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**THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR CHOREOGRAPHY-AKRON
SCREENS DANCE FILMS, COLLABORATES WITH
THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS**



Still from Dance Heginbotham's *Caprice #12: Goodyear*

AKRON, OH (October 5, 2026) — **The National Center for Choreography-Akron** (NCCAkrn) will partner with the **University of Akron School of the Performing Arts** (SOPA), to screen two dance films from Dance Heginbotham's *24 Caprices* series, November 5. These dance film screenings include *Caprice #1: Jump Rope* and *Caprice #12: Goodyear*, the latter having been filmed in Akron. *Caprice #1: Jump Rope* will feature a live performance by UA Saxophone Faculty member, Dr. Justin Evangelist. *Caprice #12: Goodyear* will include a live performance from UA dance students, choreographed by UA Professor Christine Howe at SOPA's annual performance, *Collage 2026*.

NCCAkrn has collaborated with **Dance Heginbotham** (Brooklyn, NY) in numerous ways over the past decade, including research residencies, creative residencies, the UA collaboration Ideas in Motion: 21st Century Dance Practices, and public events including Dancing Conversation talks and dance classes. Most recently, acclaimed Broadway, TV, and opera choreographer John Heginbotham's *Dance Sonata* was performed by UA dance and music students in spring 2024.

In spring 2020, Dance Heginbotham launched *24 Caprices*, as an ambitious video project driven by the desire to continue to collaborate, connect, and advance John Heginbotham's creative vision at a time of physical isolation. Using composer Niccolò Paganini's *24 Caprices for Solo Violin* as a launching point, Heginbotham joined forces with violinist Colin Jacobsen to explore the caprices' delightful, dark, and melancholic turns in short dance films. Each caprice is a captivating jewel, rhythmically intricate and varied in range, capturing a moment in time.

Choreographed in collaboration with dancer/jumper Lindsey Jones, *Caprice #1: Jump Rope* was filmed in May 2020. This short film will be screened silently for the November 5 *Collage* show with the *Caprice #1* performed by Dr. Justin Evangelist, saxophone soloist. *Caprice #12: Goodyear* was filmed in Akron in October 2023 with violinist Colin Jacobsen atop the former Goodyear headquarters on East Market Street, below the Goodyear Wingfoot sign. This short film will be screened for the November 5 *Collage* show, with UA dance students performing choreography by UA Professor Christine Howe in front of the film.

"The opportunity to showcase two works by Dance Heginbotham during *Collage* is an exciting and innovative addition to this year's performance. We trust the combination of visual artistry and the accompanying music and dance performances will enhance the visceral effect of *Collage*. It is also wonderful to celebrate the continuing relationship we enjoy with Christy Bolingbroke and the National Center for Choreography here at The University of Akron," shares **Galen S. Karriker, Co-Producer, *Collage* 2026**.

Event Details

Collage 2026

Presented by The University of Akron School of Performing Arts

November 5, 7:30-9pm

E.J. Thomas Performing Arts Hall

198 Hill Street, Akron, OH 44325

FREE

<https://calendar.uakron.edu/sopa/event/26720-collage-2026>

ARTIST BIOS

Dance Heginbotham (DH) is a New York-based contemporary dance company committed to supporting, producing, and performing the work of choreographer John Heginbotham. With an emphasis on collaboration, DH enriches national and international communities with its unique blend of inventive, thoughtful, and rigorous dance theater works. Founded in 2011, Dance Heginbotham quickly established itself as one of the most adventurous and exciting companies on the contemporary dance scene, and is celebrated for its vibrant athleticism, humor, and theatricality.

Originally from Anchorage, Alaska, **John Heginbotham** graduated from The Juilliard School in 1993, and was a member of Mark Morris Dance Group (1998-2012). In 2011, he founded Dance Heginbotham, a New York-based contemporary dance company that has toured nationally and

internationally. John received a 2018 Guggenheim Fellowship and the 2014 Jacob's Pillow Dance Award. Other awards and fellowships include Research Fellow at the National Center for Choreography at The University of Akron-NCCAkrón (2018-2020), 2017/18 New York City Center Choreography Fellowship, 2016 Fellow at NYU's Center for Ballet and the Arts, and Jerome Robbins Foundation New Essential Works (NEW) Fellowship (2010, 2012). Sought after as a freelance choreographer, John's independent projects include the Tony Award and Olivier Award-winning revival of *Oklahoma!*, directed by Daniel Fish (Bard Summerscape, 2015; St. Ann's Warehouse, 2018; Broadway, 2019; National Tour, 2021/22; Young Vic London, 2022, West End 2023); "Meet The Family", Season 3, Episode 1 of *Umbrella Academy* on Netflix; *RACECAR* for The Washington Ballet (2019); and John Adams' *Girls of the Golden West*, directed by Peter Sellars (San Francisco Opera, 2017; Dutch National Opera, 2019). John is the Director of the Dartmouth Dance Ensemble, and is a founding teacher of Dance for PD®, an ongoing collaboration between the Mark Morris Dance Group and the Brooklyn Parkinson Group.

About NCCAkrón

For ten years, the National Center for Choreography–Akron (NCCAkrón) has been a leader in dance research and development and a connector for artists. As one of only two choreography centers in the U.S., NCCAkrón is an incubator and hub for dance. We also offer audiences opportunities to experiment with and understand dance through conversations, events, podcasts, and books. Over the past decade, NCCAkrón has supported 800+ dance artists across 100 U.S. cities, serving as a cultural matchmaker for choreographers and a hyperagent for the national dance field. Offering space and resources for rigorous play and positive failure, NCCAkrón has redefined what it means to support dance artists. For more information, visit nccakron.org.

A discrete nonprofit organization, separate from The University of Akron but with offices based there, the establishment and general operation of NCCAkrón are made possible by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.

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