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CHOREOGRAPHER MARK FOEHRINGER RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS FULBRIGHT GRANT IN PERU

*San Francisco choreographer to work with BFA dance program
Universidad Nacional de San Marcos, Peru*

Fall 2012

SAN FRANCISCO, May 8, 2012 – **Mark Foehringer, choreographer and artistic director of Mark Foehringer Dance Project|SF** has been selected for a **second Fulbright Scholar grant in Peru**. In 2007 Foehringer was awarded his first Fulbright Scholar grant to hold residence with Ballet Nacional del Peru. While there, he worked with National Ballet School in Lima. In 2012, he was awarded a **second Fulbright Scholar** grant to teach at the **Universidad Nacional de San Marcos BFA program in fall 2012**. He will also work with the **Ballet Nacional del Peru** to create a full evening of dance.

Mr. Foehringer will work with two dancers from Ballet San Marcos in Lima, and two dancers from his San Francisco-based company Mark Foehringer Dance Project|SF. These San Francisco dancers include **Heather Cooper** and **Brian Fisher**, who will accompany Mr. Foehringer to the Peruvian island of **Amantani** on Lake Titicaca.

Over the course of five days, Mr. Foehringer and the four dancers will create a new work with the people of Amantani. Foehringer will draw upon the unique island culture of Amantani that includes the traditions of more than 800 folk cultures from the Andes region along the Peruvian and Bolivian borders. **Bay Area videographer and documentarian, Austin Forbord** will shoot live footage of the process as well as the sole performance.

About Mark Foehringer

Mark Foehringer has been part of the dance world for 38 years. Born in Minnesota, he grew up in Brazil where he received his early dance training and later performed with Cisne Negro Dance Company for 10 years throughout South America and Europe.

Since returning to the US in 1990, he held the position of Artistic Director and Resident Choreographer of Western Ballet in Mountain View from 1996-2006. He also founded Mark Foehringer Dance Project|SF (MFDPI|SF), a professional contemporary dance organization based in San Francisco now in its 16th season.

Foehringer is a teacher, director and choreographer. He has directed over 37 full-length ballet or dance productions and numerous mixed repertoire performances. He is a nationally licensed neuromuscular therapist, which gives him a deep understanding of kinesiology and anatomy which he uses in his teaching. He has been teaching for 33 years in the US, Brazil, Peru and London. In addition to ballet, he enjoys teaching composition to students as well as sharing his knowledge of curriculum building with other teachers.

Besides creating choreography for his own company, he has made over 50 works for dance companies and schools, opera, choruses and theater ensembles. He has directed four operas for Festival Opera of Walnut Creek, CA.

Foehringer's work has been awarded many grants. He has received two Fulbright Scholar grants to develop his work in Peru. The Fulbright Grant is given by the Council of International Exchange for Scholars through the US State Department's US Public Diplomacy Program. For more information on Mark Foehringer visit www.mfdpsf.org

About MFDPI|SF

MFDPI|SF also known as Mark Foehringer Dance Project|SF was founded to develop and produce the projects of American choreographer, Mark Foehringer. MFDPI|SF is a contemporary dance organization based in San Francisco, California and focuses on dance education, making and presenting dance. Now in its 16th season, MFDPI|SF seeks to bring original dance work to a variety of communities on an annual basis.

The professional dance company has received critical acclaim and has performed in venues all over the San Francisco Bay Area as well as in Peru, New York City and Aruba.

Along with his professional company, Foehringer also directs his youth company TDC, Teen Dance Company, which centers on getting young dancers ages 12-21 ready for the next step of their dance lives. MFDPI|SF presents Dancing in the Park SF, a dance festival featuring 30 plus dance companies, professional, pre-professional and community groups on an outdoor stage each spring. In addition to workshops and residencies in university and dance program sightings, MFDPI|SF mentors 10 young dance makers ages 16-24 for a 6 month process each year. This mentorship program is called Young Choreographer's Forum. The participants are mentored by a panel of dance professionals. It culminates in a showing of the work generated during the process.

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