

Dance Series Opens with Jazz

Whitebird celebrates 8th year

Acclaimed jazz vocalist Nnenna Freelon joins members of Ronald K. Brown's outstanding Evidence dance company to open the eighth season of Portland's White Bird dance series on Wednesday, Oct. 19 at 7:30 p.m. at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall.

The performance titled "Blueprint of a Lady: The Once and Future Life of Billie Holiday," will mark the 90th anniversary of Billie Holiday's birth.

Hailed for her captivating live performances, Freelon has been praised by the Los Angeles Times as being "in the very top echelon of jazz vocalists."

The New York Times has declared that Brown is "one of the leading contemporary dance makers to emerge in the last 10 years."

Brown's outstanding choreog-

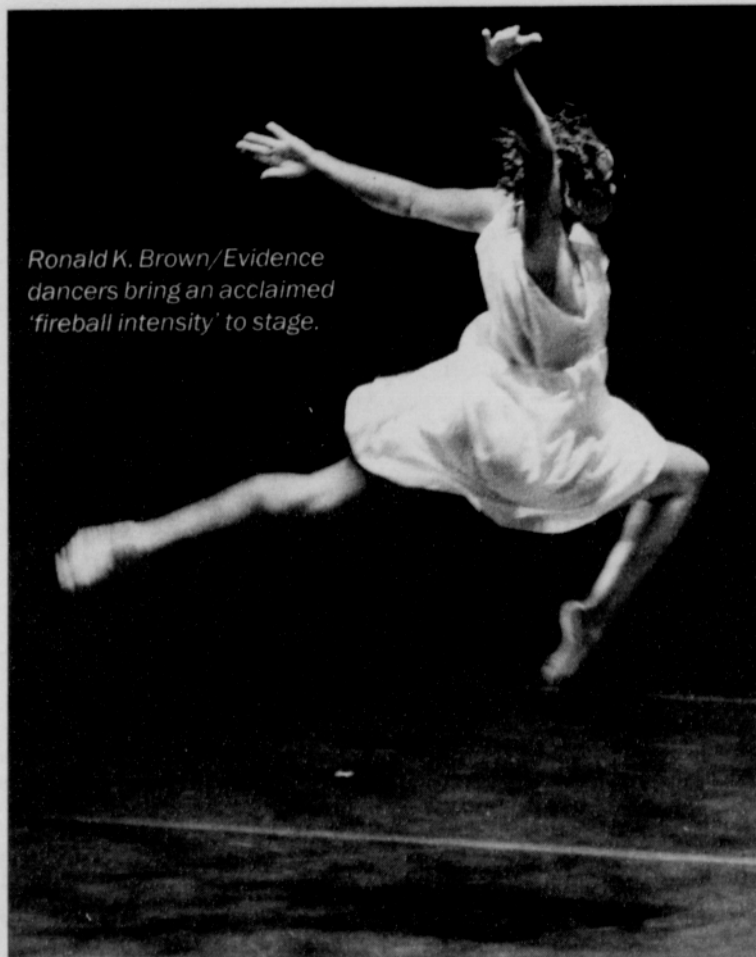


raphy and Freelon's original songs and musical interpretations of Billie Holiday classics, subtly explore the layers of Billie Holiday as an artist, social activist and self-proclaimed "Lady," dispelling the victim-only portrayal of this legendary woman.

Holiday, born Eleonora Fagan in Philadelphia in 1915, died a short 45 years later, leaving a legacy that continues to shape the generations of singers and artists to come. Musicians and dancers are vibrant partners in a collaboration that focuses on Holiday's triumphs, strength and beauty.

Tickets are \$19 to \$43 plus service charge and available at all Ticketmaster outlets and from the Portland Center for the Performing Arts box office.

◀ Jazz singer Nnenna Freelon and members of Ronald K. Brown's dance company perform "Blueprint of a Lady: The Once and Future Life of Billie Holiday."



Ronald K. Brown/Evidence dancers bring an acclaimed 'fireball intensity' to stage.

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KENNEDY SCHOOL

90TH
BIRTHDAY
PARTY

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13
4 p.m. to 10 p.m.

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