Highways Performance Space celebrates 30 years, LGBTQ community

SANTA MONICA — Highways Performance Space — the queer venue where artists experiment with content — will not only mark the site’s 30th anniversary with its annual arts festival, but also use the event to honor the LGBTQ community for helping launch the space.

Behold!, will run from May 3 to June 30. The event will spotlight two-months of queer work from Highways’ extended group of artists, writers, and performers. Renowned theater actor Michael Kearns, venerable artist Tim Miller (a Highways’ founder and original co-artistic director), Sean Dorsey (the nation’s first transgender modern dance choreographer), and Black Lives Matter cofounder Patrisse Cullors are on the schedule.
“Our vision is to celebrate the LGBTQIA community that launched Highways in 1989,” Highways Performance Space Artistic Director Patrick Kennelly said in a statement. “Inspired by Highways’ original queer fest, Ecce Lesbo-Ecce Homo Festival, Behold! is a series of LGBTQ performance, dance, spoken word, theatre, multi-media, and ritual.”

Leo Garcia, Highways’ executive director, said that the “LGBTQIA community and its liberation movements of the ‘80s and early ‘90s is inextricably entwined with Highway’s founding and mission.

“Highways’ intention,” he said, “is to develop and present a diverse yet clear program that reflects the complexity of the community and its history while expressing a range of aesthetic techniques.”

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