

MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release

May 27, 2015

Media Contact: Alana Quinn, Cultural Programs of the National Academy of Sciences
202-334-2415; aquinn@nas.edu

National Academy of Sciences Announces Three June Events Exploring the Theme of Performing Science

WASHINGTON – Cultural Programs of the National Academy of Sciences (CPNAS) announces three events in June that will explore the intersection of science and performance: A D.C. Art Science Evening Rendezvous on June 18; *Iteratia*, a dance performance on June 29; and a staged reading of Tom Stoppard’s *Arcadia* in collaboration with the Shakespeare Theatre Company on June 29.

D.C. Art Science Evening Rendezvous

The D.C. Art Science Evening Rendezvous (DASER) is a monthly discussion forum on art science projects in the national capital region. In June, DASER explores the theme of **science and performance**. The panel features the following presentations: *Using Math and Science to Influence Dance Creation and Performance* by **Gregory Mack**, AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellow at the National Science Foundation, Ballston, Virginia; *“Plotting the Apple of Knowledge”: Tom Stoppard’s Arcadia as Iterated Theatrical Algorithm* by **Lucy Melbourne**, Fulbright Scholar and professor of English, Saint Augustine’s University, Raleigh, N.C.; *“All the World’s a Stage”: Exploring Bioethical Challenges With Theatre* by **Karen Rothenberg**, Marjorie Cook Professor of Law, Francis King Carey School of Law, University of Maryland, Baltimore; and *The Performance of Science in Art* by **Nicola Triscott**, director, The Arts Catalyst, London.

The event is on Thursday, June 18, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. EDT (doors open at 5:30 p.m.) at the Keck Center, 500 Fifth St., N.W., Washington, D.C. Reservations and photo IDs are required. To make a reservation, visit <https://june2015daser.eventbrite.com>. For those unable to attend, DASER will be viewable via webcast beginning at 5:30 p.m. EDT. To access the webcast, visit <http://www.cpnas.org/events/webcast-information-instructions.html>

Iteratia

Iteratia, a dance inspired by the mathematical ideas in Tom Stoppard’s *Arcadia*, will be performed at the NAS prior to the staged reading of the play. One of the mathematical ideas in *Arcadia* is iteration: using a method or formula to get an estimated answer, and using that answer as the new starting point to apply the method or formula again to arrive at a new answer. The cycle repeats as necessary in order to get as close as possible to the actual solution to the problem. Along with inspiration from other aspects of *Arcadia*, Gregory Mack is using the idea of iteration in the choreographic process for this dance work in collaboration with fellow dancer/choreographers Sarah Hixon and Amanda Whiteman. Their performance takes place on June 29 from 6:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the West Court of the National Academy of Sciences, 2101 Constitution Ave., N.W. Photo IDs are required. No charge. Registration is included with *Arcadia* tickets.

Gregory Mack is an astrophysicist and a dancer in the modern dance company Hixon Dance. Sarah Hixon is the artistic director of Hixon Dance and a dance educator at BalletMet Columbus and New Albany Ballet in Columbus, Ohio. Amanda Whiteman is the founder of GroundShare Arts Alliance (formerly GroundWorks Dance Ensemble) and a Master Teaching Artist at Wolf Trap where she integrates the performing arts with literacy, math, and science.

