



PRESS RELEASE

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POP-LOCKING & BOOTY SHAKING IS NOT STREET DANCING

TUDS: Stepping stone for Toronto Urban Dance Community

TORONTO, ONTARIO (September 3, 2010) – Toronto's first contemporary street dance choreographers Apolonia Velasquez and Ofilio Portillo are the hosts of a one-of-a-kind event on Sunday September 12th, **TUDS: the Toronto Urban Dance Symposium**.

Apolonia Velasquez and Ofilio have been gaining much exposure and recognition as Dancers, Choreographers and as Artistic Directors of dance company Gadfly. They have for commitment to promote Street Dancing as an art form and Dance as the best alternative to a healthy lifestyle.

“There are two main reasons why we are doing this. First, Pop-locking, spinning on your head, or booty shaking is NOT Street dancing. Second, being a dancer is an art but also a PROFESSION. Record artists, the general public and WE need to recognize this” Ofilio Portillo, Host. Credits include: SYTYCD Canada, Feist, Cascada, The movies Camp Rock 2 and Turn the Beat Around.

TUDS will be a FREE event reaching out to the dance community to demystify what Street dancers really are about, to open a discussion about dancing as a career to set standards for "street dancers". Professionals will be reunited to participate in a panel discussion (Choreographers, Agents, and established professionals). In collaboration with Dance Ontario, the Canadian alliance of Dance Artists, and benefitting from the financial support of The Ontario Arts Council, TUDS will be a FREE event for anyone who simply loves dancing. Affordable \$5-Workshops will be offered: House Dance with So You Think You can Dance Canada Choreographer Sho Tyme and Audition Workshop with duet choreographer extraordinaire Apolonia & Ofilio.

“Next to NY, Tokyo and Paris, Toronto is the hub of one of the most supportive, talented and inspiring dance communities. We are excited for this event to unite this family under one roof” Apolonia Velasquez, Host. Credits include: Katy Perry, Shawn desman, Massari, and Eva Avila.

The Toronto Urban Dance Symposium will take place at City Dance Corps at 489 Queen Street West (West of Spadina) on Sunday September 12th 2010. The event starts at 3pm. Tickets can be reserved at <http://tuds.eventbrite.com/>. For more information, call 647-869-3865, email at info@gadfly.ca or visit www.gadfly.ca.

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For more information or interviews, please contact:

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