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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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January 9, 2015—Detroit, MI—Artspectrum is pleased to announce that its resident dance company, A Company of Dancers (ACOD), is scheduled to participate in dance Immersion’s Queen’s Calling Choreographers’ Showcase, February 6-8, 2015 in Toronto, Canada. Paulette Brockington, ACOD Artistic Director, received the invitation to present in June 2014.

dance Immersion is a not-for-profit organization that produces, promotes and supports dancers and dances of the African Diaspora. The organization was founded in 1994 by Vivine Scarlett and was established to address the need for additional presentation, skill development, and networking opportunities for dance artists of African descent. Ms. Brockington is the lone American invited.

“I have selected Paulette Brockington for her artistry in swing dance. Her positive influences shared within the community is a testimony to her training, dedication and professionalism which has kept this dance form alive. She continues to expand our knowledge and engage in a multitude of activities that result in expanding dance around the world. Paulette will share the stage with seven other female choreographers who offer a view of dance styles representative of the diverse voices of our Queens calling” said curator/founder Vivine Scarlett.

Paulette Brockington, an accomplished dancer/choreographer and actor/director, received the 2012 Michigan Heritage Award in Performing Arts. Since that time she has been a Master Teacher at Michigan State University’s Michigan Museum which followed Assistant Professorships on the university level. A versatile artist, she has worked with dance companies, theatre companies and opera companies. In 2008 she was an ArtServe Michigan Arts Educator of the Year.

A Company of Dancers will perform the world premiere of “The Third Side.” This new dance work has the abduction of Nigerian girls as its theme as will the work of all the invited choreographers. Ms. Brockington has created a trio, titled from lines written by Stirling Silliphant, exploring social dance for the stage as elements integral to the development of her contemporary ballet. It is filled with emotive call-and-response voicings that look at the sensibilities of the personalities within it. It is an abstract mélange which uses vernacular dances of the 20th century, ballet and contemporary/modern dance to look at three sides of a coin – the voices of mother, daughter and abductor.

Artspectrum/A Company of Dancers has launched an Indiegogo campaign to give backers the chance to invest in this new work performed to a blues score. The campaign is live until January 20 at <http://igg.me/p/the-third-side-on-the-road/x/905528>. Backers receive gifts/rewards for participating in the campaign.

Two of the dancers joining Ms. Brockington on the trip include

Jessica Thomas is a native of Detroit, MI. She is a professional performer, choreographer and educator. Thomas is the founder and director of JTDance. She has a Master of Fine Arts from New York University (Tisch School of the Arts) and a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Wright State University. She is currently an instructor of classical ballet, pointe, modern, partnering, jazz, and contemporary dance throughout metro Detroit.

Tristan Andrews is a native Detroiter who studied at The Detroit School of Arts. He went on to dance for the Detroit Pistons, the WNBA Detroit Shock and tour/dance for artists such as Charlie Wilson, Mary J. Blige and Mariah Carey. He formed a dance crew, "ASIID," that competed on Season 2 of **MTV's America's Best Dance Crew** and went on to be a coach on MTV's "**MADE**."

Artspectrum plans to provide a online showing of the completed piece to backers sometime in March. The showing is currently slated for its new Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/acompanyofdancers>. Artspectrum is a 501(c)(3) organization based in Detroit. Read more about us at http://artspectrum.org/about_us.htm.

Pictures follow.

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Jessica Thomas



Tristan Andrews

20
Dance Immersion
Presents

Queens Calling

Join us as we celebrate 8 dynamic female choreographers of African Descent

			
Alesandra Seutin	Charmaine Headley	Ghislaine Doté	Jasmyn Fyffe
			
Michèle Moss	Paulette Brockington	Sharon Harvey	Zab Mabougou

8pm | Friday February 6 to Saturday February 7, 2015
1pm | Saturday February 7, 2015
 \$25, \$30, Student/Senior/Group rates available
Harbourfront Centre Theatre (formerly Enwave Theatre)
 231 Queens Quay W, Toronto, ON



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Tickets | 416-973-4000 Info: www.danceimmersion.ca 416 203-0666

Event Photography by David Hines. Composition by Christopher Cudmore.