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## International Powerhouse Parsons Dance to Headline PS/21's Summer Dance Season

*"Awesome dancing. Eye-popping visual effects. Excellent showbiz savvy performers. Perpetually smoldering, lusty sensual movement."* - Village Voice

[CHATHAM, NY] - Parsons Dance returns to PS/21: Performance Spaces for the 21st

Century with an all-new version of last season's sold-out, rock dance opera, "Remember

Me," along with the stroboscopic master work, "Caught." Combining exceptionally athletic

dancing, marvelous theatricality and sexy exuberance, the troupe will perform under the tent

Friday and Saturday, August 27 and 28 at 8:00pm in Chatham.

Internationally lauded for humorous, superbly danced and accessible works, Parsons has captured the imagination of audiences worldwide. This is their fifth consecutive year at

PS/21. "We are thrilled and honored that David Parsons has been so supportive of PS/21

since the very first year," said PS/21 founder Judy Grunberg. "Parsons Dance has become

one of those PS/21 traditions that is looked forward to expectantly each new season."

When David Parsons founded the company, he made it his mission to bring modern dance to the widest audience possible. Entertaining and invigorating performances meld into

an accessible and engaging mix. Parsons dancers don't necessarily fit the ballet dancer

stereotype - hair is loose and long, body types vary, and it is not unusual to see a female

dancer paired with a shorter male. These elements add relatability to the choreography.

The company's goal is for audiences to leave feeling exhilarated, not confounded, as can happen with modern dance. "I like to communicate with people," choreographer David

Parsons said. "I don't like a big question mark in front of your face when you see dance. I want people to be in my world, following along."

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Parsons’ PS/21 performance will include two of their most popular pieces: “Caught” and “Remember Me.”

Direct from its first national tour, “Remember Me” has an entirely fresh look and feel. New choreography, all-new costumes by Project Runway designer Austin Scarlett, and dramatic new lighting by Tony Award-winning lighting designer Howell Binkley, turn up the passion and embolden David Parsons’ electrifying dance. This modern re-telling of a classic tragic love triangle features Parsons Dance and the lead vocalists and music of the Grammy-nominated rock opera band, East Village Opera Company. With contemporary dance, live and recorded music, and complex digital lighting, “Remember Me” is the most ambitious production created by Parsons Dance in its 22-year history.

“Caught” is David Parsons’ unforgettable signature stroboscopic tour-de-force, featuring a solo dancer defying gravity and flying above the stage. “Caught” begins with a dancer moving around, then floating, then flying. “It is simply amazing to see a human being fly,” said Associate Artistic Director Elizabeth Koeppen. “I look out on the audience and they have their mouths open. They can’t believe what they’re seeing.” “Caught” has been described as “one of the great pieces of recent times.”

David Parsons has enjoyed a remarkable career as dance performer, choreographer, teacher, director and producer. Born in Chicago and raised in Kansas City, he was a leading dancer with the Paul Taylor Dance Company from 1978–87. In 1985, he founded Parsons Dance with lighting designer Howell Binkley. As artistic director, Parsons has created more than 70 works for the company and participated in many educational and community outreach residency activities.

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Parsons Dance will perform Friday and Saturday, August 27 and 28 at 8:00pm. Admission is \$40 general admission and \$35 for PS/21 members. For information or to order tickets, please call 518.392.6121 or visit ps21chatham.org. Tickets will also be available at the door until the show sells out.

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PS/21 is a not-for-profit organization located at 2980 Route 66 in Chatham, New York. PS/21 is dedicated to the performing arts and serving a diverse community with concerts, programs and residencies by professional artists and ensembles, youth and children’s programming and cultural education opportunities for all ages.

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Photo available upon request

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