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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **“Walk the Walk” honors the memories & resilience of the Trans & Non-binary communities!**

LOS ANGELES (November 18, 2022) — Invertigo Dance Theatre presents the ***Walk the Walk Zine Release Party*** with live storytelling, poetry and performance by Walk the Walk artists, culminating in joyful reflections in honor of Transgender Day of Remembrance, an open mic, and a community dance party. Artist readings from the new Walk the Walk Zine will include **K. Bradford** (they/them), **D. Hill** (he/him), and **Cody Brunelle-Potter** (they/them), **Leo Aquino** (he/they) and **Chavia Blankenship** (he/him), and other trans, nonbinary, gendernonconforming and/or intersex collaborators. This program is supported in part by an arts grant from the City of West Hollywood.

***Walk the Walk*** is a project imagined by Executive and Programs Director, K. Bradford in 2020. As the Lead Artists, K. has activated the virtual space and held space for artists wanting to connect, create community, and share their work.

**Featured artists include:**

- **K. Bradford** - Bradford is an interdisciplinary artist, educator and cultural innovator whose public practice has spawned projects and programs in Austin,

Chicago and Los Angeles. Most recently, K. launched The Qosmos Projects - a post-drag performance spectacle and an LGBTQIA+ youth world-building series, Qumanity. This fall, Qumanity rolls out as an interdisciplinary art lab for LAUSD students in a new Virtual Enrichment Program. K. has taught at Antioch University, CalArts, and for eight years at Columbia College, where they were the head of the LGBTQ Office of Culture & Community. K. has directed and co-founded: Gender Fusions, a large-scale annual queer spectacle + cultural dialogue (Chicago), The Raw Works, a story and performance program for low-income and homeless LGBTQIA youth (Chicago), It's a She-Shoot a film and story program for women and girls (Austin) and One Mile, an arts + social justice program that poetically re-imagines the challenges of our times through immersive public art installations (Los Angeles). K. has performed across the U.S., and their writing has appeared in publications such as the LA Review of Books, Viralnet.net, Gulf Coast, Trop and more. K. has received scholarships from the Fulbright Foundation, Tin House Writers Workshop, Bread Loaf Writers Conference, and the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts. Hailing from New England originally, K. holds an MFA in Writing and in Art + Technology from CalArts.

- **D. Hill** - D.Hill is a west coast artist who works in photography, performance and video art. His work purposefully sets up a framework for conversations dealing with race, gender, class and sexuality. Hill looks at how socialization and statuses impact our intra/inter-personal experiences. Many of his works explore or inject post-constructionist practices to how image-construction is digested in contemporary spaces. His photographs, videos and performances challenge our stagnant positions of linguistics/meaning in regard to experience. This is what makes his work impactful and infused with antithetical moments.
- **Leo Aquino** - Leo Aquino (they/he) is a non-binary Filipinx storyteller, author, poet and screenwriter living in unceded Tongva-Gabrielino territory (aka Los Angeles). Their work follows the legacy of the babaylan, an indigenous genderfluid Filipinx priestess who acts as a vessel for ancestral stories. Leo's poetry has been published by The Asian-American Feminist Collective, Curlew Quarterly and Brooklyn Poets. Their writing has been published by O.School, Trends with Benefits by MUD\WTR, Swell by Dame Wellness and The Fornix by Flex.
- **Cody Brunelle-Potter** - Cody is a non-binary dance artist currently performing and creating in Los Angeles. They began their dance and performance career in NYC, where they were a dancer and Assistant Director for In-Sight Dance Company, a nonprofit service organization based in Queens. Since moving to Los Angeles, they have had the pleasure of working with many local companies and choreographers in the concert dance world which include Invertigo Dance

Theater, WhyteBerg, Mollie Wolf, Luke Zender, Heidi Duckler, Iris Company, Acts of Matter, FABLE and Rosanna Gamson World Wide.

They have also worked in the commercial dance world with Teresa (Toogie) Barcelo, William Ylvisaker, Ashley (ROBI) Robicheaux, Matty Peacock and Amy O'Neal. They have performed in work for artists like Reggie Watts, Billie Eilish, FYOHNA, Ben De La Creme, Jinx Monsoon and more.

Cody's personal work explores the boundaries of being wild and delicate while balancing the honesty of the emotional impetus for each movement. They are interested fiber sculpture as well and are working to incorporate moving fibers sculptures into their work. They have partnered with Fiber Artist Mimi Haddon on many occasions and lead workshops in using fiber sculpture partnered with movement to explore how we can understand ourselves better as emotional beings through the putting on and use of costume.

- **Chavia Blankenship** - A San Diego native, Chavia got his start in dance in high school at Chula Vista High's School of Creative and Performing Arts. While pursuing art, he was also diving deep into the world of dance. Chavia quickly found himself immersed in dance and was dancing throughout the San Diego community. For almost 10 years, Chavia danced and choreographed for a handful of local dance teams, studios, and schools in the San Diego area. He followed his passion and love for dance and moved to LA where he now resides. Chavia is an alum of the Debbie Reynolds Dance Studio work-study program. He has had the incredible privilege and opportunity of dancing for a number of artists while living in Los Angeles. Some of those artists include Todrick Hall, Mario, and Grammy award-winning artist Mya. Chavia has also worked on the web series "Lovers and Friends" where he was an actor, dancer, choreographer, and assistant director. He has also toured in China with a dance company as a dancer and choreographer. Chavia is currently attending Santa Monica College where he's pursuing a degree in Art. His love and passion for the arts are constant and he hopes to bring what he's learned to the table and share that with the community. It was from the community that he had the opportunity to grow and learn more about himself, his talents, strengths, and identity, and pursue these passions as an artist.

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## **About Invertigo Dance Theatre**

Invertigo Dance Theatre was founded by Laura Karlin in 2007 and is an institution at the forefront of Los Angeles dance, connecting people to story and community through a blend of dynamic contemporary movement and compelling theatre. Invertigo has created and performed over 40 original choreographic works, across Los Angeles, including the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, Ford Theatres, Grand Park, and Broad Stage. Invertigo has also performed in Las Vegas, San Diego, Seattle and Santa Barbara, and

won the Grand Prize in the 2016 McCallum Theatre Choreography Festival. Invertigo recently earned one of the highest national honors in American dance when awarded a 2018 National Dance Project production grant, **and The National Endowment for the Arts grant for their production in development *The Dream Eaters***. In addition to their production work, Invertigo Dance Theatre also works with intergenerational community members, from students in their **Invert/ED Education** program to community members who have Parkinson's Disease in weekly classes through the **Dancing Through Parkinson's** program.

Providing accessible dance programming is at the heart of Invertigo's mission, and the organization operates two year-round community engagement programs: Dancing Through Parkinson's offers donation-based classes to people living with degenerative conditions and Community In/Motion which includes the Invert/ED program, providing a range of dance education and performance opportunities to local students. Throughout all company initiatives, Invertigo is committed to paying fair wages to all artists, teachers, and staff.

### More Information

[www.InvertigoDance.org](http://www.InvertigoDance.org)

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