

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Press releases, photos and artist information:**

[abacus.bates.edu/dancefest/pressinfo.php](http://abacus.bates.edu/dancefest/pressinfo.php)

**A Bates Dance Festival favorite, Bebe Miller Company  
presents 'Necessary Beauty'**

LEWISTON, Maine -- A longtime favorite at the Bates Dance Festival, the Bebe Miller Company returns to Lewiston with the mysterious, visionary piece "Necessary Beauty" in performances at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, July 31 and August 1, in Bates College's Schaeffer Theatre, 305 College St.

Tickets are \$20 for the general public and \$12 for students and seniors and can be purchased by calling 207-786-6161 after July 6.

Miller, winner of the "Bessie" Award for dance and performance in New York, is considered one of the foremost creative forces in contemporary dance. Her vision is based on faith in the moving body as a record of thought, experience and sheer beauty.

Composed of intimate multimedia segments for five extraordinary dancers, "Necessary Beauty" investigates the convergence of dance, theater, music and digital technology through the rhythm of action and memory.

In creating a work, Miller relies on the interplay of a theme, its physicality and the contributions of company members to fashion its singular voice. Seeking to expand the language of dance, Miller integrates choreography with writing, moving images and digital media. Committed to keeping dance available to a wide spectrum of people, the company is dedicated to opening the creative process and expression to diverse people in a community.

The Bebe Miller Company celebrated its 20th year in 2005. After two decades as a traditional touring dance company, the troupe is now structured as a "virtual company," with members living across the U.S.

**MORE**

## **Bates Dance Festival 2009/Miller/Add 1**

New work is developed in long-term residencies that bring BMC dancers and collaborators together for creative exploration, rehearsals and community-based activities. The company has pioneered the use of digital media to provide "process bulletins" that allow participants to communicate effectively.

BMC has toured extensively throughout the U.S. and in eight other countries. The company has been commissioned by the Brooklyn Academy of Music's Next Wave Festival; The Joyce Theater and Dance Theater Workshop, both in New York; the Wexner Center for the Arts at Ohio State University; Walker Art Center in Minneapolis; Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival; Dance Place in Washington, D.C.; and the Bates Dance Festival.

In addition to mainstage performances, the Bates Dance Festival offers a selection of free and low-cost events. Additional information, including ticket prices and event locations, is available on the festival Web site: [www.batesdancefestival.org](http://www.batesdancefestival.org).

### **About the Bates Dance Festival**

Founded in 1982 at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, the Bates Dance Festival brings together a cooperative international community of contemporary choreographers, performers, educators and students to study, perform and create new work.

The festival serves as an annual destination for artists, students and audiences to engage in a full range of dance activities and performances that foster a creative exchange of ideas, encourage exploration of new ground and provide the opportunity to experience a wide spectrum of dance and movement disciplines.

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