

# DANCING IN THE STREETS

## Breaking Ground – A Public Charrette

FREE Interdisciplinary Site-Specific Workshops for  
Choreographers, Dancers, and Architects

Led by

**Joanna Haigood**

### Federal Hall National Memorial

Thursday, November 12, 10am – 2pm

Friday, November 13, 10am – 2pm

**Breaking Ground – A Public Charrette** is a site-specific choreography workshop being held in one of New York City's most intriguing sites. Led by nationally acclaimed choreographer **Joanna Haigood**, the workshop offers participants a unique opportunity to work across disciplines to explore movement composition within the context of architecture, history, and public spaces.

Haigood offers tools to interact with this historic landmark and guides participants to create short studies using their own movement language and sensibilities. Participants will discuss architecture as object, its function and design, and its role as container of history, as metaphor and as a stage.

The 4-hour workshop is modeled after the 5-day charrette process, which Joanna Haigood developed for *Breaking Ground – A Dance Charrette*, *Dancing in the Streets'* critically acclaimed series that "raised the bar for site-specific dance in this city" (*Gay City News*).

**Joanna Haigood** is widely recognized for her site-specific and aerial choreography that uses natural, architectural and cultural environments as points of departure for movement exploration and narrative. She is the founding Artistic Director of Zaccho Dance Theatre. Since 1980, her work has been commissioned by the Joffrey Ballet, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Festival d'Avignon, and *Dancing in the Streets*, among others.  
[www.zaccho.org](http://www.zaccho.org)

**Federal Hall National Memorial:** the Greek Revival building, designed by Ithiel Town and Alexander Jackson Davis, was erected in 1842 on the site where George Washington took the oath of office as the first President of the USA.

Presented in partnership with [openhousenewyork](http://openhousenewyork.com)

*Breaking Ground – A Public Charrette is supported by Mertz Gilmore Foundation and with public funds from the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council.*

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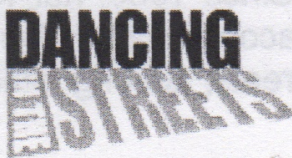
[www.dancinginthestreets.org](http://www.dancinginthestreets.org)

**MISSION:** Dancing in the Streets (Dancing) strives to illuminate the urban experience with free public performances and site-specific installations that examine the kinetic life and history of natural and architectural public spaces. Its productions explore the intersection of the arts and the city, strengthen community life through active engagement with the arts, diversify audiences, and serve as catalysts for the celebration of urban life.

**HISTORY:** Since Dancing was founded in 1984, it has commissioned, produced and presented more than 500 performances and installations by over 300 contemporary artists. It has garnered local, national and international praise for its large-scale performances, site-specific productions, and festivals that have revitalized public spaces and helped break the barrier too often existing between art and the general public. Dancing was founded by Elise Bernhardt and has been under the leadership of Aviva Davidson since 1998.

**SIGNATURE SERIES:** Dancing's current programs focus on two signature series:

- **BREAKING GROUND – A Dance Charrette** – conceived and directed by Joanna Haigood, the critically acclaimed series challenges choreographers to create site-specific dance in five days for compelling NYC sites in transition.
- **HIP HOP GENERATION NEXT:** an exploration of hip hop dance as a significant urban art form that was spawned in New York's inner city neighborhoods, and has spread like wildfire throughout the globe. The multiyear series includes performances by local, regional, and international hip hop artists; block parties; dance ciphers; films; and panel discussions.



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