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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FROM RUSSIA WITH HEAT

*Russian performing artists participate in residency at The School at Jacob's Pillow,
present premiere of collaborative work at Dance New Amsterdam*

Tuesday, August 24, 2010 at 8:00pm

New Russian Interdisciplinary Performance: HEAT

Dance New Amsterdam

53 Chambers St., 2nd Floor

Free. Seating is limited. Please use the form on [our website](#) to RSVP.

Four visiting performing artists from Russia will present the premiere of an original collaborative work at **Dance New Amsterdam** on **Tuesday, August 24th**, marking the culmination of a three-week residency co-hosted by [CEC ArtsLink](#) and [Jacob's Pillow Dance](#). The piece, which is being created by [Nataliya Dievskaya](#), [Olga Leonova](#), [Alexander Safronov](#), and [Kirill Vytoptov](#) specifically for the highly competitive residency program, plays on the concept of heat—both meteorological and metaphysical—through an imaginative combination of choreographic, theatrical and vocal elements. The performance is free and open to the public, and will be followed by a Q&A with the artists and a reception.

The four young Russian artists bring their diverse and accomplished backgrounds in musical theatre, contemporary dance, and interdisciplinary performance to the collaboration. Prior to their New York performance, they will take part in the Jazz/Musical Theatre Dance Program at The School at Jacob's Pillow, joined by 20 other dancers from across the US and abroad. On **August 22**, participants will perform alongside Broadway guest artists in the program's culminating event [A Jazz Happening](#). They will also perform excerpts at free informal showings on **August 7, 14, and 21** as part of the Jacob's Pillow [Inside/Out](#) series.

This is the second showcase of work by leading young Russian performing artists presented by CEC ArtsLink this summer. "So compelling was the spectacle that even jaded New Yorkers, who rarely look twice at sudden outbursts of street theater, stopped and took notice," wrote Nikola Krastev of *Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty* about the previous event, which featured four contemporary dance choreographers and took place at Joyce SoHo on July 12th.

The artists' residency and performance are part of the [Open World Cultural Leaders Program](#), an endeavor of the Open World Leadership Center at the Library of Congress with partnership and funding from the National Endowment for the Arts and the [Renova Group of Companies](#).

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CEC ArtsLink, through a multi-faceted program of cultural exchange, serves to create and sustain constructive, mutually beneficial relationships in the arts between the United States and Eastern and Central Europe, Russia, Central Asia and the Caucasus. Working with artists, arts organizations and community-based groups, CEC ArtsLink provides an essential structure for ongoing dialogue, contributing to a culture of openness and trust between nations.

With years of experience as a leader in cultural exchange between the United States and Central and Eastern Europe, Russia, Central Asia, and the Caucasus, CEC ArtsLink has long been a behind-the-scenes player in numerous esteemed cultural events, as a supporter and facilitator of residencies, projects, and networks for artists and art managers at venues across the U.S. and around the world. Today, we are pleased to bring an on-going series of cultural events to the public through our partnerships in New York, around the United States, and abroad. Visit www.cecartslink.org for more about upcoming events and on-going projects.

Open World's Cultural Leaders Program aims to forge better understanding between the United States and Russia by enabling emerging Russian leaders in the arts to experience America's cultural and community life, and to work with their American counterparts. Support for the cultural program is provided through partnership and funding from the **National Endowment for the Arts** and the **Renova Group of Companies**. Open World is a unique, nonpartisan initiative of the U.S. Congress. Delegates range from judges to mayors, from innovative nonprofit directors to experienced journalists, and from political party activists to regional administrators. Over 11,000 Open World participants have been hosted in all 50 U.S. states since the program's inception in 1999.

Jacob's Pillow's mission is *to support dance creation, presentation, education, and preservation, and to engage and deepen public appreciation and support for dance*. Considered one of the great festivals of the world, along with Bayreuth, Avignon, and Spoleto, the Pillow has been hailed as "the hub and mecca for dancing in America" (*Time*) and "the dance center of the nation, possibly the world," (*The New York Times*). In 2003, the federal government declared Jacob's Pillow a National Historic Landmark for its contribution to American culture—the only dance entity to achieve this honor. The 163-acre grounds encompass natural beauty and history in such a way as to create a unique setting in which to experience dance. Best known for its annual international Festival, the Pillow also encompasses a renowned dance training School, one of America's most significant dance Archives, an intern program that trains a new generation of arts management professionals, and Community Programs that serve local residents throughout the year. For more information visit www.jacobspillow.org.

Dance New Amsterdam (DNA) is Lower Manhattan's newest home for contemporary dance. DNA is proud to present and promote artistic excellence in dance performance, education and the creation process. DNA's mission is to teach dancers to dance, commission choreographers to create, and present dance performances to the public. In DNA's studios each week, 130 classes are taught, rehearsals are run, workshops are conducted and choreographers develop new work. DNA is a valuable resource for the aspiring, emerging and established artist, who benefit from

artistic residencies, studio and administrative office subsidies, commissions and two performance seasons that offer presentations of new dance works, many of them world premieres.

For more information, please contact Anna Kadysheva, Program Coordinator, CEC ArtsLink, at (212) 643-1985 x17 or akadysheva@cecartslink.org. To learn more about the artists mentioned here, and opportunities for artists and arts organizations administered by CEC ArtsLink, please visit www.cecartslink.org.

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