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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**ACROBATICS AND DANCE IN WORLD PREMIERE OF *ELEMENTS***

*WRITER/DIRECTOR OF OFF-BROADWAY HIT "FLIGHT" FOCUSES ON CLIMATE CHANGE*

**LONG BEACH, CA, October 2016** – California State University Long Beach (CSULB) Theatre Arts Department presents the world premiere of *Elements*, written and directed by Ezra LeBank and Rebecca Nakano. This original show, playing November 12 to November 19 at the University Theatre, brings Earth, Water, Fire, and Air to life through ensemble movement.

*Elements* tells a powerful story of humans and nature colliding through acrobatic physical theatre. Set against the backdrop of our modern world, Sally and Avi are two strangers stuck in their cardboard-cutout lives, never noticing one another. Enter the elements, who shake Avi and Sally from their daily haze, changing their lives and the world around them.

"*Elements* is an adrenaline rush and a call to wake up to the natural world around us that so many have almost entirely forgotten," says writer/director Ezra LeBank.

*Elements* is LeBank's second original production at CSULB. *Lemon Boots* premiered at CSULB Theatre Arts in 2012 before a successful run at Hollywood Fringe where *The LAist* described it as, "Spectacular! Think Pilobolus or a low-tech Cirque du Soleil."

**Ezra LeBank**, writer/director, is Head of Movement at CSULB Theatre Arts and founding artistic director of the physical theatre company Curbside. His acrobatic play *Flight* received international recognition last summer at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and New York Fringe. The *New York Times* called *Flight*, "ingenious!" Building on this critical success, *Flight* returned to New York in September 2016 for a limited engagement Off-Broadway run at the Barrow Street Theatre.

**Rebecca Nakano**, writer/director, is a Southern California actor and choreographer. Her latest work includes choreographing *The Light Princess* at South Coast Repertory and performing in *Bird in the Hand* at CSULB Theatre Arts in 2016. Former member of Encore Dance Company in Huntington Beach, she has a background in ballet, jazz, and modern dance, and holds a BA in Theatre Performance from CSULB.

*Elements* opens Saturday, November 12, and closes on Saturday, November 19. Preview performance on Thursday, November 10. Performances run Wednesday through Saturday at 8pm in the University Theatre on the southeast corner of the CSULB campus, accessible via East Campus Drive. There are two matinee performances at 2pm on Sunday, November 13 and Saturday, November 19. Tickets are \$25 for general admission and \$20 for seniors, students, and CSULB faculty and staff (with valid ID). Parking is available for \$7 in CSULB Parking Lot 7, next to the theatre. For tickets and information please visit [www.calrep.org](http://www.calrep.org).