

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# ARTSEMERSON WELCOMES A MAGICAL HOUSE PARTY OF THE GREATEST PROPORTION HOME

WRITTEN BY GEOFF SOBELLE, DIRECTED BY LEE SUNDAY EVANS

SEPTEMBER 27 – OCTOBER 1, 2017 EMERSON PARAMOUNT CENTER, ROBERT J. ORCHARD STAGE, BOSTON

# TICKETS GO ON SALE THIS SUNDAY, AUGUST 6

[Boston, MA—August 4, 2017] ArtsEmerson, Boston's leading presenter of contemporary world theatre, proudly announces HOME, a unique performance experience combining theatre, dance, and live music, that explores the meanings of both house and home. Written by Geoff Sobelle and directed by Lee Sunday Evans, HOME comes to Boston directly from its world premiere in Philadelphia.

HOME will be performed at the Emerson Paramount Center's Robert J. Orchard Stage, located at 559 Washington Street in Boston's downtown theatre district. Tickets, which go on sale this Sunday, August 6, range in price from \$20-80 and may be purchased online at <a href="https://www.artsemerson.org">www.artsemerson.org</a>, by phone at 617.824.8400, or in person at the box office.



On an empty stage, a house is conjured from thin air. Residents move in, move out, clean up, burn down, sweep under, paint over, fence off and move on — and all the while, they live among the traces of residents present, past and future. Geoff Sobelle's **HOME** is a house party of the greatest proportion, telling the story of a house, and showing what it means to create home.

A magical, large-scale spectacle built from the ground up, **HOME** combines dance, illusion, live music, home-spun engineering and an inventive use of audience interaction to compose an experience that

asks, where is home? If it is not a place, what is home? HOME explores — and explodes — the relationship between "house" and "home," and it invites audiences to think twice about the physical and emotional bonds that connect us. View the trailer: <a href="https://youtu.be/o3Gbri4qwGA">https://youtu.be/o3Gbri4qwGA</a>

"Geoff Sobelle is a true alchemist," shares ArtsEmerson Co-Artistic Director David Dower. "He weaves a rich golden glow over each performance, with just the raw materials of illusion, invention, romance and whimsy."

**HOME** is commissioned by the Brooklyn Academy of Music, New Zealand Festival, and the Edinburgh International Festival and is funded in part by The Wyncote Foundation, Adam Max, and American Dance Institute. Residency support has been provided by ArtsEmerson, BRIC and MANA Contemporary.

### **Home Creative Credits**

Playwright Geoff Sobelle Director Lee Sunday Evans Choreographer **David Neumann** Original Music **Elvis Perkins** Dramaturg Stefanie Sobelle Scenic Designer Steven Dufala Costume Designer Karen Young Lighting Designer Christopher Kuhl Sound Designer **Brandon Wolcott Illusion Consultant** Steve Cuiffo

Creative Producer Jecca Barry & Beth Morrison Projects

**HOME** is created in collaboration with performers Sophie Bortolussi, Jennifer Kidwell, Justin Rose, Ching Valdez and Josh Crouch

#### **HOME Performance Schedule**

7:30pm	
7:30pm	(press performance)
8:00pm	
2:00pm	
8:00pm	
2:00pm	
	7:30pm 8:00pm 2:00pm 8:00pm

# **About Geoff Sobelle**

Geoff Sobelle [playwright, lead artist, and performer] is a theatre artist dedicated to the "sublime ridiculous." He creates original actor-driven, design-focused performance works that point out the absurdities of living in our present moment. Using illusion, movement and out-dated mechanics, he creates surreal, poetic pieces that look for humanity where you least expect it and find grace where no one is looking.

He is the co-artistic director of rainpan 43, a renegade absurdist outfit devoted to creating original actor-driven performance works. He has been a company member of Philadelphia's Pig Iron Theatre Company since 2001. As a teacher, Geoff has led workshops all over the world in devised theatre creation, physical approach to character, clown and "jeu." He is a teacher at the Pig Iron school in Philadelphia (APT) and is on faculty at Bard College. His projects have been supported by the MAP Fund, the Independence Foundation, the Philadelphia Theatre Initiative, the Wyncote Foundation, US Arts International, the Princeton Atelier and the New England Foundation for the Arts. He is a 2006 Pew Fellow and is a 2009

Creative Capital grantee. Geoff graduated with honors from Stanford University and trained in physical theatre at École Jacques Lecoq in Paris.

# **About ArtsEmerson**

ArtsEmerson is Boston's leading presenter of contemporary world theatre. It is dedicated to engaging *all* communities through stories that reveal and deepen connections to each other. By cultivating diversity in the art *and* in the audience, ArtsEmerson ignites public conversation around the most vexing societal challenges as a catalyst for overcoming them. ArtsEmerson is committed to welcoming everyone into its landmark venues, located in Boston's downtown Theatre District, for a diverse program of contemporary theatre, film, and music from around the city and around the world. In addition, ArtsEmerson engages in a range of community partnerships and produces a series of initiatives that make visible the rich diversity of cultural activity in the region. These programs are core to ArtsEmerson's mission and expresses commitment to civic responsibility to create a more cohesive society. ArtsEmerson is led by Co-Artistic Directors, David Dower and P. Carl, and Executive Director, David Howse. This shared leadership model reflects the organization's values — that multiple voices are essential to leading a 21st century arts organization. For more information, visit ArtsEmerson.org.

#### **About Emerson College**

Based in Boston, Massachusetts, opposite the historic Boston Common and in the heart of the city's Theatre District, Emerson College educates individuals who will solve problems and change the world through engaged leadership in communication and the arts, a mission informed by liberal learning. The College has 3,780 undergraduates and 670 graduate students from across the United States and 50 countries. Supported by state-of-the-art facilities and a renowned faculty, students participate in more than 90 student organizations and performance groups. Emerson is known for its experiential learning programs in Los Angeles, Washington, DC, the Netherlands, London, China, and the Czech Republic. The College has an active network of 39,000 alumni who hold leadership positions in communication and the arts. For more information, visit emerson.edu.

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