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***THE BRAIN PIECE*, A PARTICIPATORY DANCE WORK BY
CHOREOGRAPHER AND DANCER JODY OBERFELDER,
AT NEW YORK LIVE ARTS**

**PART INSTALLATION AND PART PROSCENIUM PERFORMANCE,
OBERFELDER'S LATEST CREATION TAKES ON THE INTERACTIVITY
OF THE BRAIN**

72 AUDIENCE MEMBERS ONLY PER PERFORMANCE

JUNE 28-JULY 1 AT NEW YORK LIVE ARTS

New York, NY (May 23, 2017) — Choreographer and dancer Jody Oberfelder, creator of *4Chambers*, a dance about the human heart, is now taking on the brain. *The Brain Piece*, presented June 28-July 1, at New York Live Arts, is part installation and part proscenium performance, designed to allow audiences to have an intimate experience with their own minds and bodies. Only 72 audience members at a time are invited, yielding a personalized and engaging experience.

Performed by Oberfelder with Mary Madsen, Pierre Guilbault, and Hannah Wendel, along with 10 "dancer docents", *The Brain Piece* evokes tangible and interactive experiences, where dance, music, visual art, film, and words enliven the inner life of the brain through overlapping perceptual domains. With set design by Juergen Riehm (with Penelope Phy and Tine Kindermann), lighting design by Kate Bashore, and film by Eric Siegel and Oberfelder, her new work invites the audience to be part of an immersive cerebral and sensorial installation, leading spectators through various spaces, each dedicated to one aspect of the brain.

Entering the intellectual and sensorial world of *The Brain Piece*, the audience has access to a heightened subjective experience of the brain. The piece celebrates the brain's neuroplasticity, the ability to form connections. "My new work illuminates the "dance" that continuously takes place in our minds," states Oberfelder. "By watching and participating in the piece, the audience will experience their brains moving, dancing, working and playing, and understand dance as a language that goes directly to the brain."

Oberfelder and Siegel created the short film *Dance of the Neurons*, presented as part of the performance, by consulting with Ed Lein, a neuroscientist at the Allen Institute for Brain Science. Neuroscientists Dr. Weiji Ma, NYU and Cecilia Fontanesi, CUNY consulted on the project as well. The music for the piece was written by the composers and sound designers Daniel Wohl, Sean Hagerty, Missy Mazzoli, Andy Akiho, Almeda Beynon, and Angelica Negron.

ABOUT

Jody Oberfelder is a director, choreographer, and filmmaker. With her company, she has performed internationally at NoD (Prague), Gallus Theater (Frankfurt), Guelph Dance Festival (Canada), Centre National de la Danse (Paris), International Festival of Modern Dance in Seoul, Belgrade Dance Festival, and The Merchant House (Amsterdam) and nationally at Dance Place (Washington DC), Jacob's Pillow, MASS MoCA, and The Yard, amongst other venues. Her most recent work, *4Chambers*, was performed in an historic home on Governors Island and in a former hospital in Brooklyn. Oberfelder also presented work at Abrons Arts Center, Dixon Place, Schimmel Center for the Arts, Symphony Space, The Jewish Museum, The Flea Theater, Joyce SoHo, and PS 122.

Jody Oberfelder Projects is honored with creative support from CEC ArtsLink, The Joyce Theater (a Joyce Soho Residency Grant), funding from New York Foundation for the Arts' BUILD Grant, NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, Lower Manhattan Cultural Foundation, New Music USA, Harkness Foundation for Dance, Starry Night Fund, and many generous individual donors. These performances are a part of New York Live Arts PLUS programming.

PERFORMANCE VENUE AND DATES:

THE BRAIN PIECE
JUNE 28 AT 7:30 PM
JUNE 29-JULY 1 AT 7:00 PM & 9:00 PM

NEW YORK LIVE ARTS
219 WEST 19TH STREET
NEW YORK, NY 10011
STUDENTS \$25 GENERAL \$35
OPENING NIGHT BENEFIT \$200
FOR TICKETS: [NEW YORK LIVE ARTS](#)

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