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Stephen Petronio Dance Company Acquires 175 Acres in New York for Residency Program

The Stephen Petronio Company has purchased Crows Nest, a 175-acre property in New York's Catskill Mountains, for a new residency program that will launch in the summer of 2018. Located in the town of Cairo, the \$1.3 million parcel of land includes two newer buildings, which provide 9,000 square feet for residential and studio space, and a caretaker's cottage.



Billed as a bucolic retreat from commercial marketplace pressures, the summer residency program will focus on the beginning stages of the artistic process and will invite dance companies to participate by a rotating selection panel.

Choreographer Stephen Petronio said, "After years of searching for the right property, I found heaven at Crows Nest. When I began this search, it seemed only natural to secure a home where the next generation of work could be made. With Crows Nest, I'm hoping to leave the world an intimate place where dance can be made, where history happens, and where the dance community can feel at home."

In January 2016, the Stephen Petronio Company began the first phase of a \$3 million capital campaign to cover the cost of a permanent home and residency program. Initial funds for the campaign have come from visual-art sales, including a lead gift from London-based sculptor Anish Kapoor, along with work by Cecily Brown, Teresita Fernandez, Jasper Johns, Judy Pfaff, and Matt Saunders.

Founded in 1984, the Stephen Petronio Company has performed in twenty-six countries and has been commissioned by the Dance Umbrella Festival in London; Hebbel Theater in Berlin; Scène National de Sceaux, the Festival d'Automne à Paris, and CNDC Angers, all in France; and San Francisco Performances and the Walker Art Center in the US, among others. The company was recently selected by the US Department of State and the Brooklyn Academy of Music as one of three American dance companies to participate in the sixth season of DanceMotion USA.