



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SENS | Noémie Lafrance &
The Richard B. Fisher Center for the Performing Arts at Bard College** present:

RAPTURE

A new site-specific work by choreographer **Noémie Lafrance** staging the architecture of **Frank Gehry** at Bard College's **Fisher Center**.

WHEN: September 25 - 28 & October 2- 5, 2008, 7PM (Thursday-Sunday)

WHERE: Richard B. Fisher Center for the Performing Arts at Bard College
Annandale Road, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York

TICKETS: \$25 Adult, \$22.50 Senior, \$20 Student
(845) 758-7900 www.fishercenter.bard.edu

CONTACT: **SENS | Noémie Lafrance**
Marcella Goheen / marcella@pureprojectsinc.com
718-564-9151

Fisher Center
Mark Primoff / primoff@bard.edu
845-758-7412

ANNANDALE-ON-HUDSON, N.Y. – This fall, site-specific choreographer Noémie Lafrance will premiere *Rapture* on the exterior surface of the Richard B. Fisher Center for the Performing Arts at Bard College, designed by Frank Gehry and located on the college's Mid-Hudson Valley, N.Y. campus.

Celebrating the architecture of Frank Gehry, *Rapture* is a site-specific work featuring dancers suspended in mid-air, traveling across the entire surface of the building, utilizing a lateral custom rigging system. Commissioned by the Fisher Center, *Rapture* invites the audience to the foot of the building to view a dance performance staged on the outside of the fluid structure.

With this new work, Lafrance visually and conceptually challenges the scale of the human body against the scale of the architecture, staging dancers on the vertical plane. Based on concepts of repetition, evolution and accumulation, the choreography creates an orchestration of rhythms and patterns in response to topography. *Rapture* captures the dynamic architecture in movement. Following the premiere of *Rapture* at the Fisher Center, Lafrance's latest ambition is to self-produce a series of performances staging Gehry's architecture worldwide.

RAPTURE Site-specific work by Noémie Lafrance at the Fisher Center

DIRECTIONS / NYC: 87 North to Kingston, cross Rhinecliff Bridge, left 9G North

ROUNDTRIP BUS: Roundtrip bus transportation from 14th Street & 3rd Avenue (NY) to the Fisher Center for all performances. Round-trip fare is \$45 per person.

NOTES: Outdoor performance. Dress warmly.
In case of rain, performance will be cancelled. Please contact box office 4 hours before performance for rain updates and to reschedule tickets.

Rapture Collaborators

Dancers include **Gary Lai, Kevin O'Connor, Corey Harrower, Chelsea O'Brian, Heather Hammond** and **Jeffrey Lyon**. *Rapture* will use an innovative kinetic rigging approach that is retrofitted to the existing architecture of the building. To design the system Lafrance is working with head rigger **Sean Riley** of **Gravity Design**, who also stars in upcoming **National Geographic** television series "**The Big Fix**". The original electronic score is by German composer **Janek Schaefer**, to be played along with performers from the Bard College Conservatory. Site-specific lighting by long-time collaborator **Thomas Dunn** illuminates the building and dancers dressed in reflective costumes designed by **Mary Grusak**.

SENS | Noémie Lafrance

Site-specific choreographer Noémie Lafrance was named the "uncrowned Queen of site-specific work" [Village Voice] and is best known for having reopened the historic **McCarren Park Pool** in Brooklyn with her ambitious works **Agora & Agora II** (2005-06) and for the choreography of **Grammy Award-nominated FEIST "1234"** Video. Previous works include **Noir** (2004), part of the **Whitney Biennial**, staged in the Essex Municipal Parking Garage, **2-time Bessie Award** winning **Descent** (2001-2003), performed in the stairwell of the New York City Court Building Clock Tower. **SENS | Noémie Lafrance** is an award winning non-profit experimental arts organization founded by Ms. Lafrance in 2001. SENS' mission is to create and produce innovative site-specific dance performances that both engage audiences in spatial participation and explore the dynamic of movement in public spaces by integrating choreography into urban architecture.

The Richard B. Fisher Center for the Performing Arts at Bard College

The Richard B. Fisher Center for the Performing Arts at Bard College is a state-of-the-art venue designed by the architect Frank Gehry. The Fisher Center presents innovative programs in all of the performing arts, pursuing a mission to serve both the public audience and the constituents of Bard College.

Rapture Lead Corporate Sponsor

TIFFANY & CO.

The premiere of the *Rapture* has been commissioned by **The Richard B. Fisher Center for the Performing Arts at Bard College** and is produced by **SENS | Noémie Lafrance**.

Rapture is made possible, in part, by public funds from **The New York State Council on the Arts**, the **National Endowment for the Arts**, the **Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation**, **Canada Council for the Arts** and the **Quebec Government House** in New York, and many private foundations and individuals.



Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des Arts
du Canada