



For Immediate Release

CONTACT: Erica Hobbs  
(313) 237-3403  
ehobbs@motopera.org

**Michigan Opera Theatre to Present World Premiere of Robert Garland Piece  
by Dance Theatre of Harlem**

*Work explores political parallels from the 1970s*

*Program part of DTH's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary tour*

*March 14-15 at the Detroit Opera House*

**DETROIT, March 4, 2020** – Michigan Opera Theatre (MOT) will present the world premiere of Dance Theatre of Harlem's (DTH) new work from the company's resident choreographer Robert Garland. The piece explores political parallels between the 1970s and today. It is part of DTH's larger 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary program at the Detroit Opera House that also includes "Passage," "Odalisques" and "Balamouk."

"As a Dance Theatre of Harlem alumnus who has worked very closely with their founder Arthur Mitchell, it is a deeply personal honor to present this groundbreaking company during their 50th anniversary," said MOT Artistic Advisor for Dance Jon Teeuwissen. "We are thrilled to share this world premiere with our audiences."

"Passage," which premiered last May, recognizes the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of a series of pivotal events in America's history, including the first documented arrival of enslaved Africans. The ballet reflects, in abstract, the fortitude of the human spirit and an enduring will to prevail. The work was choreographed by Claudia Schreier to music composed by Jessie Montgomery.

Ticket prices for the performance start at \$30. Tickets may be purchased online at [www.MichiganOpera.org](http://www.MichiganOpera.org), by calling (313) 237-7464 or in person at the Detroit Opera House (1526 Broadway, Detroit).

MOT's 2019-20 spring dance season is sponsored by Cadillac and made possible through the generosity of Joanne and Richard Brodie and the Maxine and Stuart Frankel Foundation. This presentation is additionally supported by the Marvin, Betty & Joanne Danto Family Foundation and Jeremy Zeltzer and Kevin Dennis. DTH is additionally supported by MGM

Grand Detroit and TCF Bank. The presentation of "Passage" was made possible by the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project.

For more information visit <https://michiganopera.org/season-schedule/dance-theatre-of-harlem/>

### **Dance Theatre of Harlem**

Saturday, March 14, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 15, 2:30 p.m.

Performed at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit

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### **About Michigan Opera Theatre**

Michigan Opera Theatre, one of the nation's most vibrant nonprofit arts organizations, is committed to presenting opera and dance of the highest artistic caliber. Founded in 1971 by Dr. David DiChiera, the company's mission is to serve as a major cultural resource to the state of Michigan and the city of Detroit. The organization is led by President and CEO Wayne S. Brown and Chairman of the Board Ethan Davidson. Visit the website at [www.michiganopera.org](http://www.michiganopera.org).