



THE CHICAGO MOVING COMPANY 3035 NORTH HOYNE CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60618 773.880.5402
phone/fax

ODF – FAQ's

What is the ODF?

The Other Dance Festival is an annual concert series featuring 16 of Chicago's finest modern dance artists. Founded in 2002, the festival is its 7th year. Co-founders/Co-curators, Kay LaSota and Elizabeth Lentz—created the ODF to provide performance opportunities, increased visibility and audience for **Chicago modern dance**, as well as quality arts programming for diverse, urban audiences. The ODF is a program of the Chicago Moving Company (dance company), in partnership with the City of Chicago, Chicago Park District—where CMC is Arts Partner in Residence at the Hamlin Park Theater (13th year).

When does the ODF take place?

Generally, the ODF takes place each September/October—and runs 2-3 weeks. A different group of 5-6 artists is presented each week for 2 evenings.

Where does the ODF take place?

The ODF is held at the Hamlin Park Fieldhouse Theater, an alternative black-box theater located on the second floor of the Hamlin Park Fieldhouse in Chicago's vibrant Roscoe Village neighborhood. The Hamlin Park Fieldhouse is a beautiful, prairie-style city of Chicago Park District fieldhouse built at the turn of the century. The theater has a professionally sprung, 40' x 60' marley-covered dance floor; masking; quality (though limited) lighting instruments and sound system. There is a small, raised proscenium stage at the back of the performance space. A black backdrop (rear curtain) was recently added to the space and there is now a crossover. The theater is intimate—with flex seating of 75-100 people (on risers).

Who is in charge of the ODF?

Kay LaSota and Elizabeth Lentz (co-producers) curate the ODF (choose artists who participate) and manage all performance, promotion, funding aspects of the program; other ODF staff include Technical Director, Julie Ballard (on leave in 2008)- Acting Technical Director 2008 – Jacob Snodgrass, Box Office Manager Meagan Adams, and an Assistant Stage Manager. Other CMC staff *are not* directly involved in the day-day management of the festival.

How long is the ODF? How many artists are presented each year?

The ODF ranges from 2 – 3 weeks long, depending on funding. In year's that the ODF is 2 weeks long, the number of artists presented is 11-12, for a 3 week festival it is 15-16.

How many openings are there for artists new to the fest?

Each year the ODF "re-presents" a core group of about 10 artists who participated at the festival's inception-- to give them continuity of presentation. In 2005 a third festival week (originally called "MOD"—More Other Dance) was added to allow curators to bring some new artists (new to the festival) on and off each year. Generally, openings in the festival range from 2-5/year. Although some years there have been no openings.

What is the criteria for being chosen to be in the ODF?

If we have openings, artists (**who must be modern dance artists living/working in Chicago**) are chosen for their artistic quality as well as their "fit" with other artists on the program and fit with the festival. There are usually many people interested--and it is a very competitive process.

When will you know if there are any openings?

Generally by the February preceding the festival.

If there are openings, how do I apply to be part of the ODF?

If there are openings, we then need to see interested artists' work (hopefully live, or by video/dvd). If there are openings we will contact you about this next step. Additional information generally requested: artist's bio/resume; any press/reviews on your work; history of where your work has been presented; any info on the work you are planning for the festival (if known).