

Sean Dorsey reveals 'Secret History of Love'

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Lydia Daniller / Sean Dorsey Dance

Brian Fisher, Nol Simonse, Sean Dorsey and Juan De La Rosa in "The Secret History of Love."

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'SECRET' LOVE STORIES REVEALED

Choreography that includes oral components, historical research and overt storytelling is increasingly fashionable in modern dance. **Sean Dorsey**, the first transgender artist to be named Dance Magazine's "25 to Watch" and winner of two Isadora Duncan Dance Awards, is using this approach in an ambitious attempt to express the love stories of transgender and queer people from the 1920s to the present. The suite of dances - called "**The Secret History of Love**" - premieres at 8 p.m. Friday and runs through Sunday at Theater Artaud's Z Space. It is based on oral history interviews and archival materials from the GLBT Historical Society - a two-year research effort that has taken Dorsey across the country on a hunt for what he calls the "love that dared not speak its name." Dorsey's project also has been a

feat of fundraising; the San Francisco choreographer has received support from the Creative Work Fund, the National Performance Network, the Queer Cultural Center in San Francisco, the Theater Offensive in Boston and Links Hall in Chicago.

Dorsey said a sense of urgency has motivated the project. "We are rapidly losing our community's stories," he said. "In the 1980s, we lost part of an entire generation of queer and trans people to AIDS. Every year we lose more and more of our community's elders as they pass on. I am passionate about capturing these stories - the bold trans people and drag queens who fought at Stonewall, quiet people who found love or raised families, and rowdy activists - before they are lost forever."

"The Secret History of Love" will be performed by Sean Dorsey, **Brian Fisher**, **Juan De La Rosa**, **Nol Simonse** and **Shawna Virago**. The dance's original score features music by **Jesse Olson** and **Ben Kessler**. Tickets are \$15-\$20 and can be purchased through brownpapertickets.com.

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