

Robert Moses' Kin  
[www.robertmoseskin.org](http://www.robertmoseskin.org)

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JPG ATTACHED  
Photo Credit: RJ Muna  
Pictured: Caitlin Kolb and Dexandro Montalvo

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ROBERT MOSES' KIN PRESENTS  
17<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL HOME SEASON  
MARCH 30-APRIL 1 AT NOVELLUS THEATER,  
YERBA BUENA CENTER FOR THE ARTS**

**Program to feature the World Premiere of *Helen* and excerpts from the forthcoming *Scrubbing the Dog*.**

**Tickets: \$25-45; tickets and information: 415/978-ARTS (2787) or [www.ybca.org](http://www.ybca.org)**

JANUARY 12, 2012, San Francisco – **Robert Moses' Kin (RMK)** today announces its 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Home Season, March 30-April 1 at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Novellus Theater. Described by *The Huffington Post* as “a visually delicious beast that never comes short of dazzling the senses,” **Robert Moses' Kin** presents an evening of choreography by Artistic Director Robert Moses. The program will feature the world premiere of *Helen*, inspired by the words and music of Carl Hancock Rux and the poetry by E. Ethelbert Miller, as well as excerpts from the forthcoming *Scrubbing the Dog*, the award-winning works *The Soft Sweet Smell of Firm Warm Things* and *Speaking Ill of the Dead*, and *Biography*, inspired by the life and work of James Baldwin. Performances are at 8 p.m. Friday, March 30 through Sunday, April 1. For tickets and information, go to [www.ybca.org](http://www.ybca.org) or phone 415/978-ARTS (2787)

Moses' latest work, *Helen*, is at times a love triangle and otherwise a battle for competing ideas. Showcasing Moses' élan for creating ferociously elegant dancing, *Helen* is a trio inspired by and set to music and spoken word by Carl Hancock Rux and poetry by E. Ethelbert Miller, with allusions to Homer's *Iliad*.

Carl Hancock Rux is an award-winning poet, playwright, novelist, essayist and recording artist. He is the former head of the MFA Writing for Performance Program at the California Institute of the Arts, and has taught or been in residence at the University of California–San Diego, Stanford University, the University of Massachusetts Amherst, Hollins University, the University of Iowa and Brown University. He is the author of the

novel, *Asphalt*, the OBIE Award winning play, *Talk*, and the Village Voice Literary prize-winning collection of poetry, *Pagan Operetta*.

Rux has also worked as a writer and frequent guest performer in dance, collaborating with Marlies Yearby's Movin' Spirits Dance Theater, Urban Bush Women, Jane Comfort & Co., Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company, the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and Martha Clark. Rux received a BESSIE© award for his direction of the Lisa Jones/Alva Rogers dance musical, *Stained*.

E. Ethelbert Miller is the author of nine books of poetry, two memoirs and the editor of three poetry anthologies. His work has appeared in numerous publications including *Beltway Poetry Quarterly*, *Poet Lore*, and *Sojourners*. Since 1974 he has been director of Howard University's African American Resource Center.

Created by Moses in collaboration with visual artist Elaine Buckholtz and rock guitarist Paul Carbonara (Blondie, Mary McBride), *Scrubbing the Dog* is conceived as a new form of activated graphic novel that promises to redefine the live performance experience. A trans-disciplinary, original artistic work for the 10-member RMK company, *Scrubbing the Dog* explores how historically racist and otherwise offensive cultural iconography has become "scrubbed" of its original meanings over the course of time. The company will preview excerpts of *Scrubbing the Dog* at YBCA and the completed work will premiere later this year as part of RMK's summer season at ODC Theater in June.

*Biography*, inspired by the life and work of author James Baldwin, features the 1961 audio recording of a roundtable discussion on Black perceptions of the American setting in art, featuring James Baldwin, Langston Hughes, Lorraine Hansberry, Emile Capouya, and Alfred Kazin. Hansberry excoriates the "arbitrary and superficial approach to Negro character of white writers." Baldwin describes his sense of the polarity between being a writer and a Black American in a "state of rage." Poet Hughes explains himself boldly as a "propagandist."

Completing the YBCA program are the Isadora Duncan Dance Award-winning works *The Soft Sweet Smell of Firm Warm Things* – not seen in its entirety since 2003 -- and *Speaking Ill of the Dead*, Moses' 2007 meditation on war.

The dancers of the company are Brendan Barthel, Crystaldawn Bell, Vincent Chavez, Dudley Flores, Norma Fong, Caitlin Kolb, Dexandro Montalvo, Josie Garthwaite Sadan, Victor Talledos, and Katherine Wells.

#### ABOUT ROBERT MOSES' KIN:

Since founding Robert Moses' Kin in 1995, Robert Moses has collaborated with a number of prominent dancers, musicians, composers, sculptors, authors, poets, and designers to realize the concept of dance as a unifying form of art, an art form that speaks broadly from a specific place. While touring nationally and creating over 80 original works, Robert Moses' Kin has earned a host of awards, including four Bay Area Isadora

Duncan Awards (IZZIES), a Bay Guardian Outstanding Local Discovery Award in Dance (Goldie) and a San Francisco Weekly Black Box Award for Choreography.

In addition to his work with Robert Moses' Kin, Moses has choreographed for San Francisco Opera, Ailey II, Philadanco, Cincinnati Ballet, Eco Arts, Transitions Dance Company of the Laban Center in London, African Cultural Exchange (UK), Bare Bones (UK), Oakland Ballet, Moving People Dance, and Robert Henry Johnson Dance Company, among others. He has choreographed for film, theater and opera, with major productions for the Lorraine Hansberry Theater, New Conservatory Theater, Los Angeles Prime Moves Festival (L.A.C.E.), and Olympic Arts Festival.

The company has commissioned works from choreographers Julia Adam, Alonzo King, Sara Shelton Mann, Margaret Jenkins, KT Nelson, Joanna Haigood, Amy Seiwert, Alex Ketley, and Robert Henry Johnson. In addition, Moses has collaborated with numerous other artists including Marcus Shelby, SoVoSo, Keith Terry, Will Power, Frank Boehm, Joe Venegoni, Dan Reiter, Somei Yoshino Taiko Ensemble and the poets of Youth Speaks.

Performances of Robert Moses' Kin are made possible by The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, Grants for the Arts/Hotel Tax Fund, The Jewish Federation of Cleveland, and many generous individuals.

The company has been the recipient of major funding from San Francisco Arts Commission, Wallace Alexander Gerbode Foundation, Fleishhacker Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, Zellerbach Family Foundation, Princess Grace Foundation, New England Foundation for the Arts, Rockefeller MAP Foundation, San Francisco Foundation, James Irvine Foundation, California Arts Council, the David E. Kaun Fund and Walter & Elise Hass Fund.

#### UPCOMING ROBERT MOSES' KIN 2012 PERFORMANCES AND TOUR DATES:

##### **Cincinnati, Ohio**

March 23 - 24, 2012

Aronoff Center for the Arts, Jarson-Kaplan Theater  
650 Walnut Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

<http://www.cdt-dance.org/12moses>

To purchase tickets call [513.621.2787](tel:513.621.2787)

##### **Los Angeles, CA**

May 5, 2012

The Harriet and Charles Luckman Fine Arts Complex  
5151 State University Drive, Los Angeles, CA, 90032  
California State University, Los Angeles

<http://www.luckmanarts.org/events/robert-moses-kin.html>

To purchase tickets call [323.343.6600](tel:323.343.6600)

**San Francisco, CA**

June 2012

**Robert Moses' Kin - The "By" Series**

ODC Theater

3153 17th Street, San Francisco, CA 94110

[415.863.9834](tel:415.863.9834)

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High-resolution images by RJ Muna are available for download at [http://www.robertmoseskin.org/press\\_room.html](http://www.robertmoseskin.org/press_room.html).

Company website:

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**Robert Moses' Kin**  
**870 Market Street, Suite 567, San Francisco, CA 94102**  
**415-252-8384**  
**[www.robertmoseskin.org](http://www.robertmoseskin.org)**

“Masterful” – *San Francisco Chronicle*

“Intoxicating” – *Chicago Tribune*

“A visually delicious beast that never comes short of dazzling the senses”  
– *The Huffington Post*

“Nothing short of electrifying.” – *Chicago Sun Times*

**CALENDAR LISTING**  
**Dance, Theater, Music**

WHO/WHAT: Robert Moses' Kin Dance Company  
17<sup>th</sup> Annual Home Season

WHEN: Friday, March 30 at 8:00 pm  
Saturday, March 31 at 8:00 p.m.  
Sunday, April 1 at 8:00 p.m.

WHERE: Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, Novellus Theater  
700 Howard Street (at the corner of 3rd Street)

TICKETS: \$25, \$35, \$45  
Student, senior, and YBCA member discounts available.  
YBCA Box Office 415/978-ARTS or [www.ybca.org](http://www.ybca.org)

GROUP SALES: Discounts available for groups of 10 or more.  
For group discounts contact: [marycarbonara@gmail.com](mailto:marycarbonara@gmail.com)

MORE INFO: [www.robertmoseskin.org](http://www.robertmoseskin.org)

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