



For Immediate Release
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**CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED DANCE COMPANY BACKHAUSDANCE
WILL PERFORM THE WORLD PREMIERE OF *THE ELASTICITY OF
THE ALMOST* AT CARPENTER PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

LONG BEACH, Calif. – Celebrating its 10th year anniversary, Orange County-based dance company Backhausdance will perform at the Richard and Karen Carpenter Performing Arts Center on the campus of Cal State Long Beach on February 2, 2013 at 8pm.

Named “one of seven emerging dance companies to watch” in North America by New York’s Joyce Theatre, Backhausdance brings artistic repertory of powerful, athletic dances and emotionally charged dramatic pieces that reveal whimsical, humorous glimpses of the human experience. The evening will consist of a mixed repertory including *Duet(s)* and *Sitting on January*—as well as the full one act world premiere of *The Elasticity of the Almost*.

The company was formed in January 2003 by Artistic Director Jennifer Backhaus with the mission to create excellent art and educate the community about the relevance a vitality of concert dance. The following year, Backhausdance premiered the critically acclaimed *Sitting on January*, which won the Lester Horton Award for Outstanding Achievement in Choreography. *Duet(s)* was presented in 2011, a suite for three men and three women that explores relationships through quick, quirky gestures and seamless partnering.

Backhaus was included in OC Metro’s “40 Under 40” in 2009, and was recently honored with an *Alumni of the Year Award* by Chapman University for her success with Backhausdance. As a choreographer, her

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works have been commissioned and produced by the Los Angeles Ballet, Orange County Regional Ballet, McCallum Theatre, Segerstrom Center for the Arts, and Utah Regional Ballet. Backhaus is currently a member of the full time dance faculty at Chapman University where she teaches modern Dance Technique, Dance Improvisation and Introduction to Dance Studies. She is also a teaching artist for the Segerstrom Center for the Arts Education Programs where she shares her love for dance and choreography with local students in public and private schools across Southern California.

Backhausdance has performed extensively at venues and festivals including the *Studio Series* at South Coast Repertory, the *INBOUND Festival* at Joyce SoHo in New York, *Fall for Dance* at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts, *Laguna Dance Festival*, the *Los Angeles County Holiday Celebration* held at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, and the *Celebrate Dance Festival* at the Alex Theatre. In addition, the company was selected for the American College Dance Festival by Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. for national performances of the piece *Disintegration*.

Tickets for Backhausdance are on sale for \$40, with discounts for students and seniors. For group rates or special seating request, contact the ticket office at (562) 985-7000 or visit www.CarpenterArts.org. This presentation is made possible in part by Season Media Partner KPCC 89.3FM.

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CALENDAR LISTING

Photos are available – Please contact Francisco Juanillo at (562) 985-1822

What: **Backhausdance**

When: **Saturday, Feb. 2, 2013, 8pm**

Where: **Carpenter Performing Arts Center**
6200 Atherton St.
Long Beach, CA 90815

Tickets: **\$40**

Ticket Office: **(562) 985-7000, www.CarpenterArts.org**
Box Office Hours are Monday-Friday, 11am-6pm
Saturdays are closed except on season performance days from Noon – 4pm.

In Brief: Backhausdance brings an entertaining and artistic repertory of powerful, athletic dances and emotionally charged dramatic pieces that reveal whimsical, humorous glimpses of the human experience. Choreographer Jennifer Backhaus uses a rich movement vocabulary based on fluidity of motion, geared to show off the distinctive personalities of her dancers. The Carpenter Center is pleased to present these outstanding local artists that were recently named by NYC's The Joyce Theater as "one of seven emerging dance companies to watch" in North America!

Additional information and tickets available at the Carpenter Center's website: www.CarpenterArts.org