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For Immediate Release

**THE PERFORMANCE PROJECT AT UNIVERSITY SETTLEMENT PRESENTS
BODY BUSINESS BY SYDNIÉ L. MOSLEY DANCES
NOVEMBER 12-14, 2015**

***A multi-layered evening-length production composed of three distinct sections:
marketplace, live performance, and resource-sharing session***

October 1, 2015 - (New York, NY) On November 12-14, The Performance Project at University Settlement is proud to present the world premiere of *Body Business* by Sydnie L. Mosley Dances, an all-women, New York City-based contemporary dance company that works in communities to organize for gender and racial justice through experiential dance performance. *Body Business* is an interactive production that re-envision the economic practices of the dance world. The performance contemplates how dancers can get paid a living wage for meaningful work and encourages greater transparency of the artist experience. This project is presented in partnership with Dance/NYC, Our Goods, and as a part of The Performance Project at University Settlement's 2015-16 Artist in Residency Program.

Body Business is a multi-layered evening-length production composed of three distinct sections: a marketplace, live performance, and a resource-sharing session. Each section builds upon the next to make plain the needs of today's dance artists while positioning the audience as community and inspiring us to think and act from a place of abundance, empathy and urgency.

Upon arrival, audiences will enter a themed marketplace installation constructed to connect them with resources they need or desire. Co-created by Sydnie L. Mosley Dances and University Settlement, each marketplace will provide deeper insight into the role community-based organizations play in the lives of artists. Each night features a different theme and hosts a rotating roster of vendors from arts service organizations, health and social services, and small businesses.

Following the audience's engagement with the marketplace, Sydnie L. Mosley Dances will perform new choreography that illuminates the emotional consequences of working and living from a place of scarcity versus abundance. A child's fantasy to become a dancer is juxtaposed with the adult reality of the freelance dancer's lifestyle. Can exhaustion, failure and vulnerability be constructive? Body Business pushes us to connect, and interrogate what our bodies are worth.

Each performance concludes with a model "resource sharing session" co-conceived with Jen Abrams of Our Goods, a barter network for the creative community. Audiences will reflect on what they have and need while actively experiencing how a cooperative economy can operate. This practice engages audiences with a vision that values artists' creative labor and production while decentralizing money as the only resource of real worth.

ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE PROJECT AT UNIVERSITY SETTLEMENT

The Performance Project at University Settlement provides established and emerging artists and local audiences with opportunities to connect and enrich each other's lives. Our aim is to encourage greater participation in the live arts and to help cultivate diverse creative communities on the Lower East Side.

Artists-in-Residence Program. Resident Artists are selected because of the quality of their work and the open, welcoming nature of their process. They have demonstrated a commitment to restoring the notion that everybody has an artistic birthright to reclaim and, in doing so, the quality of everyone's everyday life can be improved. Resident artists are immersed in the Settlement House community through a year-long process in which they engage program participants and staff while developing their own new work.

PERFORMANCES

Thursday, November 12 at 7pm

Friday, November 13 at 7pm

Saturday, November 14 at 7pm

MARKETPLACE

The Marketplace is open 6-7:30PM each night of performance. For a complete list of vendors, visit: <http://www.sydniemosley.com/#!/body-business-marketplace/cs8u>

TICKETS

\$15 adult; \$10 student/senior

\$25 sponsor; \$50 golden sponsor

By purchasing a sponsor ticket and paying more you are ensuring that additional free tickets can be offered without financial strain to underfunded artists and the venue.

To purchase tickets visit: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2126873>

VENUE

University Settlement's Speyer Hall

184 Eldridge Street (at Rivington Street)
New York, NY 10002

The premiere of Body Business is supported, in part, by a Greenwich Academy Artist Residency and The Performance Project at University Settlement. The company also acknowledges gracious contributions by individual donors.

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ABOUT SYDNE L. MOSLEY DANCES

Sydney L. Mosley Dances is a New York City-based contemporary dance company creating works that involve the audience in the artistic process, provoke a visceral reaction to the physicality on stage and incite conversation. Founder Sydney L. Mosley is a dancer, choreographer, activist and educator and was listed by TheRoot.com as one of twenty-five “Up and Coming: Minority Artists and Entrepreneurs.” She earned her MFA in Dance with an emphasis on Choreography from the University of Iowa and is an alumna of Barnard College at Columbia University where she earned her BA in Dance and Africana Studies. She was a 2010 New York Foundation for the Arts artist, the inaugural 2011-12 Alumnae Fellow with the Barnard Center for Research on Women, a 2013 alumna of Gibney Dance’s Institute for Community Action Training and The Laundromat Project Create Change Fellowship, and is currently at 2015-2016 Dancing While Black Artist Fellow.

Presenting work that is both artistically and socially engaging, Sydney L. Mosley Dances pulls focus to the stories of women and black people. The movement vocabulary reflects various styles of modern, ballet, and African dance, while dancers frequently use their voices with spoken text and audible breath. Through dimensional compositions, specific, textured movement, and character development, choreographed works appeal to a sense of humanity.

Sydney L. Mosley Dances has presented work at Harlem Stage’s The Takeover, The Chen Dance Center newsteps program, the FIGMENT Festival on Governor’s Island, RoofTopDance, as a part of the New York Foundation for the Arts Boot Camp Arts Festival at Joyce SoHo, The Actor’s Fund Arts Center, the Harlem Arts Alliance Artz, Rootz & Rhythm Festival, Movement Research at Judson Church, Brooklyn Arts Exchange (BAX), Riverside Church, The Red Carpet Theater at Taino Towers, Bronx Academy of Arts and Dance (BAAD!), Triskelion Arts, The New School for Hollaback!’s HOLLA:Revolution, Barnard College, Cornell University, The Pennsylvania State University, and Duke University in addition to the annual NYC anti-street harassment rally, and many outdoor performances.

For more information visit: <http://slmdances.com>

FOR MORE ABOUT COLLABORATING ARTISTS AND PROJECT PARTNERS, visit
<http://bodybusinessdance.com>