



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Velocity Presents

Made in Seattle: World Premiere of Ezra Dickinson's
Mother for you I made this
www.velocitydancecenter.org/ezra-dickinson

SPEAKEASY SERIES

LIFE+ART: Living with the mentally ill
Speakeasy Conversation with Ezra Dickinson
APR 14 / 2-5PM / Velocity

MADE IN SEATTLE: EZRA DICKINSON

World Premiere Mother for you I made this
MAY 6-19 / 7PM Daily / Various Downtown Locations

"What can't he do?" — Michael Upchurch, The Seattle Times

"There are some dancers you want to watch, no matter what they're doing, and Dickinson is one." — Seattle Weekly

"Dickinson's expressionistic articulation brought to mind images of the impassioned Vaslav Nijinsky." — The Seattle Times

(Seattle) — Velocity presents the world premiere of Made in Seattle artist **Ezra Dickinson's *Mother for you I made this***. Part performance and part activism, Dickinson's new evening-length work is aimed at activating a conversation about the failed mental health care system in America through memories of Dickinson's childhood as he lived with and unknowingly cared for his schizophrenic mother. Dickinson's hour-long solo is built from a series of performances he made as gifts for his mother over a seven-year period. Audiences are guided through forgotten

public spaces by ushers and given a personal audio tour weaving conversations between Dickinson and his mother with sounds from the actual landscape.

Dickinson will share his experience creating solos as gifts for his schizophrenic mother in an open community conversation about mental health care and how it impacts our families and society at Velocity's **LIFE+ART: Living with the mentally Speakeasy Conversation** on April 14.

ABOUT EZRA DICKINSON

Ezra Dickinson began dancing at the age of four, going on to study at Pacific Northwest Ballet for twelve years on full scholarship. Ezra earned his BFA in Dance with an emphasis in choreography from Cornish College of The Arts. While at Cornish, Ezra was the recipient of The Merce Cunningham Scholarship, The Kreielshimer Scholarship, and The President's Scholarship in Dance. Ezra's work in choreography and movement installations have been on display at On the Boards' Northwest New Works Festival, ACT Theater, Moore Inside Out, Heathrow Airport, Henry Art Gallery, 911 media arts center, Velocity's Next Fest Northwest, Zocalo Mexico City, Spectrum Dance Theater, and The Northwest Film Forum as well as many others. Along with being co-artistic director of The Offshore Project and Actually Really, Ezra is also a member of The Maureen Whiting Company. Recently Ezra has been collaborating with composers to create micro-compositions for a collection of short stop-motion animations. Ezra is also currently working on a multimedia performance using motion sensor technology blending mural painting with performance. www.ezradickinson.com

SPEAKEASY CONVERSATION with Ezra Dickinson

LIFE+ART: Living with the mentally ill

APR 14 / 2-5PM

Velocity Steward Studio 1621 12th Ave

www.velocitydancecenter.org/program/speakeasy-series

Free

TICKETS for *Mother for you I made this*

MAY 6-19 / 7PM Daily

Various Downtown Locations

206.325.8773 | www.velocitydancecenter.org/events/box-office

\$18 / \$12 students + seniors

INTERVIEW // [Q&A with Ezra](#) — *The Stranger A&P*

READ // [Slow Motion](#) — *CityArts*

*The world premiere of Ezra Dickinson's Mother for you I made this is made possible through Velocity's **Made in Seattle** Program, with the generous support of 4Culture, ArtsFund, The Seattle Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs, The Paul G. Allen Family Foundation, The Boeing Company and The Stewart & Jesse Abelson Foundation.*

ABOUT VELOCITY

Seattle Mayor's Arts Award and Genius Award winning Velocity Dance Center is Seattle's forward-thinking laboratory and essential incubator for dance and emerging ideas. With artist-driven, community-centered artistic programs, Velocity is instrumental in making Seattle a destination city with one of the most active dance communities in the nation. With artist-led classes and workshops every day, performances every week, three annual dance festivals, ongoing humanities programs that activate thoughtful conversations, as well as weekly community events from social dances to family-style dinners, Velocity is a portal for those new to dance and an important community resource. Home to hundreds of independent dance artists and renowned for producing innovative, cutting-edge work, Velocity has featured performances and master classes by art stars Pat Graney, Reggie Watts, Miguel Gutierrez, Tere O'Conner, Anouk van Dijk, Deborah Hay, Faye Driscoll, 33 Fainting Spells, KT Niehoff, Zoe Scofield/Juniper Shuey, Danielle Agami and many more. Velocity is Seattle's only dedicated contemporary dance venue where groundbreaking work and disciplined practice coexist.

SEASON SPONSORS

Velocity's programs are made possible thanks to the support of The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Horizons Foundation, 4Culture, ArtsFund, The Seattle Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs, The New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and additional funding from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, WESTAF, The National Endowment for the Arts, Foundation for Contemporary Arts, The Paul G. Allen Family Foundation, The Glenn H. Kawasaki Foundation, The Boeing Company, Pruzan Foundation, The Stewart & Jesse Abelson Foundation, Pacific Continental Bank, Microsoft, and the generous support of individual donors.



**The Stuart & Jesse
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