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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DANCE/VISUAL/PERFORMANCE ART**

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DONNA STERNBERG & DANCERS and DONI SILVER SIMONS PRESENT

49 DAYS: WOMEN WHO COUNT

SANTA MONICA – **DONI SILVER SIMONS** and **DONNA STERNBERG & DANCERS** present ***49 Days: Women Who Count***. This work incorporates 42 female performers, a 49-channel soundscape, a visual installation documenting the creation of the work, and a post-performance discussion by the collaborators. The performance explores time, memory, and counting embodied within the roles of ritual and cultural identity. Counting is universal: being conscious of time and marking its passage is innate to mankind. We create calendars and mark off days; we leave our marks on the world and on each other. In ***49 Days: Women Who Count***, women serve as the “keepers of time.” They are the ones who count. The performers, representing days, move simultaneously, overlapping one another as the performance progresses. Similarly, the sound builds, filling the space as voices and movement become both past and present. Rhythms begin to echo heartbeats, creating a cacophony of sound. ***49 Days: Women Who Count*** shows the evolution of ritualistically marking time.

The program will be presented on April 2 at 8:30 P.M. and April 3 at 6:00 P.M. at Arena I Gallery 3026 Airport Ave., Santa Monica, CA 90405.

Tickets In advance: \$20, general admission; \$17, students/seniors. Purchase at: <http://49days/bpt.me>
Tickets at the door: \$25, general admission, \$20, students/seniors

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Note: Biographies of participating artists comprise Page 2 of this release.

BIOGRAPHICAL BACKGROUND ON THE ARTISTS

Founded in 1985, **Donna Sternberg & Dancers** (DS&D) is a non-profit contemporary dance company founded in 1985 that has premiered over 80 works, including 8 full evening-length performances. Discovery is our passion and we believe the act of discovery to be transformative. The company performs in site-specific locations such as parks, galleries, libraries and on the beach as well as in traditional theaters. DS&D has performed throughout California, and is the resident guest artist at Rancho La Puerta in Tecate, Mexico. It has been featured in print such as **Dance Magazine, Dance Spirit, Los Angeles Times**, radio and television (PBS, City TV). The company has received funding from state and local governmental agencies, businesses and foundations. Jessica Abrams of exploredance.com states: "Donna Sternberg's talent (is) a maker of dances as technically stunning as they are dramatically resonant. Sternberg's dancers are incredible technicians, but it is their dramatic presence that (makes) them stellar performers."

Doni Silver Simons is a painter, installation and performance artist who lives and works in Los Angeles. She received a Bachelors of Studio Arts from University of Pittsburgh and a Masters of Fine Arts in Drawing from Wayne State University. Her work has been exhibited at the Santa Monica Museum of Art, MOCA, the Detroit Institute of Art, the Wolfson Museum, Jerusalem, MishkanL'Omanut, Ein Harod, Israel, and in galleries throughout the United States. Silver Simons' work was featured in both the 2013 and 2015 Jerusalem Biennales. Silver Simons is inspired by an insatiable desire to understand and interpret time, memory and identity. Her minimal, yet fastidious, canvases appear like ancient scrolls or calendars that have been unearthed. Quietude and mesmerizing repetitive variations of form, intent and action inform her pieces.

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