



Katie Bignell, Martha Chapman, & Rebecca Reuter, Co-Directors
Phone: 408-206-4790 / 917-705-8570 / 408-691-4750
E-mail: omegadancecompanynyc@gmail.com
Mail: 114 West 87th Street, New York, NY 10024
Web: www.omegadancecompany.org

PRESS RELEASE

Omega Dance Company Announces Change in Leadership

New York City, September 6, 2012 - The Omega Dance Company, which has served worship communities for over 30 years, announced today a change in leadership. Co-Directors for the last ten years, Sandra Rivera of Ballet Hispánico and Mignon Gillen of Jennifer Muller/The Works have handed the leadership reins to a team of long-time Omega company dancers: Katie Bignell, Martha Chapman and Rebecca Reuter. This team, with a combined history of almost 30 years with the company and strong professional dance backgrounds, begin their co-directorship in the Fall of 2012.

Presenting works in venues such as the National Cathedral in Washington DC, the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola and other churches across the NY metropolitan area, Omega Dance Company was an original Artist in Residence at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in Manhattan. The first company of its kind, an interfaith and multicultural group of professional dancers and artists, Omega was founded in 1974 by sacred dance pioneer Carla DeSola. Omega's mission is to bring dance more prominently into sacred settings by presenting professional level dance as well as training and educating worshipping communities and dancers in the Sacred Dance Arts. After a 33 year residency at The Cathedral, Omega moved into an association with Middle Collegiate Church on 7th Street and 2nd Avenue in 2008. Now beginning a new chapter of ministry as artist-in-residence at The Church of the Village on West 13th Street and 7th Avenue, Omega's new directors will seek to share liturgical dance with a wider community, advocating for the power of dance as a Liturgical Art.

(next page)

“We are excited to bring Omega into a new era,” said Martha Chapman. “I believe dance is a powerful way to worship, for both the observer and the dancers.” “Dance takes my prayer to a deeper level,” agreed Katie Bignell, a second member of the leadership trio. “Using my body in worship allows me to feel closer to God, and I want to share this experience with any who are open to explore it.” “The three of us feel that Omega can bring dance to worshipping communities in new and exciting ways,” added Rebecca Reuter. “We’d also like to reach out to churches that have not experienced dance but that are curious to see what it can offer.”

Interested churches or venues can presently reach Omega through contacting one of the new co-directors at omegadancecompanynyc@gmail.com. A new website, www.omegadancecompany.org is under development; its unveiling is expected later this fall. The company looks forward to exciting new ways that Omega will be able to bring sacred dance to communities and congregations.

###