

For Immediate Release
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**Z Space presents Joe Goode Performance Group in the world premiere of
*When We Fall Apart***

**Featuring an original set design by architect Cass Calder Smith
Original music composed and performed live by Ben Juodvalkis**

Commissioned by Z Space

June 14-30, 2012
Z Space, 450 Florida Street, San Francisco
www.zspace.org, www.joegoode.org



Joe Goode Performance Group in When We Fall Apart, photo by RJ Muna

SAN FRANCISCO, CA—February 17, 2012—Z Space is proud to present Joe Goode Performance Group (JGPG) in the world premiere of *When We Fall Apart*, June 14-30, 2012.

Commissioned by Z Space, *When We Fall Apart* is a new work by choreographer Joe Goode, an award-winning artist who has been heralded for his innovative form of dance theater. In collaboration with architect Cass Calder Smith, Goode explores the intricate and fragile relationship between house and body, and what defines a “home.” Smith is best known for his high-profile restaurant designs in San Francisco and New York City – and this is the first time Smith’s work will be integrated into a live stage performance. This evening length work is built for seven JGPG Company members and features live, original music by Ben Joudvalkis.

Smith’s set design draws on the archetypal image of a suburban residential house - and includes four components: a house, tree, lawn, and table. Smith’s house is designed as a fragment of a house - constructed to collapse on cue. His design is lightweight, constructed of pinewood slats that function like venetian blinds, affording a transparency to the structure.

The word ‘home’ conjures up ideas of stability, safety, and family even at a time of record-high home foreclosures. At the same time our body is often figured as a home, housing our feelings and ideas – and it is equally susceptible to loss and decay.

“For me, the house represents the good life, the sturdy, normal life that I aspire to but never seem to find,” said Goode. “As a gay person I am not allowed access to that house as it symbolizes marriage, home, family. Somehow the symbol represents something that is off limits to me. *When We Fall Apart* investigates this “myth” of stability and how it consistently eludes us. Life (and the body that contains it) is impermanent and at a certain point the house collapses and gives way. Yet we are compelled as a species to build that structure to try to ward off the inevitable.”

Goode, who typically draws on his own experiences in creating new work, took a different approach in creating *When We Fall Apart*. He solicited personal stories, feelings, and insights on a series of questions about life’s directions, choices and dreams from his audience and the public. These insights and experiences were incorporated into an experimental performance series at the Joe Goode Annex called *Human Kind*. *When We Fall Apart* is the final iteration in the Human Kind series.

With *When We Fall Apart*, Goode continues to redefine how and where audiences experience dance-theater. *When We Fall Apart* follows a number of successful site-specific performances, including *Fall Within* (2009), *Traveling Light* (2009/2010), and most recently, the *Human Kind* series. *When We Fall Apart* will take place in the Z Space theater, but the performance extends beyond the traditional theater space with installations taking place in the lobby as another “house of art.”

When We Fall Apart features company dancers **Felipe Barrueto-Cabello, Melecio Estrella, Damara Vita Ganley, Jessica Swanson, Andrew Ward, Patricia West, and Alexander Zendzian.**

When We Fall Apart is developed as part of Z Space’s *Technical Development Residencies*, funded in part by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts.

About the Joe Goode Performance Group

JGPG’s innovative form of dance-theater is accessible, personal, and explores unabashed emotional terrain with humor and honesty. Using text, voice, and high velocity movement, JGPG blurs the line between theater and dance to make work that is thoughtful, groundbreaking, and deeply felt. JGPG believes in the power of theater to create a transformational experience. The work touches on social issues—including gender, race and sexuality—with the idea of illuminating and investigating in order to stimulate questions and conversations. And perhaps remind the viewer of his/her own humanity, however flailing or imperfect that might be.

Where a piece like *The Maverick Strain* uses both camp and poetry to illuminate the resilience of the outsider, their much-lauded collaboration with avant-garde puppeteer Basil Twist in *Wonderboy* tells a tale of searching for love and belonging by using a “queer” puppet-boy in the central role. Their installation work, *Traveling Light*, muses on the necessity of shedding the confines of excess in order to move forward, while the award-winning dance/play, *Deeply There*, examines the havoc brought on by the AIDS crisis. The company has made over 25 works since its inception and has a devoted following in its home city of San Francisco. While maintaining a robust touring schedule domestically, the company has also performed in Europe, Canada, Africa and the Middle East.

The Joe Goode Performance Group has received multiple awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, SF Arts Commission, and the California Arts Council, as well as receiving the Isadora Duncan Dance Award ("Izzie") for both choreography and performance and the New York Dance and Performance Award ("Bessie") for choreography.

About Cass Calder Smith

Cass Calder Smith established the San Francisco architectural firm that bears his name in 1990. Celebrating its 20th year in the Bay Area, CCS-Architecture is located in a converted warehouse in the South of Market district with a staff of 20. In 2005, CCS-Architecture opened an office in NYC to better meet the needs of its diverse range of residential, commercial and mixed use clients.

Born in 1961, Smith earned his Bachelor and Master of Architecture from the University of California, Berkeley. A native of New York City, he has lived in California since 1972. As the son of an Academy-Award winning filmmaker and a California landscape painter and designer, his early years were influenced by both Greenwich Village intellectuals and rural California artisans.

Smith is recognized internationally for his architectural and interior design projects. Firmly based in the modernist idiom, Smith draws inspiration from history's great architects and cities as well as the epic filmmakers of the last century. Bold imagery and intricate detail are characteristic of his designs balanced with experience and common sense.

Smith and his work have won numerous awards and have been recognized in The New York Times, Metropolitan Home, Metropolis, Dwell, Interior Design and Abitare, among others.

About Z Space

Founded in 1993, Z Space is a hub for artists and audiences to revel in the creation, development, and production of outstanding new work. Z Space commissions, develops, and produces a full season of new works from a variety of disciplines including theater, dance, music, performance art, and new media. Z Space fosters opportunities around the nation for these works and for their Bay Area artists. The organization engages diverse audiences through direct interactions with the process, the projects, and the artists. Since 2009 Z Space has managed and operated a 13,000 sq/ft, 229-seat performing arts venue and gallery: home to more than 40 weeks of public multidisciplinary arts programming annually. www.zspace.org.

CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE

WHAT:

Z Space presents Joe Goode Performance Group in the world premiere of *When We Fall Apart*
A new work by choreographer Joe Goode in collaboration with architect Cass Calder Smith

WHEN:

Thu-Sat, June 14-16, 7pm

Wed-Thu, June 20-21, 7pm

Fri-Sat, June 22-23, Two shows: 7pm & 9pm

Sun, June 24, 5pm

Wed-Thu, June 27-28, 7pm

Fri-Sat, June 29-30, Two shows: 7pm & 9pm

WHERE:

Z Space, 450 Alabama Street, San Francisco

TICKETS:

\$25-\$35

www.zspace.org

MORE INFO:

www.joegoode.org