

PRESS RELEASE: SHARP & FINE
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SHARP & FINE ANNOUNCES THE WORLD PREMIERE OF
ALL ROADS ARE LINED WITH TEETH

A dance play created with playwright Amber Hsu
and composer Aram Shelton.

April 7-10, 2016

ODC Theater, San Francisco

Tickets: \$15-\$25



SAN FRANCISCO, February 7, 2016 – San Francisco-based dance company **Sharp & Fine**, directed by sisters **Megan and Shannon Kurashige**, announces *All Roads Are Lined With Teeth*, an evening-length show created with London-based playwright **Amber Hsu** and Oakland-based composer **Aram Shelton**. Featuring a cast of five dancers and a band of four musicians playing live, *All Roads Are Lined With Teeth* is part dance and part play, a surreal story about a woman who flees a crumbling world for a journey on which she encounters memories transformed into teeth, slow motion long distance runners, and houses built from benches. *All Roads Are Lined With Teeth* runs April 7-10, 2016 at ODC Theater in San Francisco.

Building on the Kurashiges' interest in creating dance work in the tradition of devised theater with collaborators from various art forms, the fundamental material of *All Roads Are Lined With Teeth* is informed by Hsu's recent volunteer work in the Calais Jungle refugee camps in France and Shelton's investigations into maps as graphic scores for music. The structure and narrative

come from months of close collaboration, and the dancers manage a balancing act of speaking and dancing, exploring Hsu's script while delving into the Kurashige's highly physical choreography which reflects the sisters' backgrounds in both contemporary dance and classical ballet.

All Roads Are Lined With Teeth moves between fantastical absurdity and stark deconstructions of ordinary life. The script embraces fairytales in one scene and realism in the next, and both the dance and music combine strict composition with skillful improvisation to transform the words into a full theatrical experience.

An accomplished artist in several disciplines, Hsu has written for and with the BBC, Royal Court Theatre, Islington Youth Theatre, Orange Tree Theatre, and National Theatre Studios. She is the founder of *TinyPencil*—an artist-led anthology artzine and press—and an award-winning illustrator.

A driving force in the Bay Area creative music scene, Shelton joins Sharp & Fine for a third collaboration. Shelton's composition and playing are grounded in the rich history of avant-jazz and free improvisation in America and Europe since the 1950s. He leads multiple musical projects and works with groups in both the Bay Area and Chicago.

The dancers of Sharp & Fine are **Sonja Dale, Megan Kurashige, Shannon Kurashige, Chelsea Reichert, and Jane Selna**. Joining them are musicians **Jordan Glenn** (percussion), **Teddy Rankin-Parker** (cello), **Aram Shelton** (saxophone, clarinets), and **Cory Wright** (saxophone, clarinet, flute). Lighting design is by **Allen Willner** and costume design is by **Emily Kurashige**. *All Roads Are Lined With Teeth* is made possible in part by the San Francisco Conservatory of Dance, ODC Theater, and the Rainin Opportunity Fund.

PHOTOGRAPHS:

High res and web ready available by request or online: www.sharpandfine.com/press

Photo credit: Shannon Kurashige

Pictured: Sonja Dale and Jane Selna

WHO:

Company: **Sharp & Fine**

Direction & Choreography: **Megan Kurashige & Shannon Kurashige**

Playwright: **Amber Hsu**

Composer: **Aram Shelton**

Dancers: **Sonja Dale, Megan Kurashige, Shannon Kurashige, Chelsea Reichert, Jane Selna**

Musicians: **Jordan Glenn** (percussion), **Teddy Rankin-Parker** (cello), **Aram Shelton** (soprano saxophone, Bb clarinet, bass clarinet), **Cory Wright** (tenor saxophone, bass clarinet, flute)

Lighting Design: **Allen Willner**

Costume Design: **Emily Kurashige**

WHEN:

April 7-10, 2016

Thursday-Saturday at 8pm
Sunday at 2pm

WHERE:

ODC Theater

3153 17th Street, San Francisco, 94110

TICKETS:

\$15-\$25

\$20 in advance

\$25 at the door

\$15 early bird (purchase by March 17)

Online: sharpandfine.com/all-roads-are-lined-with-teeth

or odcdance.org/buytickets

Phone: ODC Box Office, **415-863-9834**, Wednesday-Friday, 12-6pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

sharpandfine.com

For all press inquiries, please contact Megan Kurashige at megan@sharpandfine.com

ABOUT SHARP & FINE:

Sharp & Fine was founded in 2011 in San Francisco by sisters Megan and Shannon Kurashige to facilitate the creation of dance work inspired by both the rigor and technique of classical ballet and the human intensity of contemporary forms. S&F seeks to make the phenomenon of live performance a necessity and a pleasure, to entertain and provoke, to connect with audiences on an emotional level through work that is physically exacting and emotionally surprising. S&F collaborates with artists from a variety of disciplines, striving to create long-lasting relationships with other artistic communities, while exploring the power of theatrical narrative within the context of dance.

A company in residence at the San Francisco Conservatory of Dance, Sharp & Fine has premiered work at Z Space, ODC Theater, and the San Francisco Conservatory of Dance. Recent works have included a re-imagining of *Peter and the Wolf* for a mixed cast of dancers and musicians, with the musicians incorporated as active participants in the movement; an evening-length adaptation of "Queen of Knives" by internationally celebrated author Neil Gaiman; and collaborations with writer Kat Howard and opera singer Ina Rae.

Megan and Shannon are currently both members of Liss Fain Dance. They have previously performed with Alex Ketley's The Foundry, Christian Burns's burnsWORK, Ballet Pacifica, and Les Grands Ballets Canadiens de Montreal. Megan is also a writer and her short fiction has appeared in various magazines and anthologies. Shannon is also an artist and graphic designer.

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