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**Soul Justice Project: *Pendulum* Performing Live at Mesa Arts Center
May 18 and 19, 2017
8:00 p.m.**



Mesa, AZ (April 27, 2017) – Soul Justice Project: *Pendulum* will premiere at Mesa Arts Center with performances Thursday, May 18 and Friday, May 19, 2017 at 8:00 p.m. *Pendulum* is an evening-length theatrical performance that follows the lives of seven Americans living in the margins of Democracy post-election night. Tickets are \$15 and are on sale now at Mesa Arts Center's Box Office, at www.mesaartscenter.com or by calling 480-644-6500.

Pendulum blends the aesthetics of Hip Hop with multimedia, song and dance with a goal of catalyzing conversation around issues that are particularly polarizing or hard to discuss. "Soul Justice Project performances are created collaboratively by the artists, and use theatre as a tool to create space for communities to share challenges, inspiration and resources," said Tomas Stanton, Founding Director of Soul Justice Project. "In creating *Pendulum*, we started with dialogue among the artists regarding issues of justice affecting their communities. Using our own personal histories and experiences as inspiration, we create an original theatrical performance intended to promote constructive dialogue and spur action towards change."

The content of *Pendulum* is inspired by a quote by Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg, "The true symbol of the United States is not the eagle, it's the pendulum – when it swings too far in one direction, it will swing back."

Most of the collaborating artists are based in the Phoenix-metro area, including Sean Avery (poet and performing artist), Allyson Yoder (dance), Carly Bates (music), Raji Ganesan,

(performing and teaching artist), AJ Odneal (songwriter), Anna Flores (poet), and Xanthia Walker, co-artistic director of Soul Justice Project. Dahlak Brathwaite (writer/spoken word) is based in Los Angeles, CA.

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About Mesa Arts Center

Mesa Arts Center, owned and operated by the City of Mesa, is a unique, architecturally stunning facility located in the heart of downtown Mesa. Arizona's largest multidisciplinary arts center is home to four theaters, five art galleries in the MCA Museum, and 14 art studios. Guests, patrons, and students come to Mesa Arts Center to enjoy the finest live entertainment, performances and festivals, world-class visual art exhibitions, and outstanding arts education classes. The Mesa Arts Center mission is to inspire people through engaging arts experiences that are diverse, accessible, and relevant. For more information, visit [mesaartscenter.com](https://www.mesaartscenter.com).