

SAT

12/12

THE DOMINIC WALSH DANCE THEATER STORY IN PICTURES

Gabriella Nissen got a lesson in ballet when she set up a backdrop for a photo shoot of Dominic Walsh. "I thought it was high enough; it went up way over the dancers'



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heads," she tells us. "[A dancer] walked by and I asked him if it was high enough. He looked at it and said, 'Oh no. You'll need to go up three more feet.' I thought, 'You're kidding, right?' He wasn't. I had no idea

dancers jumped that high or did all of the amazing things they do."

The experience is one of many Nissen recounted as she discussed the new photography book *Dominic Walsh Dance Theater*. A joint project with Walsh as writer and Nissen as designer, *Dominic Walsh Dance Theatre* is being launched today at a reception at the Deborah Colton Gallery.

Nissen has been photographing Walsh and his dance troupe since 2007. Over the past eight years, she's amassed thousands of images. And, of course, she wasn't the only photographer working with Walsh. When she and Walsh decided to put together a retrospective of the group, she asked other photographers to contribute.

"When you're doing something that's not just your work, you have to step out of yourself a little bit. This book wasn't about me and my photography; it's about Dominic and his dancers. I wasn't the only photographer who had part of that story to tell."

"Dominic and I looked through thousands and thousands of images for the book. It was much more difficult to put together than I would have thought originally. But putting the images together wasn't the end. Now we have to promote it and make sure people know about it."

See more images from
the *Dominic Walsh
Dance Theater* on
Saturday.



Dominic Walsh and friends launch a book

Former dance company returns, in print

By **Molly Glentzer** Updated 6:53 am, Thursday, December 17, 2015



IMAGE 2 OF 22

Gabriella Nissen, left, with Dominic Walsh and Viviana Luciano-Walsh and Deborah and Bill Colton at Deborah Colton Gallery for the launch of the retrospective book, "Dominic Walsh Dance Theater."

Dominic Walsh Dance Theater officially folded this year, but its namesake founder-choreographer revisited the company's milestones with friends on Dec. 12 during a launch party at Deborah Colton Gallery for his retrospective book.

Designed by Gabriella Nissen, one of the Houston photographers who captured the company in its prime, the book recalls a period of intense creativity and provocative collaboration with musicians, museums and internationally known dance talents.

Walsh, a former Houston Ballet principal dancer, founded his company in 2002, and Nissen began documenting it in 2007.

"Dominic always tested the limits and raised the bar, helping those who viewed his performances to think in more open minded, visionary and creative ways, said host Deborah Colton, a long-time company supporter.

The evening included a screening of scenes from Walsh's dance film, "Malto Kano, TX."

"Dominic Walsh Dance Theater," the book, is \$105-\$325 (in softcover, hardbound and limited edition versions) at gabriellanissen.com.

Walsh, now a freelance choreographer, has created works recently for Ballet San Antonio, Colorado Ballet, Festival Ballet Providence, Whim W'Him and Asami Maki Ballet.

Among the fans: **David** and **Anita Garten**, **Jo** and **Jim Furr**, **Martha Bourke**, **Jereann Chaney**, **Thomas** and **Anna Au**, **Denzil** and **Elise Hollingsworth**, **Bob** and **Mariana Debes**, **Marc** and **Duyen Nguyen**, **Mari Omori**, **Nicola Parente** and **Sharon** and **Gus Kopriva**.

THE SEEN

On Their Toes for Ballet Legend's Hotly Anticipated Book Launch

BY MATTHEW RAMIREZ

12.12.15

What: *Dominic Walsh Dance Theater* book launch.

Where: Deborah Colton Gallery.

Who: Man of the hour **Dominic Walsh** with daughter **Viviana Luciano-Walsh** in his arms; host and gallery namesake **Deborah Colton** with husband **Bill Colton**, in from Dallas; book designer and creative collaborator **Gabriella Nissen**; **Brian Hoffner**; long-time dance patrons **Anita** and **David Garten**; artist **Sharon Kopriva**, in the gallery's stable, with husband **Gus Kopriva**; **Mariana** and **Bob Debes**; **Duyen Huynh** and **Marc Nguyen**; ballet master **Phillip Broomhead** who once shared a stage with Walsh; **Mari Omari**; **Carole Miller**; **Mario Zambrano**; **Martha Bourke**; **Jo** and **Jim Furr**; **Diana Griffin-Gregory**; **Karin Poulos**; **Anna** and **Thomas Au**; **Priscilla** and **Pierre Alexandre**; **Claudia** and **John Falk**; and mega-collector **Jereann Chaney**.

PC Moment: The culmination of the evening of holiday cheer was the big reveal of the volume, which documents the 13-year history of Walsh's celebrated dance troupe. Dominic Walsh Dance Theater's rich performing arts legacy includes many world premieres; the company has enthralled audiences from the Wortham Theater Center to international venues including Naples, Italy and Tokyo.



LESS

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SOCIAL SCENE



Dominic Walsh Theater Book Launch at Deborah Colton Gallery

- 1] Carole Miller, Dominic Walsh, Mario Zambrano and Martha Bourke
- 2] Pierre and Priscilla Alexandre with Soraya Bourjolly



3/12-4/23

Broken Mirror

Russian artist Oleg Dou debuts his newest photographs, which resemble oil painting. Several of the pieces are portraits that verge on the surreal. Opening reception March 12 at 6PM. *Deborah Colton Gallery, deborahcolton.com*

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A PICTURE-PERFECT
WEDDING... WHAT'S NEXT
FOR ALLISON WILLIAMS?

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Star Designer Laura U,
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TV Hulk Adam Senn's
Naked Ambition

SPRING