

MULTIMEDIA THEATER GROUP BUILDERS ASSOCIATION BACK AT WEX

"The Builders Association just could become the greatest theater company in the world."

—*The New York Times* on *CONTINUOUS CITY*

The media-savvy **Builders Association**—which captivated audiences here with *Alladeen* (2003) and *SUPER VISION* (2005)—continue its multimedia examinations of our accelerated culture with ***CONTINUOUS CITY***, **April 16–18** at the Wexner Center for the Arts. **Co-commissioned by the Wexner Center**, the show looks at how our "networked selves" are stretched to occupy multiple locations. Alternately experiencing a sense of location and dislocation, a traveling father and daughter find themselves in Shanghai, Los Angeles, Toronto, and Mexico City as they seek to sustain connectivity in the midst of their high speed lives, transnational business dealings, and fading cell phone signals. With pointed humor and insight, *CONTINUOUS CITY* uses state-of-the-art technology to integrate live actors and digital spectacle that reflects the local and far-ranging lives that people lead now. Writes *The New York Times* on *CONTINUOUS CITY*: "Using the latest in theatrical stagecraft, The Builders Association makes most other multimedia theater look as if it's from the Stone Age."

Sequences filmed here in Columbus will be integrated into *CONTINUOUS CITY*'s globe-spanning dreamscape (the company is connecting directly into each locale that hosts the piece with a web site designed to record video participation, continouiscity.org).



Builders Association/*CONTINUOUS CITY*
Photo: Eamon Lochte-Phelps

SHOW INFORMATION:

The Builders Association will present *CONTINUOUS CITY*, a media-savvy theater show exploring themes of global digital networks, on **Thursday-Saturday, April 16–18** at 8 pm in the **Black Box on Mershon Stage** at the Wexner Center for the Arts, 1871 N. High St (limited seating). 80 minute running time. Tickets are \$20 for the general public, \$17 for members, and \$10 for students. For tickets call (614) 292-3535 or visit www.ticketmaster.com.

LINKS

- [The Builders Association](#)
- [New York Times preview](#)
- [San Francisco Chronicle review](#)
- [NPR's All Things Considered feature](#)
- [Wexner Center event page](#)

Notes Charles Helm, director of performing arts at the Wexner Center, "The Builders

Association represents the best of today's forward-thinking theater makers. Their artistic director Marianne Weems and the team of artists she has assembled for their productions continue to have their finger on the pulse of global issues and inventively conjure imaginative stage pictures that reflect our rapidly changing world."

Founded in 1994 and based in New York, The Builders Association first visited the Wexner Center in 2003 for the world premiere of the Wexner Center-commissioned *Alladeen*, a high-tech update of the ancient tale Aladdin that dealt with the issue of job outsourcing and globalization. The group returned in 2004 with creative residency support from the Wexner Center to create *SUPER VISION* (performed at the Wexner Center in 2005), a collaboration with computer animation studio dbx. Both shows toured internationally to great acclaim. The Builders Association has toured the world, blending language, film, sound, and architecture to talk about life in a media saturated age.

The Wexner Center is one of the co-commissioners for this latest Builders' stage work. While in town, The Builders Association will work with students in OSU's Department of Theatre.

EVENT PRODUCTION AND SUPPORT:

Lead coproducer: Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Coproducers: Carolina Performing Arts; Department of Theater, Dance and Performance Studies and the Arts Research Center at the University of California, Berkeley; Luminato Toronto Festival of Arts & Creativity.

Co-commissioners: BAM for the 2008 Next Wave Festival; Walker Art Center; Wexner Center for the Arts; Yerba Buena Center for the Arts.

Major support for the Wexner Center's 2008–09 performing arts season is generously provided by **Huntington Bank** and the **Doris Duke Charitable Foundation**.

This presentation is supported by the **National Endowment for the Arts**.

Accommodations are provided by **The Blackwell Inn**.

All performing arts programs and events also receive support from the **Corporate Annual Fund of the Wexner Center Foundation** and **Wexner Center members**, as well as from the **Greater Columbus Arts Council**, **The Columbus Foundation**, **Nationwide Foundation**, and the **Ohio Arts Council**.

OTHER UPCOMING THEATER AT THE WEX:

Winsome Welsh actor Hugh Hughes of Hoipolloi performs *Hugh Hughes in Story of a Rabbit* May 14-17. Read more [here](#).

Media contacts: Tim Fulton at tfulton@wexarts.org or 614 688-3261 or Karen Simonian at ksimonian@wexarts.org or 614 292-9923.

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