Presented by the Oliver Ranch Foundation

### AL POZZO DI SOGNO

Into the Well of Drea

A benefit for Zaccho Dance Theatre and 3rd Street Youth Center & Clinic Oliver Ranch, October 8 & 9, 2011

#### Choreography and Direction by Joanna Haigood

in collaboration with

Scenic and Rigging Designer Wayne Campbell

Performing Artists Alex Allan, Calvin Kai Ku, Emily Leap, Amara Tabor-Smith, Patricia West

Riggers
Sean Riley, David Freitag, Spencer Evans,
Lawrence LaBianca, Wayne Campbell

Production Assistant Danielle Langlois



Based on an original fairy tale inspired by Ann Hamilton's *The Tower* 

Reception Hosted by Williamson Wines



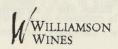
#### **Host Committee**

Zaccho: Jane Sullivan (Chair), Arianne Dar, Joanna Haigood, Halima Marshall-Conley, Laurence Plouvier, Jennifer Ross, Judith Shaw, Kelly Sultan, Cheryl Ward, Misha Hawk-Wyatt

3rd Street: Katina Ancar, Audrey Bangi, Michael Baxter, Ayanna Bennett, Tarik Bennett, Susan Castillo, Michelle Magee, Sharon Papo, Brian Singerman









I first met Ann Hamilton in 1989 while she was making *Project Privations and Excesses* at Capp Street Project, a beautifully poetic work about loss, isolation and disenchantment in the post industrial world. I had the privilege to perform a small role in this provocative work, sitting in a chair wringing my hands in a honey filled hat. Two sheep also performed in the work, on loan by Steven Oliver from this very ranch. The scene really was extraordinary, for many reasons, and my great admiration of Ann's work began with this experience.

Twenty-one years later I was invited to the ranch to consider creating a work at Ann's elegant Tower. During my initial visits I grew increasingly impressed not only by the scale of this spectacular sculpture but also by how its careful placement invites a story to be imagined. I watched my eleven-year old son play here and quite naturally a fairytale theme emerged as the direction to follow.

So here it is: I've made a modern fairytale in an environment where scale provides the magical element, the one that makes things shrink and grow before your very eyes. I chose a mostly Italianesque palette to resonate with Ann's original inspiration for the tower. There is no "real" narrative in the piece but you are welcome to create one on your own. The glorious music is composed by Aldo Bassi, Marco Malagola, Charlie Mells, Alessandro Murzi, Stevie Wonder, Banda Osiris, Damiano Puliti, Nino Rota, Alessandra Garosi, Johnny Puleo, Paul Hillier, Steve Reich and Calvin Ku.

I am in debt to the phenomenally smart and resourceful staff at Zaccho; to our generous Host Committee for their help in making this event so special; to all the extraordinary artists who worked with me on this project - Emily, Alex, Calvin, Patricia, Amara, Sandia, Riley, Lawrence, Spencer, David, Wendy, Chelsea — and especially my amazing husband Wayne, who continues to astonish me with his graceful interpretations of my hair-brained ideas.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to Steve Oliver, who has been so generous, gracious and willing to accommodate my endless new and rather elaborate requests, including incorporating the wonderful work of Bruce Naumann and Martin Puryear. It has been an extraordinary experience to build on the work of such great minds and artists. I really can't thank you enough Steve.

And finally THANK YOU to Ann Hamilton for all the inspiration and lessons you've provided over the years. It has been a tremendous pleasure to respond and play with your tower.

-- Joanna Haigood

# About the Artists

Joanna Haigood co-founded Zaccho Dance Theatre in 1980 and is the company's Choreographer and Artistic Director. Recent projects include a work for San Francisco's Market Street, Sailing Away (2010) commissioned by the San Francisco Arts Commission, Departure and Arrival (2007), performed in the International Terminal at SFO; a remounting of Invisible Wings (2007), a site-specific piece about the Underground Railroad; Ghost Architecture (2004) a reflection on the history of the redevelopment project at the Yerba Buena complex; Picture Powderhorn, commissioned by the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis (2000), and Picture Redhook commissioned by Dancing in the Streets and created at local grain terminals, about the aspirations of two inner-city communities. Her work has also been commissioned by the National Black Arts Festival, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Festival d'Avignon and Festival d'Arles in France, the Exploratorium Museum, and Alonzo King's Lines Contemporary Ballet. Haigood was honored in 2007 as a recipient of the United States Artists Fellowship; she has also received a Guggenheim Fellowship and the Alpert Award in Dance. She is currently on faculty at the San Francisco Circus Center.

Wayne Campbell has been collaborating as designer and rigger with Joanna Haigood for over ten years. His recent work with her includes Invisible Wings, August 2007, Jacobs' Pillow; Departure and Arrival, May 2007, SFO International Terminal; Dances around the House, December 2005, at the San Francisco Exploratorium; and Ghost Architecture, February 2004, at the San Francisco's Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Forum. Recent work with others includes rigging design for Matthew Barney's Drawing Restraint, June 2006, SFMOMA; and for a MythBuster's television episode involving climbing a 300-ft glass building using suction cups.

**Gravity Design Inc.** (Rigging Crew) provides innovative static and kinetic rigging for a wide variety of clients and industries. With a unique background, training, and innovative gear, we have been flying and moving live loads for circus and aerial dances for over 15 years. Visit our website at www.gravitydesign.org

Alex Allan is a New Circus creator and performer with an extensive history in devised and classical theatre. Born and raised in Australia, Alex completed his Bachelor of Arts in Communication – Theatre/Media, during which time he acquired the technical and conceptual skills required to create relevant theatre for contemporary audiences. After the completion of his undergraduate studies, Alex moved to San Francisco to pursue his career as a professional performer, while simultaneously training in the Professional Aerial Program at the San Francisco Circus Center. Alex now strives to create performance that blends the boundaries of circus and theatre.

Calvin Kai Ku, physical comedian, magician, and acrobat has performed in the prestigious WuQiao Festival of Circus in China, corporate events in the U.S. including eBay, Swissnex and Bread and Roses, as well as the San Francisco Symphony and Circus Center in San Francisco. Through the culmination of his many talents, he now performs his signature comedy pole act, which was recently featured in Bay Area Children's Theatre's production of "Circus Adventure". Additionally, his new passion is spreading laughter through his work with the Medical Clown Project in hospitals of San Francisco.

Emily Leap is an aerialist and dancer. She trained at the San Francisco Circus Center with Elena Panova. In addition to Zaccho, she is also currently working with Keith Hennessy/Circo Zero and Sara Shelton Mann. She has also danced for Lizz Roman and Nita Little and has shown her solo trapeze act at a pretty wide variety of venues around the world. In 2008 she received the Isadora Duncan Dance award for best individual performance for her work with Circo Zero and in 2005 she was given the award for Best Aerial act at the American Circus Festival. She has a BA in English Literature from UC Berkeley.

Amara Tabor-Smith is a San Francisco Native and Oakland resident. In addition to the work of Joanna Haigood, Amara has performed in the work of choreographers such as Ed Mock, Anne Bluethenthal, Jacinta Vlach, Adia Tamar Whitaker and Ronald K. Brown. Amara is the former associate artistic director and dancer with The Urban Bush Women Dance Co. in NYC. In addition to dance, she has worked extensively in theater with artists such as Herbert Siquenza, Aya de Leon, Anna Deveare Smith, SF Mime Troupe and Marc Bamuthi Joseph. Amara is the artistic director of Deep Waters Dance Theater (DWDT) and is the co artistic director of Headmistress, an ongoing international collaboration with dancer/choreographer Sherwood Chen. She was a 2010 artist in residence at The Headlands Center for the Arts and a 2007 recipient of the CHIME Mentorship Exchange grant. Amara is on faculty in the Theater, Dance and Performance Studies Department at UC Berkeley.

A native of the Bay Area, **Patricia West** is a dancer, choreographer, and elementary school teacher. She earned a B.A. in English, Dance, and Education at U.C. Berkeley and an M.A. in Education at San Jose State University. Patricia has worked and performed with Bay Area

Repertory Dance, Capacitor, LEVYdance, Lorraine Hansberry Theater, and Robert Moses' KIN. Currently, Patricia is honored to be performing with Joe Goode Performance Group, Alayo Dance Company, and Zaccho Dance Theatre. When not performing, Patricia fulfills another of her passions, teaching kindergarten and third grade at Berkwood Hedge School in Berkeley, CA.

Ann Hamilton's *The Tower* was the realization of Hamilton's desire to go beyond the ephemeral nature of much of her oeuvre and create a work of performance of her own design, a solid but living conduit for an everchanging range of sensory projects and performances. Made of concrete and resembling an Italian water cistern, it is open to the sky and holds a pool of water at the structure's base. This unique acoustic environment and entertainment space is defined by two staircases (one for the audience and the other for the performers) built in a double helix.

Founded in 1980, Zaccho Dance Theatre presents performance work that investigates dance as it relates to place. Under the direction of Joanna Haigood, the company focuses on making dances that use natural, architectural and cultural environments as points of departure for movement exploration and narrative. Haigood's innovative work involves in-depth research into the history and the character of sites and typically integrates aerial flight and suspension. Zaccho's Youth Performing Arts Program was created to integrate our nationally known, professional performance work with the experiences of their young neighbors in San Francisco's Bayview Hunters Point. For over 20 years, Zaccho's arts program has served 100-150 neighborhood youth annually by offering free school day and after school classes to students 7-18 years old; resulting in over 2,000 youth to-date.

Third Street Youth Center and Clinic is the hub for teen health in San Francisco's Bayview Hunters Point neighborhood. It is a multi-service youth center providing urgently needed and ongoing health, mental health and support services completely free of charge. The center also provides youth leadership opportunities, peer support groups and arts programming. Third Street Youth Center and Clinic programs serve 1,000 young people between the age of 12 and 24 each year. For more information visit their website at http://3rdstyouth.org.

Zaccho Dance Theatre and 3rd Street Youth Center & Clinic are non-profit 501(c)(3) organizations. All contributions are tax deductible and greatly appreciated.

# Thank You

Steven & Nancy Oliver, Oliver Ranch Foundation, Williamson Wines, Jeff Hall, Ann Hamilton, Sharon Papo, Amy Cullen, Kathleen Brown, the amazing cast and crew, Raissa Simpson, Sandia Langlois, Sheena Johnson, Ann Berman, Jennifer Ross, Chelsea O'Brian, Sonja Smith, Suzanne Burgeon, Dana Gluckstein, Jeff & Johanna Scutt, Renee Emunah, Matt White, Erik Karpeles, Mike Sell, Jenepher Stowell, Sean Riley, Walter Kitundu, Sean Cullen, all our patrons, Costume Consultant Wendy Parkman, Courtney Sexton the signage man, Harry Bosworth for the donation of his beautiful truck, Jochelle Pereña, Lisa Townsend, Carmen Rozenstraten, Matthew Wickett, Jodi Lomask, Paramvir Dehal, and everyone who came to the show and invested in our future. Thank you!

#### Upcoming Events

November 6, 2011: Zaccho Youth Company performs to benefit Alameda's Circus for Arts in Schools, Kofman Auditorium, Alameda

December 7, 2011: Joanna Haigood collaborates with composer Marcus Shelby to premiere "Dying While Black and Brown" for the Equal Justice Sociey's Annual Gala at Yoshi's, San Francisco

February 3-4, 2012: Zaccho presents a work in progress about civil rights activist and scholar W.E.B. DuBois at ODC Theater, San Francisco

For more information, please visit www.zaccho.org