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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dolphin Dance Project and Dance Films Association present

“SO CLOSE 3D: DANCE WITH WILD DOLPHINS”

SVA Theater, 333 West 23rd Street (between 8th and 9th Avenues)

Sunday December 7th at 12 noon and 2 pm

**Admissions \$10 in advance / \$15 at the door / \$7 with student ID /
free for under 16 with advance reservation.**

Tickets at <https://www.artful.ly/store/events/4452>

New York, NY - “So Close 3D: Dance with Wild Dolphins,” a one day only engagement at the SVA theater, is a unique and unprecedented opportunity to see wild dolphins and trained human dancers as they collaborate to create underwater dances in the open ocean. The one hour program includes several films presented in Dolby 3D that offer an extraordinarily intimate experience of participating in a movement-based conversation with wild dolphins - as close as being there.

A highlight of the program will be a preview of “Dolphin Dreams,” shot by the eminent IMAX director and Emmy Award-winning underwater cinematographer Howard Hall and with an original score by Grammy Award-winning cellist and composer David Darling. This gorgeous short film introduces us to the world of a charismatic pod of Atlantic Spotted dolphins through their dances with directors Chisa Hidaka and Benjamin Harley. “So Close” features dancer Kathleen Fisher, previously of the Trisha Brown Company and Bebe Miller Dance Company. The program will open with a live performance juxtaposing human dance against video projections of the movement-based communication of dolphins, highlighting their similarities.

The films of the Dolphin Dance Project delightfully upend expectations about who is ‘us’ and who is ‘animal’. Chisa Hidaka, MD, founded the project in 2009 based on her insight that wild dolphins and humans could achieve unexpected depths of mutual understanding through movement improvisation, like dancers do. The project’s award-winning debut film, “Together: Dancing with Spinner Dolphins” (2010) has screened at festivals and events world wide. Some of the project’s other past works are available to view online (<https://www.youtube.com/user/dolphindanceproject>). “We hope this work increases respect and protection for wild dolphins and their habitats,” says Chisa, “and raises fundamental questions about the relationships between humans and non-humans.”

The screening event is co-produced with Dance Films Association and underwritten by a grant from the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council with additional support from Artist As Citizen.