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## World Premiere of Murphy/Smith Dance Collective’s *See What I Hear* explores hearing loss through movement

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Photo by Mark Simpson

Pittsburgh-based **Murphy/Smith Dance Collective** explores the relationship between sound and human instinct in the world premiere of ***See What I Hear*** at 8 p.m. on November 15–16 at Kelly Strayhorn Theater. Inspired by hearing impairment and loss, the movement art piece reflects on communication and hearing loss through dance, music, and other mixed media, in a style that aims to appeal to the whole family. Kelly Strayhorn Theater will present a special “pay-what-you-can” community and family matinee at 2 p.m. on November 16.

On November 13, Pittsburgh dancers and choreographers Jamie Murphy and Renee Smith will lead an exclusive workshop as part of the Alloy School Master Class Series, designed for professional and pre-professional dancers. The class is \$5 at the door and will be held 10–11:30 a.m. in the Alloy Studios at 5530 Penn Avenue.

“We first met Jamie and Renee when they danced at KST in Staycee Pearl’s *Circle POP* in 2010. Since then we’ve had the pleasure of supporting the growth and development of their own work through residencies and showings. We’re excited to share this world premiere performance,” said Janera Solomon, executive director of KST.

Smith says *See What I Hear* was inspired in part by her grandpa and “learning to communicate with him as his hearing loss increases over time.”

Tickets to *See What I Hear* are \$20 General | \$15 Residents of 15206 | \$10 Students/Artists. For tickets, visit [kelly-strayhorn.org](http://kelly-strayhorn.org) or call 412-363-3000. Kelly Strayhorn Theater is located at 5941 Penn Avenue in East Liberty. Drinks and hors d’oeuvres will precede the evening performances in the theater lobby. Doors open at 7 p.m.

Visit the [Alloy Studios Tumblr](#) to read an interview with Murphy and Smith.

### About Kelly Strayhorn Theater

As the last of nine theaters from the 1950s heyday of East Liberty, Kelly Strayhorn Theater uses the arts as a catalyst for continuing community revitalization. An intimate, professionally equipped, 349-seat multiple-use performance venue, KST is a favorite venue of emerging local artists, regional artists and arts organizations who take risks and present new work. Noted Pittsburghers Gene Kelly and Billy Strayhorn, the namesakes, are among the 80 area artists honored on the theater’s Gallery of Stars. The building, opened in 1914, is the former Regent Theatre, which served the East End as a movie house for eight decades.

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