

Mills College
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MILLS

Subject: *The 96th Ritual* honors dance pioneer Anna Halprin @ MCAM (9/14-12/11/2016)

PRESS RELEASE

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Additional hi-res images available upon request.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 15, 2016



The 96th Ritual (for Anna Halprin)

Mills College Art Museum
September 14–December 11, 2016

OPENING RECEPTION: WEDNESDAY, September 14, 2016 | 6:00-8:00 PM

Oakland, CA—June 15, 2016 The Mills College Art Museum (MCAM) is pleased to announce on view from September 14 to December 11, 2016. Featuring photography, video, scores, and installation *The 96th Ritual (for Anna Halprin)* documents the performance project *95 Rituals*, directed by Shinichi Iovakoga, performed by dance company inkBoat, and presented by Dancers' Group in 2015. Dedicated to

modern dance pioneer Anna Halprin's 95th birthday, *95 Rituals* culminated in performances at the Hyde Street Pier in San Francisco.

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Anna Halprin is a visionary Bay Area artist whose work has radically expanded the purpose, process, and content of dance-making over seven decades. To inform their process, Iova-Koga and inkBoat researched Halprin's intentions and working methods, which emphasize **[key elements/concepts of Halprin's practice]**.

The original 95 Rituals was structured around 95 different scores developed from contributions by a wide range of visual and performing artists. Each contributing artist was given a template based on the RSVP cycle—a system of art creation developed by Halprin and her late husband, Lawrence, in which collaborators gather resource material, develop a score or set of instructions, evaluate the work and perform. *95 Rituals* culminated in explicitly experimental performances at the Hyde Street Pier, with the audience witnessing a series of still-forming ideas that dissolve the hard line between performance and process.

[Materials in exhibition]

[other performers commissioned?/confirmed programs]

inkBoat is a physical theatre and dance company founded by [Shinichi Iova-Koga](#) in 1998. The company performs in theaters and [site specific locations](#). Repertory and research integrate the interplay of [multiple artistic disciplines](#) and viewpoints, both experimental and traditional, resulting in [original performance compositions](#). Themes and subjects arise from meticulous examination of everyday life, with primary content [arising from the body](#), resulting in both refined and raw expressions.

inkBoat derives inspiration from working in wild, natural settings and urban existence.

Shinichi Iova-Koga has co-directed works with [Anna Halprin](#), [Ko Murobushi](#), [Sten Rudstrøm](#), [Yuko Kaseki](#), [Takuya Ishide](#) and [KT Nelson](#) (ODC) and has co-created performances with music groups [Rova Saxophone Quartet](#) and [Sleepytime Gorilla Museum](#).

Shinichi continues his training and development incorporating techniques and art forms such as modern dance, action theater, Shaku-hachi, Aikido, Nihon Buyo, Kagura and Noh Theater, Tadashi Suzuki Training, Hiroko Tamano, Butoh Dance, and Judo.

Shinichi was named one of the "25 to watch" in 2008 by Dance Magazine and awarded a "Goldie" award by the SF Bay Guardian in 2007. inkBoat has been recognized numerous times by the Isadora Duncan Awards Committee, receiving 12 nominations and 4 Izzie awards.

Shinichi has been teaching dance composition at Mills College since 2009.

This exhibition is supported by []

Image: inkBoat, *95 Rituals*, 2015, photo by Pak Han

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RELATED PUBLIC PROGRAMS

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Opening Reception

Wednesday, September 14, 2016 | 6:00-8:00 pm
MCAM

Come celebrate the opening of *The 96th Ritual (for Anna Halprin)* with new performance works by Shinichi Iova-Koga and inkBoat. Refreshments provided.

Additional Programming: TBD

ABOUT THE MILLS COLLEGE ART MUSEUM

Founded in 1925, The Mills College Art Museum is a forum for exploring art and ideas and a laboratory for contemporary art practices. Through innovative exhibitions, programs, and collections, the museum engages and inspires the intellectual and creative life of the Mills community as well as the diverse audiences of the Bay Area and beyond. mcam.mills.edu

Museum hours are Tuesday-Sunday 11:00 am–4:00 pm and Wednesday 11:00 am–7:30 pm. Admission is FREE for all exhibitions and programs unless noted.

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