

SPOLETO — FESTIVAL USA

Contact: Jenny Ouellette
Associate Director of Media Relations & Communications
jouellette@spoletousa.org | 843.720.1137

[Images here.](#)

EMBARGO lifts Monday, May 22, at 5:00pm

Spoletto reveals its 2023 poster featuring photography by Charleston-based artist Elizabeth Bick

A 24-by-36-inch print, commissioned by Spoleto Festival USA

Available at spoletousa.org



SPOLETO FESTIVAL USA 2023

May 22, 2023 (Charleston, SC) — At 5:00pm in the lobby of The Charleston Place, Spoleto Festival USA General Director & CEO Mena Mark Hanna unveiled the Festival’s 2023 season poster, featuring commissioned photography by artist Elizabeth Bick. The poster is now available for purchase (\$30) at spoletousa.org, at Spoleto’s ticket kiosk at the Charleston Visitor Center, or by calling 843.579.3111.

“I was drawn to Elizabeth’s work through an exhibit at the Halsey Institute of Contemporary Art,” says Hanna. “This work represents the vibrancy of Charleston and of the Festival; it captures beauty and art in everyday expression.”

Hailing from Houston, Texas, though now based in Charleston, Bick is an assistant professor of photography at the College of Charleston. Her work, which often reflects quotidian movement in urban spaces, has been exhibited internationally. “I love capturing people’s unthinking gestures and positioning them into a type of modern dance through a series of repetitive frames,” she says. “For this work in particular, I thought about the Festival itself and a season that represents joy—a joy of being, of moving, and living. I wanted the work to echo that energy.”

The image (untitled) featured on the poster includes nine frames of 10 students from the College of Charleston’s School of the Arts and its Department of Dance positioned on a street on the Charleston peninsula. “One of the

most wonderful things about Spoleto, of course, is the performances—but a festival is also about experiencing the backdrop of the location, the in-between moments walking to various events. I wanted to celebrate that movement and highlight all the spaces that people will experience.”

Spoletto Festival USA’s season posters have featured works by such artists as David Hockney, Charles Gaines, Jonathan Green, Maya Lin, Chuck Close, Elizabeth Murray, Sol Le Witt, Jasper Johns, JoAnn Verburg, and Christian Thee, among others. A gallery of past posters for sale can be found at spoletousa.org. Spoleto Festival USA posters are limited editions and not reprinted. The limited-edition 2023 poster was printed by Professional Printers in Columbia, South Carolina.

ELIZABETH BICK

Elizabeth Bick is a photographer influenced by her training in dance. She has exhibited at the Norton Museum of Art, the Ogden Museum of Art, Fraenkel Gallery, Houston Center for Photography, and the Halsey Institute of Contemporary Art. Grants and awards include Pollock-Krasner Foundation, Houston Center for Photography Fellowship, Joan Mitchell Foundation, and the Rudin Prize. She has participated in residencies at American Academy in Rome and LMCC workspace. Outlets, including *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, *Photograph Magazine*, *Hyperallergic*, and *TIME* have featured her work. She is an assistant professor at the College of Charleston and holds an MFA in Photography from Yale University.

SPOLETO FESTIVAL USA

Spoletto Festival USA was founded in 1977 by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Gian Carlo Menotti, who sought to create an American counterpart to the annual Festival of Two Worlds in Spoleto, Italy, that he had founded in 1958. Now in its 47th year, Spoleto Festival USA is internationally recognized as America’s premier performing arts festival. For 17 days and nights each spring, Spoleto Festival USA fills Charleston’s historic theaters, churches, and outdoor spaces with performances in opera; theater; dance; and chamber, symphonic, choral, and jazz music. Spoleto’s mission is to present programs of the highest artistic caliber while maintaining a dedication to young artists, a commitment to all forms of the performing arts, a passion for contemporary innovation, and an enthusiasm for providing unique performance opportunities for established artists. Beyond its role as a launching pad for young talent, Spoleto also serves as a catalyst for cultural change and has aided in Charleston’s flourishing as a top arts and culture destination. With General Director & CEO Mena Mark Hanna at its helm, the 2023 season takes place May 26 to June 11 in various locations on the downtown peninsula. Spoleto Festival USA is a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization.

IMAGES: A selection of high-resolution images can be found in the online gallery.

MORE: Visit the [virtual press room](#).