The New Tide

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"Positioned midway between a narrative and an abstract composition, Bazemore's "The New Tide" draws on the emotions and psychological states implied in [Gordon] Parks' remarkable black-and-white photographs documenting life in mid-20th-century America. Here, soul is everything." –NJArts.net







with music and audio interviews featuring

Sam Cooke



...featuring photography by **Gordon Parks** courtesy of: The Gordon Parks Foundation

The New Tide

Run Time: 23 minutes Number of Performers: 9 Technical Requirements: Front Projection

Choreographer Dawn Marie Bazemore (Philadanco, Dreamgirls) returns to Nimbus with The New Tide, a visionary work inspired by the iconic photography of Gordon Parks from the 1940s-50s, set to the transcendent music of the legendary Sam Cooke. Drawing on the profound insight, implicit activism, and universal appeal of these 20th-century cultural giants, Ms. Bazemore crafts a piece deeply rooted in history, storytelling, and irresistibly dynamic dance. Gordon Parks' photographic images, seamlessly integrated into the scenic design, are provided courtesy of the Gordon Parks Foundation. The creation of The New Tide was supported by the National Endowment for the Arts, the New Jersey Performing Arts Center, and the Gordon Parks Foundation, and premiered in Fall 2023.

SCAN TO WATCH:





THE NEW TIDE CHOREOGRAPHY: DAWN MARIE BAZEMORE

MUSIC: SAM COOKE

Community Engagement & Education

The New Tide is an extraordinary multi-genre performance that delves into the rich, intertwined histories of the United States, African Americans, and media studies. Gordon Parks' career spanned these worlds throughout much of the 20th century. By incorporating primary source materials, including Parks' photography and Sam Cooke's music and interviews, **The New Tide offers a captivating opportunity for students to engage with history**—both as a living and enduring influence, and also as an lens of insight into the work of iconic Black American artists. Opportunities for engagement include:





Pre-Performance Study Guide

• For school assembly performances (grades 6-12), Nimbus provides pre-performance materials with academic touchpoints to enrich and extend curriculum connections to the concert experience.

Public Discussion

• With advance notice, The New Tide offers engaging preperformance discussions with scholars. These can be coordinated through host venues, local colleges or universities, or directly through Nimbus and the Gordon Parks Foundation.

Workshops/Masterclasses

• In conjunction with performances of The New Tide, Nimbus Dance artists are available to teach repertory workshops and masterclasses, featuring choreography and phrase work from the piece.

It is rare to find an artist like Dawn Marie Bazemore whose evocative movement and musicality is matched by her deep understanding of the symbiotic nature of culture and history. –Samuel Pott, Nimbus Dance Founding Artistic Director

CONTACT

Hannah Weeks, Managing Director

hannah@nimbusdanceworks.org



http:// www.nimbusdance.org

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About Nimbus Dance

Nimbus Dance bridges the gap between world-class performances and community engagement by presenting work that challenges, speaks to, and elevates diverse audiences across the nation. Founded in 2005 by visionary Artistic Director Samuel Pott (former soloist with Martha Graham Dance Company) and based in Jersey City, Nimbus stands at the forefront of excellence in the arts, civic engagement, and equitable impact. With a highly physical and visually engaging aesthetic, Nimbus' international company of dancers "split the difference between traditionalism and modernism... A Nimbus piece can pivot from ballet to Broadway to Beyoncé in a few beats." (Tris McCall, Jersey City Times). The company performs on tour nationally and throughout the greater New Jersey/New York region, impacting 16,000 people each year. Recently, Nimbus performed with the Boston Symphony Orchestra at Tanglewood and is humbled by support from the National Endowment for the Arts and O'Donnell Green Music and Dance Foundation.