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#DoggieHamlet to create human and animal outdoor spectacle at Belmont Plateau during its Philadelphia premiere at #PIFA2018. More info @kimmelcenter.org/pifa

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***DOGGIE HAMLET***  
**TO CREATE A HUMAN AND ANIMAL OUTDOOR SPECTACLE**  
**DURING ITS PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE AT THE**  
**2018 PHILADELPHIA INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS**  
**JUNE 3 & 4, 2018**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** (Philadelphia, PA, April 30, 2018) — The one-of-a-kind production of the Kimmel Center’s *Doggie Hamlet* will herd audiences to the Belmont Plateau June 3 and 4, 2018 during the 2018 Philadelphia International Festival of the Arts (PIFA) where they will be met with hay bail seating for what *The Dartmouth* calls “a spectacle combining dance, theater and shepherding.” From choreographer and performance artist Ann Carlson, *Doggie Hamlet* was inspired by *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle* by author David Wroblewski. Performed by dancers, an American Sign Language interpreter, five performers, herding dogs, and a flock of sheep, Carlson explores sentiments such as instinct, sentience, attachment, and loss.

“The programming offered as part of the 2018 Philadelphia International Festival of the Arts takes audiences beyond our Campus, allowing them to experience art in creative and unique spaces,” said Anne Ewers, President and CEO of the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts. “Although not the typical scene for a theatrical show, the Belmont Plateau is the perfect setting for this unbelievably creative performance. An added plus: audiences will get to enjoy breathtaking views of the Philadelphia skyline.”

This outdoor performance weaves dance, music, visual, and theatrical elements with aspects of competitive sheep herding trials. The *Center for the Art of Performance* calls it a work that “defies categorization.” The 70-minute production, which unfolds at dusk, lives in both the symbolic and the real world. *Doggie Hamlet* recalls the bucolic impression of a landscape painting or a 3D pastoral poem. The sheep, the dogs, the human performers, and the earth's surface are at once performing as themselves and as living symbols in this work and asks us relevant questions of our time: What does it mean to follow? What is instinct, and how does that differ from a reaction?

Other featured upcoming performances at the Kimmel Center Cultural Campus include: ***Paw Patrol Live! The Great Pirate Adventure*** (May 4-6, 2018, Merriam Theater), ***Cristal Palace*** (June 1-10, 2018, excluding June 4, Banks of Schuylkill River), ***Tape Riot*** (June 5-8, 2018, Locations revealed to ticket buyers).

### **DOGGIE HAMLET (Philadelphia Premiere)**

#### **Belmont Plateau**

June 3, 2018, 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

June 4, 2018, 6:00 p.m.

#### **Tickets**

Tickets are on sale now and start at \$20.00. Tickets can be purchased by calling 215-893-1999, online at [www.kimmelcenter.org/pifa](http://www.kimmelcenter.org/pifa), or at the Kimmel Center Box Office. Group sales are available for groups of 10 or more and can be purchased by calling 215-790-5883. See [www.kimmelcenter.org/pifa](http://www.kimmelcenter.org/pifa) for more information.

#### **The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts**

Located in the heart of Center City, Philadelphia, the Kimmel Center's mission is to operate a world-class performing arts center that engages and serves a broad audience through diverse programming, arts education, and community outreach. The Kimmel Center Campus is comprised of the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts (Verizon Hall, Perelman Theater, SEI Innovation Studio, and the Merck Arts Education Center), the Academy of Music (owned by the Philadelphia Orchestra Association), and the Merriam Theater. The Kimmel Center is also home to eight Resident Companies: The Philadelphia Orchestra, Opera Philadelphia, The Pennsylvania Ballet, The Philly POPS, PHILADANCO, The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, The Philadelphia Chamber Music Society and Curtis Institute of Music. With nearly 9,000 seats per night, The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts is the region's most impactful performing arts center, and the second largest in the country. TD Bank, America's Most Convenient Bank, is the season sponsor of the Kimmel Center's 2017-2018 Season. American Airlines is the official airline of Broadway Philadelphia. For additional information, visit [www.kimmelcenter.org](http://www.kimmelcenter.org).

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