

# DANCEWORKS

## For Immediate Release

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### Santa Barbara DANCEworks Welcomes Doug Varone and Dancers for 2019 Residency

- Residency Begins August 12 at the Lobero Theatre
- Friday Club donor events to be held Fridays Aug 16, 23 & 30
- Performances September 6 & 7 at the Lobero Theatre  
featuring *Lux* and the premiere of *Somewhere*

Santa Barbara, CA, August 8, 2019 – [DANCEworks](#) welcomes award-winning choreographer and director Doug Varone and his New York City-based company, [Doug Varone and Dancers for the 2019 residency](#). Varone has been commissioned and presented to critical acclaim for over three decades, building a celebrated body of works. Commissions include the Paul Taylor Dance Company, Limón Company, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, and many other top companies around the world. While in residence, Varone will create an ode to *West Side Story*, set to Leonard Bernstein's iconic musical score. They will premiere the new work alongside a return performance of *Lux*, created during Varone's SUMMERDANCE residency.

**"I couldn't be more thrilled to return to Santa Barbara and be part of Santa Barbara DANCEworks. Creating new dances is an extraordinarily collaborative effort that takes quality time to develop and process. Many of the dances that we have created here in the past have become hallmarks of our repertory, their richness due in great part to the tremendous support we received from the community." – Doug Varone, Choreographer-in-Residence, 2019**

DANCEworks provides opportunities for the [community to get involved](#) throughout each residency:

- DANCEworks' [Friday Club](#) returns for three sessions this year. Friday Club has been a big hit with fans of contemporary dance in Santa Barbara! This is a rare opportunity to see a New York choreographer create an ambitious new work. A contribution of \$150 or more provides weekly access to rehearsals and discussions about the work before enjoying a reception with Mr. Varone and his company. *Friday Club will be held August 16, 23 and 30 from 5-6:30 PM at the Lobero Theatre.*
- Doug Varone and Dancers will lead an intermediate level masterclass on Saturday August 24 at 11 AM. A technical, movement-based class investigates the line of human movement and how it can affect the broader strokes of our dancing. Through the expansive use of the back and limbs, Doug Varone's style will be explored through an emphasis on breath, strength, dynamic lyricism and musicality. The class continues with center work that explores the blur between the highly technical dancers we seek to be and the pedestrian/humans that we are. The class culminates in phrases that seek to extend the range of the body's

peripheral motion, and may include company repertory. Contact Sheila Caldwell at [scaldwell@lobero.org](mailto:scaldwell@lobero.org) to learn more and reserve your space.

Inspired by Varone's life-long obsession with the 1961 movie version of *West Side Story*, the Company will create a purely abstract dance work by absorbing the iconic masterpiece in all its aspects (music, camera angles, editing, etc.) without re-enacting any of its dramatic narrative. Leonard Bernstein's musical score, with its symphonic complexity and arresting melodies, is a timeless masterwork. Varone will strip the Bernstein orchestral score of its narrative connotations and reimagine the score purely on the choreographic energy generated by its sounds and musical structure to create strikingly unique physical and visual environment.

**Tickets for the DANCEworks 2019 culminating performances featuring Doug Varone and Dancers on September 6 & 7 are on sale now at [Lobero.org](http://Lobero.org).** Tickets are \$40 for Section A, \$25 for Section B, and \$15 for Students. (Students must present valid ID at will call). Limited number of VIP tickets available for \$106 include a post-show cast party onstage after the Saturday evening performance. Children under 18 free with the purchase of a full price ticket, must call the Lobero box office to reserve.

## ABOUT DOUG VARONE

Award-winning choreographer and director Doug Varone works in dance, theater, opera, film, and fashion. His New York City-based Doug Varone and Dancers has been commissioned and presented to critical acclaim by leading international venues for over three decades. On tour, the company has performed in more than 125 cities in 45 states across the U.S. and in Europe, Asia, Canada, and South America. In the concert dance world, Varone has created a body of works globally. Commissions include the Paul Taylor Dance Company, Limón Company, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Rambert Dance Company (London), Martha Graham Dance Company, Dancemakers (Canada), Batsheva Dance Company (Israel), Bern Ballet (Switzerland) and An Creative (Japan), among others. Numerous honors and awards include a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, an OBIE Award (Lincoln Center's *Orpheus and Euridice*), the Jerome Robbins Fellowship at the Boglisco Institute in Italy, two individual Bessie Awards, and a Doris Duke Artist Award. In 2015 he was the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Dance Guild. The Company was in residence as part of SUMMERDANCE Santa Barbara in 1997, 1998, 2001 and 2007.

## About DANCEworks

DANCEworks is an innovative collaboration between SUMMERDANCE Santa Barbara and the [Lobero Theatre Foundation](http://LoberoTheatreFoundation.org) designed to offer notable choreographers in the USA a month-long residency in which to create, rehearse and premiere a brand new work on the Lobero stage. This partnership puts Santa Barbara on the map as a community that supports the creation of new choreography in a significant way. DANCEworks enjoys broad recognition within the world of contemporary dance and has contributed to the careers of groundbreaking choreographers: [Aszure Barton](#), [Larry Keigwin](#), [Doug Elkins](#), [Brian Brooks](#), [Mark Dendy](#), [Adam Barruch](#), [Shannon Gillen](#), and [Kate Weare](#).

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