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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ODC THEATER PRESENTS

THE BAY AREA PREMIERE OF DANDELION DANCETHEATER'S

***MUTT* CHAPTERS ONE AND TWO**

September 18 - 20 Performances at ODC Theater in San Francisco Follow New York Debut at Joyce Soho

San Francisco, July 9, 2009 – Dandelion Dancetheater, San Francisco's experimental interdisciplinary company returns to the Bay Area following its July preview at the New York's Joyce SoHo for the premiere of *Mutt* Chapters One and Two, the ensemble's multi-year project. Three performances will be given Friday and Saturday, September 18 and 19 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, September 20 at 7 p.m. at the ODC Dance Commons in San Francisco, 351 Shotwell Street between 17th and 18th Street. ODC Dance Commons is walking distance from 16th Street BART station and parking will be available on Shotwell between 16th and 17th Streets for \$2 after 6 p.m.
www.odctheater.org

MUTT is a dance-play that collides new music, piercing physicality and dreamlike story-telling to examine the liquid realm of in-between. The work follows the story of Miyo, a mixed-race girl born in an internment camp during WWII to a Japanese American internee and a Caucasian prison guard from Texas, and takes place during the 49 days after her

death. Miyo's "Bardo", a liminal state that is believed by many Buddhist cultures to be what is experienced in-between death and the next life, is a strange, "after-hours" honky-tonk inhabited by a motley crew of spirits, an undead country band, and various characters from her life. This surreal dance-play takes Miyo into many surprising, off-kilter and absurd situations inspired by states of in-between where she wrestles with issues and ghosts from her last identity as she faces terrifying questions about future identities. *MUTT* switches fluidly back and forth from English to Japanese, utilizing language as raw sound and texture and realizing the themes of mixed-identity and in-between with language.

Co-directed by Kimiko Guthrie and Eric Kupers of Dandelion Dancetheater, the work includes different styles of European-American and Japanese dance, music and theater. The production features performers Eric Andler, Julie Brown, Brad Guthrie, Kimiko Guthrie, Julia Hollas, Debby Kajiyama, Eric Kupers, Flo Nakamura, Keith Penney, Mantra Plonsey, Anne-Lise Reusswig, David Ryther, Stacz Sadowsky, Bob Webb; text by Guthrie and ensemble; music composed and performed by Eric Kupers, Mantra Plonsey, David Ryther, Keith Penney, Kimiko Guthrie and the ensemble; lighting design by Eric Andler and costumes by Yakuko Shirahama. The production contains some nudity.

MUTT is supported by the Japan Foundation, the SF Arts Commission, the Wattis Foundation, the Princess Grace Foundation and ODC Theater. For more information, please visit www.dandeliondancetheater.org

Tickets for *MUTT* are priced \$18 general admission and \$15 for students and seniors and may be purchased through the ODC Theater box office, (415) 863-9834 or online at www.odctheater.org/buytickets

About Dandelion Dancetheater

Through dance, collided with experimental theater, video, writing, music, and image, Dandelion Dancetheater aims a kinesthetic microscope at the ever-changing intricacies of the human heart. Its work is emotionally driven and grounded in a fascination with the intersections of bold risk-taking and public accessibility. The company, which was founded in 1996, is committed to the individual and combined artistic visions of Kimiko Guthrie and Eric Kupers. It views the bodily exploration of human vulnerability, strength and paradox as a potent means for personal and collective growth, and through

teaching and creating with people of diverse sizes, shapes, ages, cultures and abilities, Dandelion Dancetheater allow viewers of all walks of life to find themselves reflected in its work.

About ODC Theater

ODC Theater's mission is to empower and develop innovative artists. Its goals are to participate in the creation of new works through commissioning, presenting, mentorship and space access; to develop informed, engaged and committed audiences; and to advocate for the performing arts as an essential component to the economic and cultural development of our community. ODC Theater has been serving the Bay Area in this capacity in its current location since 1979.

ODC is known nationally for its entrepreneurial savvy and was the first modern dance company in America to build its own home facility in 1979. In September 2005, ODC opened its new performing arts center—the ODC Dance Commons, half a block from ODC Theater. Tripling ODC's classroom, rehearsal, and performance space, the ODC Commons is fast becoming the most significant contemporary dance resource on the West Coast and a national destination for artists and arts enthusiasts. During renovation of ODC Theater—which will mark the completion of ODC's arts campus—all ODC Theater performances will take place at ODC Dance Commons. www.odctheater.org

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CALENDAR EDITOR PLEASE LIST:

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WHAT: Dandelion Dancetheater Bay Area Premiere of *MUTT* Chapters One and Two

WHEN: Friday and Saturday, September 18 and 19 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, September 20 at 7 p.m.

WHERE: ODC Dance Commons, 351 Shotwell Street, San Francisco, 94110

TICKETS: \$18 General/ \$15 Seniors/Students. ODC THEATER BOX OFFICE: Phone: (415) 863-9834 Online:

www.odctheater.org/buytickets

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