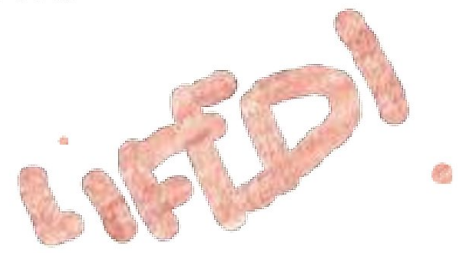


RENNIE HARRIS PUREMOVEMENT PRESENTS

RENNIE HARRIS LIFTED

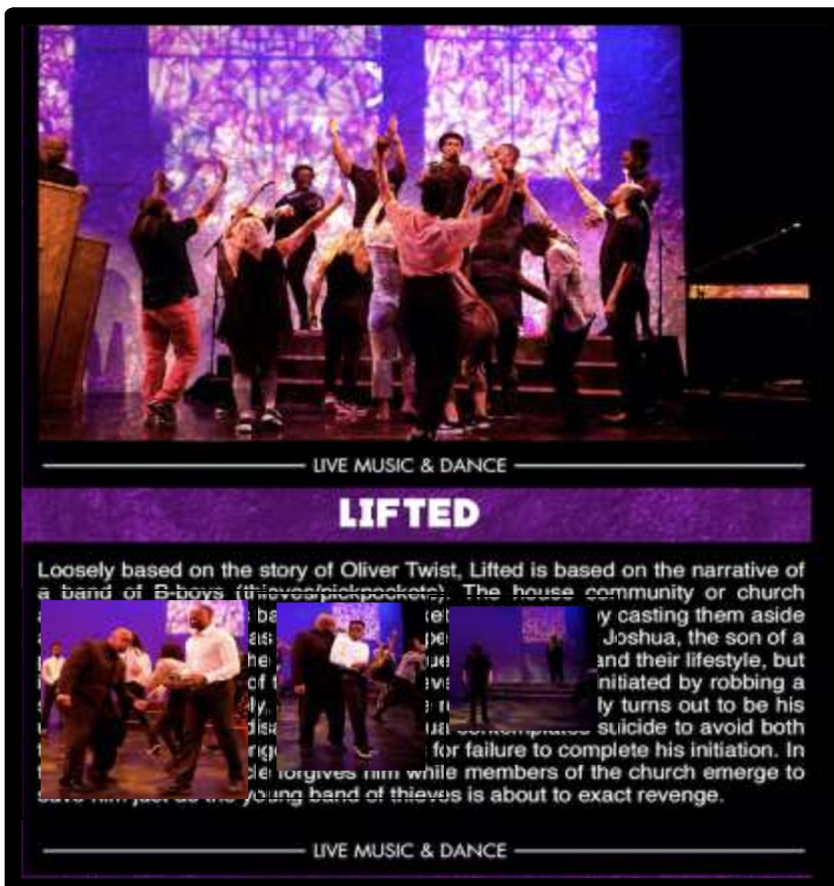
An American Story



Rennie Harris is cognized by the United States Department of Education as a leading ambassador for the art of Hip-hop dance. Rennie Harris continues to open doors for others to follow. He's received a number of arts and academic honors, among them Guggenheim and US Artist International fellowship award, an honorary doctorate from Columbia College (Chicago, Illinois) and Bates College (Lewiston, Maine). Cited as "the" first to bring Hip-hop and other street dance styles to concert stages around the world. Harris is considered a powerful spokesperson for the significance of "street" origins in any dance style. Harris was voted one of the most influential people in the last one hundred years of Philadelphia history and has been compared to twentieth-century dance legend Alvin Ailey and Bob Fosse. He received 3 Bessie Awards, was nominated for the Laurence Olivier Award and has been awarded the Herb Alpert Award in the Arts. **"The Basquiat of the US."** ~*London Times*~ [2001] **"Harris is the most respected -and, to my knowledge, the most brilliant Hip-hop choreographer in America"** ~*The New Yorker*~ [2015].

Based on the organic spiritual tapestry of House music and dance born of the clubs. Often referred to as going to "church" this work confronts morality, spirituality and community. Loosely based on Harris' life in North Philadelphia this work was inspired by the passing of Harris' mother Doris Teresa Harris.

Joshua Lambert's mother Doris Teresa Lambert passed from some unforeseen illness and Joshua who comes from a long line of House dancers was forced to live with his Aunt Laura and his Uncle Edward. But although he was raised as a house dancer and house dance worshipper of God, secretly Joshua was drawn to the B-boys who were considered thugs and outlaws amongst House dancers. Needless to say it was forbidden to associate with B-B-boys let alone become one. Upset and frustrated over his mother's passing Joshua lashed out at his uncle and aunt- ran away and met up with a band of B-boys who disguised themselves as street performers but in reality were professional pickpockets. Convinced to rob the church as part of his initiation, he attempted to rob the church but was unable to go through with it. In the end Joshua's uncle and the church came to his rescue and stood up to the crew.



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