

## NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Faye Wolfe @ [fwolfe@umass.edu](mailto:fwolfe@umass.edu) or 413-545-4482

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 8, 2016

**WHAT:** UMass Fine Arts Center Presents  
Contra-Tiempo/Urban Latin Dance Theater

**WHEN:** Thursday, October 6, 7:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Fine Arts Center Concert Hall, University of Massachusetts Amherst

**TICKETS:** Call 1-800-999-UMAS or 545-2511 for tickets or go online to  
<http://www.fineartscenter.com/>

**IMAGES:** To download images relating to this press release please go online to  
<https://fac.umass.edu/Online/PressImages>

#### CONTRA-TIEMPO BRINGS URBAN LATIN DANCE THEATER TO THE FAC

Contra-Tiempo dishes up its dazzling, original dance *Agua Furiosa* on Thursday, October 6, at 7:30 p.m. at the Fine Arts Center Concert Hall. And on Tuesday, October 4, the public is invited to attend Contra-Tiempo's community workshop on *Rueda* (Cuban salsa) in Holyoke.

Inspired by Shakespeare's *The Tempest* and Oya, the Afro-Cuban god of wind and storms, Alvarez collaborated with members of the company and the community to create *Agua Furiosa*, a visually stunning, thought-provoking dance. Through call & response, improvisational scores, and personal narrative (both Black & Latino), the full-length piece encompasses racial conflict, economic inequity, gun violence and the politics of water and drought. It provides a counter-narrative to *The Tempest* and challenges audiences to confront the harsh realities of race—and imagine a more just and compassionate future. After the show, audiences are invited to stay for a discussion with the company.

Founded by choreographer Ana Maria Alvarez in 2005, Contra-Tiempo is a Los Angeles-based company of professional dancers and performers — many of them immigrants or first-generation North Americans — that blends salsa, hip-hop, and Afro-Cuban and other contemporary dance forms in its performances on stages around the country and abroad. In 2014, Contra-Tiempo was selected to represent American dance in a tour Bolivia, Chile, and Ecuador, as part of DanceMotion USA, a State Department program produced by the Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM).

Tickets for Contra-Tiempo's *Agua Furiosa* are \$35, \$30, \$20; Five College student and youth (17-and-under) tickets, \$10. For tickets, call the box office at 545-2511 or toll-free at 800-999-UMAS, or purchase them online at [fineartscenter.com](http://fineartscenter.com).

This event is sponsored by *El Sol Latino*, WRSI 93.9FM, and the New England Foundation for the Arts.

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High-resolution photos are available at [www.fineartscenter.com/pressroom](http://www.fineartscenter.com/pressroom)