



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Ripples around the World:
Inspiring world dance event raises consciousness about water crisis
Global Water Dances June 24, 2017**

On June 24, 2017 people will gather at more than 100 sites around the world to take part in Global Water Dances, a multi-continent celebration of the importance of water.

Global Water Dances grew out of a conference of dancers and environmentalists who met to come up with ways that dance could mobilize people to protect the planet. “When people dance together, they connect in powerful ways and they generate a sense of agency in themselves and others,” said Vannia Ibarguen, the Artistic Director of Global Water Dances.

Global Water Dances began in 2011, and has taken place every two years since then. The event has brought performers and audiences together in more than 250 cities, unified around a call to action to honor and protect water. Choreographers at each site create a dance for that site, whether it is by a river, lake, beach, park, or pool. All performances are free of charge, and family friendly.

Choreographers will couple with environmental education organizations through panel discussions, scientific and environmental speeches, or sharing petitions or taking other eco-actions. Ecological acts include cleaning rivers or beaches, speaking out against polluting or wasting water. There are many ecological agencies giving their support, like Center for Global Environmental Organization, World Water Rescue Foundation, Water.org, Sane Energy Project, Nature Conservancy, Huron River Watershed Council, Mississippi River Fund, 350.org, 5Gyres, to name a few.

Global Water Dances is a project of the Laban/Bartenieff Institute of Movement Studies (LIMS) in New York City. “We know that Global Water Dances changes peoples’ attitudes about water,” said Ibarguen. “In 2013, we gathered survey responses from almost 1,000 people from four continents who attended their local performance. 75% of the respondents reported that the performance increased their interest in water issues and 78% said that the dance event inspired them to take action regarding water issues.”

To find the closest Global Water Dances location, make a donation, volunteer, or join our mailing list, visit www.globalwaterdances.org

“Do what you can, do it with others, do it with passion” – Guy Rider, Chair of UN-Water, on the power of individuals to change the world.



* The Laban/Bartenieff Institute of Movement Studies is a world-renowned nonprofit organization based in NYC with an extensive global network of Certified Movement Analysts (CMAs). Since 1978, when LIMS was founded by somatic educator, dancer, and pioneer dance therapist Irmgard Bartenieff, this women-led organization has been exploring and presenting traditional and new forms of dance, developing interdisciplinary research in Movement Studies, and educating professionals in the Laban Movement System, revealing the impact of movement understanding in cross-cultural interactions, and making a difference in the way people perform, communicate, learn and adapt to a fast and ever-changing world. Choreographer/CMA Regina Miranda is LIMS CEO and Director of Arts & Culture

** Vannia Ibarquen is an International Performing Arts Consultant, choreographer, and dancer. She has received awards in United States, Peru, Argentina, Cuba, Colombia, and the NDEO Excellence in Education Award (National Dance Education Organization). Vannia also directs her own dance troupe called VIDA – Vannia Ibarquen Dance Arts, and organizes "Encuentros de Pura Danza", an annual contemporary dance festival held in Lima, Peru since 2012. Vannia holds a MFA in Dance from the University of Maryland.