FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
June 9, 2014

BARYSHNIKOV ARTS CENTER ANNOUNCES  
DIANA AND JOE DIMENNA MATCH

$100,000 Gift Requiring 1 to 2 Match Will Support BAC’s $1M Cage Cunningham Campaign

New York, NY, June 9, 2014 — Baryshnikov Arts Center (BAC) is pleased to announce a $100,000 matching gift from philanthropist Diana DiMenna and hedge-fund manager Joe DiMenna, in support of BAC’s campaign to establish the Cage Cunningham Fund for artist fellowships, named after legendary artistic partners John Cage and Merce Cunningham.

BAC’s two-year, $1 million Cage Cunningham Campaign, which launched January 16, has raised more than $400,000 to date. The campaign has 100% commitment from BAC’s Board of Directors, of which Mrs. DiMenna is a member. Mr. and Mrs. DiMenna have pledged one dollar for every two raised up to $100,000 during the match period, from June to December 31, 2014. The DiMenna Match will raise $300,000 for the campaign, encouraging gifts of all sizes from a range of contributors, and helping BAC to achieve the campaign goal.

Beginning in December 2015, the Cage Cunningham Fund will award the annual Cage Cunningham Fellowship of $50,000, distributed over two years to an exemplary contemporary artist who reflects qualities of innovation and collaboration epitomized by Cage and Cunningham. Fellows will experiment or develop new works in BAC’s Studio 6A, which will be renamed the John Cage and Merce Cunningham Studio in honor of the late artists’ unparalleled contribution to 20th-century art and culture.

The DiMenna Match reflects Mr. and Mrs. DiMenna’s leadership support of BAC’s intent to nurture and provide substantial career support to artists who will carry forward the legacy of these great artistic innovators.

“Joe and I greatly value and admire the mission of the Cage Cunningham Campaign,” said Mrs. DiMenna, “and welcome others to join us in supporting BAC in granting these essential fellowships to deserving artists.”

The Cage Cunningham Fund will expand and deepen BAC’s current efforts to meet the vital and ever-growing need of artists for dedicated time and space for creative investigation without commercial pressure. Since BAC opened in 2005, it has provided nearly 160 residencies, serving as an incubator for artists and companies to research ideas and develop work in the Center’s studios and performance spaces. Many of these works have been performed on BAC’s own stages and at venues around the world.

The Cage Cunningham Campaign was launched with the encouragement of the John Cage and Merce Cunningham Trusts. The Campaign Advisory Committee includes: Charles Atlas, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Frank Cordasco, Tony Creamer, Molly Davies, Deborah Eisenberg, John Guare, Colleen Keegan, Garrison Keillor, Laura Kuhn, Liz LeCompte, Harvey Lichtenstein, Benedicte Pesle, Georgiana Pickett, Judith Pisar, Kirk Radke, Liz Gerring Radke, Peter Sellars, Wallace Shawn, Allan Sperling, David Vaughan, Suzanne Weil, Lynn Wichern, and Robert Wilson.
Inquiries about the Cage Cunningham Campaign can be directed to Kirsten Munro, Director of Development: kmunro@bacnyc.org. Donations can be made online at www.bacnyc.org/support.

About Baryshnikov Arts Center (BAC)

BAC is the realization of a long-held vision by artistic director Mikhail Baryshnikov who sought to build an arts center in Manhattan that would serve as a gathering place for artists from all disciplines. BAC’s opening in 2005 heralded the launch of this mission, establishing a thriving creative laboratory and performance space for artists from around the world. BAC’s activities encompass a robust residency program augmented by a range of professional services, including commissions of new work, as well as the presentation of performances by artists at varying stages of their careers. In tandem with its commitment to supporting artists, BAC is dedicated to building audiences for the arts by presenting contemporary, innovative work at affordable ticket prices. For more information, please visit www.bacnyc.org.

Baryshnikov Arts Center thanks the following generous individuals and institutions for their commitment to the Cage Cunningham Campaign.


All gifts of $1,000 and greater, as of June 3, 2014

Baryshnikov Arts Center is grateful for the support of its generous individual and institutional annual fund donors in 2013—2014.

Mikhail Baryshnikov and Lisa Rinehart, Tina and Jeffrey Bolton Family Fund, Catherine Brennan, Clyde Brownstone, Frank and Monique Cordasco, Richard and Jennie DeScherer, Joseph and Diana DiMenna, James H. Duffy, Ehrenkranz Family Foundation, Barbara Fleischman, Sandra Foschi, Slavka B. Glaser, Louise Guenther, Agnes Gund, Dr. Ayele Hadero, Roger and Joan Hooker, Huong Hoang, Fredericka Hunter, Donald M. Kendall, Joan Konner and Alvin Perlmutter, Herman Krawitz, Jarrett and Maritess Lilien, Jane Lipton, Jane & Richard Mescon, Aidan Mooney, Steven and Michèle Pesner, Aidan and Elizabeth Quinn, John S. Rockwell, Dorothy Scheuer, Wallace Shawn, Christina Sterner, Jennifer Tipton, Ian and Jack Archer Watters, Mary Waters, and Suzanne Weil.


Baryshnikov Arts Center is also grateful for support provided by the National Endowment for the Arts and public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council. Funding is also made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

Yamaha is the official piano of the Baryshnikov Arts Center.

As of June 9, 2014

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