more information about the community partner events surrounding *Light / The Holocaust & Humanity Project*, visit www.balletaustin.org/light.

For tickets to Ballet Austin's production of *Light / The Holocaust & Humanity Project*, visit www.balletaustin.org

Supporting Events

Studio Spotlight – *Light / The Holocaust & Humanity Project*

Thurs, March 8, 12 – 1pm; Thurs, March 8, 6 – 7pm

Ballet Austin's AustinVentures StudioTheater

Watch company dancers in rehearsal, learn about *Light / The Holocaust & Humanity Project* and the collaborative process involved in making the work, and ask the choreographer and dancers questions about the artistic process. Free admission for those who RSVP. [Learn more or sign up.](#)

Footlights – *Light / The Holocaust & Humanity Project* (ticket holders only)

Fri, March 23, 7pm | Sat, March 24, 7pm | Sun, March 25, 2pm

The Long Center

An hour before each performance of *Light / The Holocaust & Humanity Project*, join us in the theater for a look at the final preparations for the ballet. See the last-minute workings of dancers and production crew as you learn about the history, music, and artists involved in the production. Free for ticket holders. [Learn more.](#)

Encore – *Light / The Holocaust & Humanity Project* (ticket holders only)

Fri, March 23, 10pm | Sat, March 24, 10pm | Sun, March 25, 5pm

The Long Center

Immediately following each performance of *Light / The Holocaust & Humanity Project*, join us for an informal conversation with Ballet Austin's Artistic Director Stephen Mills, company dancers, and guest artists on the creative and artistic facets of the production. Free for ticket holders. [Learn more.](#)

About Ballet Austin

As distinctive and dynamic as the city it calls home, Ballet Austin welcomes audiences near and far to participate in its "classically innovative" vision for the democratization of dance. With a rich history spanning five decades, acclaimed productions, a commitment to creating access to programs and one of the nation's largest classical ballet academies, the organization is poised for an even greater future. From their home at the Butler Dance Education Center in downtown Austin, Ballet Austin and Artistic Director Stephen Mills actively engage the community, dancers, and audiences alike. *The New York Times* proclaims Ballet Austin "a company with big ambitions" originating work that is "absorbing."

CONTACT INFORMATION

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WEB: www.balletaustin.org

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