

## **SHARP Dance Company Presents Tree of Life Benefit Show** **“SPREADING LOVE CONQUERING HATE” at The Hillman Center for Performing Arts**

The SHARP Dance Company, a Philadelphia-based modern dance company, presents their Pittsburgh charity performance of SPREADING LOVE CONQUERING HATE at The Hillman Center for Performing Arts on February 16 at 8:00 P.M. All proceeds will be donated to the families of the Tree of Life Synagogue tragedy victims.



“After hearing of the tragedy in Pittsburgh this past November, we felt as a company that we needed to do something,” said Diane Sharp-Nachsin, Artistic Director and Founder of SHARP Dance Company. The dancers and staff are donating their time; the Hillman Center is donating the theatre, and two local home owners are donating their homes to house the dancers and staff.

Sharp-Nachsin began her dance career in Pittsburgh after college and feels compelled to help the community that welcomed her and started her vocation. “Socially-conscious work has always been the heart of SHARP,” said Sharp-Nachsin.

SHARP strives to bring together a company of strong dancers to perform work with a new vision. Their mission is to translate raw human emotion utilizing contemporary movement to connect the audience through individual interpretation. With a theory of “meaning behind movement”, which is shown prominently throughout their work, SHARP believes dance should be more than a performance, it should be an experience.

**Featured Piece:** One of the pieces SHARP will be performing is “669.” “669” was inspired by the story of Nicholas Winton, a man who saved 669 children from the Holocaust. The performance follows the stories of the parents who chose to give their children away in order to save them, the woman who was sent in as a spy and ultimately changed sides to help Winton, and the children themselves as they went on to live extraordinary lives and raise families of their own.

**About SHARP Dance Company:** SHARP Dance Company is an eight-member modern dance company based out of Philadelphia, PA. SHARP performs nationally and internationally and has been seen in such festivals as Bedfringe (UK), Chicago Fringe, Phoenix Fringe, Seacoast Fringe, Cool NY, STEPS Performance Lab (NY), Fringe Wilmington and the Philadelphia International Festival of the Arts (PIFA). Artistic Director Diane Sharp-Nachsin was also named a BAU Fellow in Italy & granted a residency at The Living Garden in Paros, Greece.

### **SPREADING LOVE CONQUERING HATE**

DATE: February 16, 2019

TIME: 8pm

LOCATION: The Hillman Center, 423 Fox Chapel Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238

TICKETS: [www.sharpdance.org](http://www.sharpdance.org)

Diane Sharp-Nachsin  
*Artistic Director*  
*SHARP Dance Company*  
**www.sharpdance.org**