## Monica Bill Barnes & Company Keep Moving

(virtual programming)

For videos, photos, and more information about Monica Bill Barnes & Company: <a href="http://www.elsieman.org/artist-roster/monica-bill-barnes-companys-happy-hour-2/">http://www.elsieman.org/artist-roster/monica-bill-barnes-companys-happy-hour-2/</a>

## **DESCRIPTION OF "Keep Moving":**

Keep Moving is Monica Bill Barnes & Company's first and probably only online show. It was originally commissioned and presented by American Dance Festival, with the support of Jody and John Arnhold/Arnhold Foundation, between Sept 30 – Oct 4, 2020..

With choreography and interviews from the company's cancelled premiere of The Running Show at the American Dance Festival, Monica Bill Barnes & Robbie Saenz de Viteri collaborated with sixteen dancers from New York City's Hunter College to create this online collection. "Keep Moving" offers insight into the stories of these dancers and how they are preserving their identity as artists and movers amidst a global pandemic with no studios or theaters to move in. 90 minutes in total of material, "Keep Moving" is delivered in 10 chapters; some are videos, some are audio only. Some chapters have specific instructions, such as taking a walk while you listen. Some are long, some are short. All of them try to answer the question of how a dancer, a woman who works so hard to keep moving, finds a way forward while live performance is on pause.

## Statement from Jodee Nimerichter:

"The American Dance Festival was thrilled to help commission and present the world premiere of Keep Moving by Monica Bill Barnes & Company. It is a work that brilliantly captures what dancers are confronting in this socially distanced world we are currently living. The work is humorous and heart-wrenching but leaves you falling in love with the passion, determination, and resilience of dancers. Throughout the 5-day presentation, audience members kept emailing me three powerful words...! LOVED it!"

Keep Moving Trailer: Chapter 2 The only tedious part.

Life as a Modern Dancer review: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/y3ete363">https://tinyurl.com/y3ete363</a>

**CONCEIVED & CREATED BY:** Monica Bill Barnes & Robbie Saenz de Viteri in collaboration with

**PERFORMERS:** Manuela Agudelo, Olivia Brown, Kai Chen, Anakeiry Cruz, Sarahlsoke Days, Katherine De La Cruz, Grace Deane, Nadjie Forte, Reagan Gordon, Kathryn McKenzie, Naja Newell, Esther Nozea, Amanda Konstantine Perlmutter, Julieta Rodriguez-Cruz, Lina Sierra, Jessica Son



Keep Moving - Photo credit: David Wilson Barnes