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**ALYSSANDRA KATHERINE DANCE PROJECT ANNOUNCES
THE WORLD PREMIERE OF *UNRAVELED***

April 11 - 13, 2019
Thurs. – Sat. at 8 p.m.



Jan-Matthew Sevilla photographed by Kofi Kumi.

alyssandrakatherine.com

SAN FRANCISCO, CA, January 17, 2019 – **Alyssandra Katherine Dance Project (AKDP)**, a four-year-old London-born, San Francisco-based contemporary dance company, is proud to announce the world premiere of ***UNRAVELED***, April 11 – 13 at ODC Theater. Featuring an ensemble of five performers, and film projection design by **Clare Schweitzer**, *Unraveled* explores the all too common experience of dependency, addiction and isolation. Performances run Thursday to Saturday at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$20 - \$40, and may be purchased online at odc.dance/tickets or by phone at 415-863-9834.

Alyssandra Katherine Wu launched her self-named company in 2015 while completing an M.A. from the prestigious London Contemporary Dance School. While performing on the festival circuit in the United Kingdom, Wu's choreography earned resounding praise. *LondonDance.com* named Wu one of the most

promising young choreographers of her generation. Since relocating to the Bay Area where Wu was born and raised, AKDP has continued to turn heads, earning an audience choice award at PUSHfest 2016, in addition to several competitive grants and awards. After *Brace Forward* which premiered in 2017, *Unraveled* is AKDP's second evening-length work to date.

In *Unraveled*, each of the five performers – **Kelsey Gerber, Tayler Kinner, Jan-Matthew Sevilla, James Washington** and **Erin Yen** – blends movement with spoken word, drawing on a mix of personal stories of dependency and addiction, in addition to stories gathered through interviews with members of an East Bay chapter of Alcoholics Anonymous and the Center for Open Recovery in San Francisco.

For Wu, this is a very intimate project, and her performers will also draw on her own personal struggles with dependency and addiction. “My grandfather was a gambling addict, and he lost everything before he died,” said Wu. “The trauma of that experience is something my family still carries. But I have also had my own struggles with dependency and substance abuse, and I believe that in sharing our own stories we can short-circuit the vicious cycle of shame and relapse.”

“What does your ‘shame monster’ look like?” asked Wu of her dancers in the first rehearsal.

“I cast this piece for diversity to stress that dependency and addiction strike all of us, directly or indirectly, and that we’re all sharing this experience regardless of gender, class, race, sexuality and so on.”

Additional collaborators on *Unraveled* include lighting designer **Del Medoff** and technical director **Keagan Chipp**.

Following the performance on April 12, a representative from the Center for Open Recovery will join Wu in a talkback with the audience. AKDP is proud to donate \$2 from the sale of each ticket to Open Recovery.

Performances of *Unraveled* are made possible in part by the Opportunity Fund at ODC Theater supported by the Fleishhacker Foundation. For more information, visit odc.dance/Unraveled.

ABOUT ALYSSANDRA KATHERINE DANCE PROJECT

Launched in London in 2015, Alyssandra Katherine Dance Project (AKDP) is a contemporary dance company currently based in San Francisco, California. After debuting to rave reviews at Resolution!, London's largest festival for emerging artists in dance, the company toured throughout the United Kingdom, presenting work at FRESH-Northeast, Foot Print and EMERGE. *LondonDance.com* named AKDP founder Alyssandra Katherine Wu one of the most promising emerging choreographers of 2015. Since relocating to San Francisco, AKDP has presented work in the Bay Area as well as Los Angeles. AKDP is the official winner of the audience choice award for PUSHfest 2016 and one of five companies to be selected for Joe Goode's Feedback Series 2018. AKDP is a proud recipient of the Fleishhacker Opportunity Fund and a Dancers' Group CA\$H Grant.

Wu holds an M.A. in Dance from London Contemporary Dance School and a B.A. in World Arts & Culture/Dance from the University of California, Los Angeles. She has danced for well-known choreographers including Victoria Marks, Cheng-Chieh Yu, Michel Kouakou, Ros Warby, Jorge Crecis and

Darren Ellis. Since her relocation to the Bay Area, Wu has served on the Dancers' Group CA\$H Grant Panel and Pushfest 2017 Panel.

FACT SHEET

WHAT:

Alyssandra Katherine Dance Project presents the world premiere of *Unraveled*.

Choreography: **Alyssandra Katherine Wu**

Core Dancers: **Kelsey Gerber, Tayler Kinner, Jan-Matthew Sevilla, James Washington, Erin Yen**

Technical Director: **Keagan Chipp**

Lighting Design: **Del Medoff**

WHEN:

April 11 -13, 2019

Thursday - Saturday at **8 p.m.**

WHERE:

ODC Theater

3153 17th Street

San Francisco, CA 94110

TICKETS:

\$20 - \$40

To purchase tickets call **415-863-9834**. Or online visit **odc.dance/Unraveled**

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

odc.dance/Unraveled

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