



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Leah Vendl
Communications Coordinator
For images / information
T 206.351.3238
E leah@velocitydancecenter.org

Velocity Presents
SCUBA 2013
The SCUBA National Touring Network for Dance
www.velocitydancecenter.org/scuba

Philadelphia Performances March 22-23
Seattle Performances // April 26-28, 2013
Velocity Founders Theater 1621 12th Ave // Seattle, WA 98122

Tickets for SCUBA
206.325.8773 | velocitydancecenter.org/box-office

“A kind of Whitney Biennial of dance, this mobile showcase taps the country’s best emerging talent . . . and sends them on the road.” — *Minnesota Monthly*

- + *World premiere* **MAUREEN WHITING DANCE COMPANY (Seattle)**
- + **GREEN CHAIR DANCE GROUP (Philadelphia)**
- + **SHANNON STEWART (Seattle)**

(Seattle) — Velocity’s **SCUBA 2013** features performances by three nationally emerging talents in contemporary dance: Seattle’s own **Shannon Stewart** is joined by Philadelphia’s “laugh-out-loud funny and completely engaging” **Green Chair Dance Group**. New in 2013, SCUBA is also commissioning a world premiere by Seattle favorite the “riveting, mysterious and startling” **Maureen Whiting Dance Company**, with a 20-foot tree, a cast of 14 and original music by Seattle composers Bukake, Dave Abramson, and Eyvind Kang.

Velocity initiated SCUBA in 2002 to create a national platform providing precious touring opportunities to contemporary dance artists. SCUBA gives audiences a fantastic view of the breadth of choreographic invention across the country, while every year sending a Seattle artist on their first national tour.

“Shannon Stewart’s choreography is filled with brave, unusual contrasts and is by turns athletic, detail oriented and tranquil.” — *SeattleDances*

SCUBA 2013 COMMUNITY EVENTS //

OPEN REHEARSAL

April 11 / 1-2PM

Free

Velocity Founders Theater 1621 12th Ave

An interactive opportunity with SCUBA artist Maureen Whiting where she will show her work in process and share some of her ideas, followed by a facilitated feedback session. Join us for a unique sneak peek two weeks before the world premiere of *About That Tree* and participate in the final stages of development of the new work.

MASTER CLASS

"READY. FIRE. AIM."

Contemporary Dance Practice with Shannon Stewart

April 26 / 9:30-11:15AM

\$15 drop-in

Velocity 1621 12th Ave

This class fully warms the body and gets the creative juices flowing using improvisation and set material from Stewart's SCUBA piece: *An Inner Place That Has No Place* to access technique, freedom, and creativity. Open to the community.

POST-SHOW CONVERSATION

April 27 / Directly following Saturday's SCUBA performance

Free

Velocity Founders Theater 1621 12th Ave

Join Maureen Whiting, Shannon Stewart and Green Chair Dance Group for a conversation about their work and process with Executive/Artistic Director Tonya Lockyer.

HAPPY HOUR SPEAKEASY CONVERSATION

Next Wave?

April 28 / 5:30PM

Free

Boom Noodle 1121 E Pike St

What are the new directions in dance (aesthetic, political, digital. . .) that we see happening in Seattle and the rest of the country? Join the conversation then head over to the closing night of SCUBA.

SCUBA PERFORMANCES

April 26-28 / 8PM

\$18 / \$15 [MVP](#) / \$12 students + seniors

Velocity Founders Theater 1621 12th Ave

A weekend of critically acclaimed performances by three nationally emerging talents in contemporary dance including a world premiere by **Maureen Whiting**, Seattle's own **Shannon Stewart** and Philadelphia's celebrated **Green Chair Dance Group**.

[Tickets](#) for SCUBA

APR 26-28, 2013 / 8PM

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SCUBA is a visionary Velocity program in partnership with ODC in San Francisco, Philadelphia Dance Projects and independent Minneapolis curator, Laurie Van Wieren that has helped propel onto the national stage SCUBA alumni zoe|juniper, Lingo and Salt Horse.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Maureen Whiting (Seattle)

About That Tree (world premiere)

About That Tree features original music by Seattle composers Bukake, Dave Abramson, and Eyvind Kang and costume and visual design by Danii Blackwell and Jean Hicks, who worked with Maureen and Ezra on “belly” for On the Boards’ Northwest New Works in June 2012. *About That Tree* centers around a cast of 14 and a fallen 20-foot Sequoia obstructing the stage space.

Since 1997, Maureen Whiting has created new choreographic works at On the Boards, ACT Theatre, Seattle University, Annex Theatre with commissions from Seattle Dance Project, Cornish, and Velocity. She created film and video projects shown at Lincoln Center Library in New York (Dance on Camera), Seattle’s Northwest Film Forum, Velocity’s NextFest NW, and released on Seattle Women in Film in 2008. Maureen grew up a ballet dancer and graduated with a degree in Mathematics in 1989 from Smith College and she currently teaches mathematics. She has danced for Stephanie Skura and Amii LeGenre. Maureen actively pursues collaborations with visual artists, composers, with her company.

maureenwhitingco.org

“Whiting takes pleasure in thwarting our expectations: shifting from full throttle, kinetic dancing to more quirky physical examinations.” — *Seattle Weekly*

Green Chair Dance Group (Philadelphia)

Tandem Biking and Other Dangerous Pastimes for Two

In *Tandem Biking and Other Dangerous Pastimes for Two* performers open themselves to questions of commitment, tensions of intimacy, and the joys of moving together. They wrestle, share secrets, tick each other off, and build monuments. The performers invent moving and hilarious stories that drift back and forth between movement and words.

Green Chair’s expansive view of human/body and relationships is theoretical, funny, accessible, and constantly changing. With a mix of intellect and exuberance, the trio of dancer/director/choreographers Sarah Gladwin-Camp, Gregory Holt and Hannah DeKeijzer create accessible dance/theater works that draw from diverse backgrounds in improvisation, linguistics, math, and a wide swath of movement techniques.

greenchairdancegroup.com

“Green Chair Dance Group showed a charming ability to connect with its viewers and make us feel like we were part of the show: that they were there for us, just like they are there for each other.” — *thINKing Dance*

Shannon Stewart (Seattle)

An Inner Place That Has No Place

An Inner Place That Has No Place is part of a suite of dance and film works exploring memory and memory loss - personal, material, and societal. Created by choreographer/dancer Shannon Stewart in collaboration with filmmaker Adam Sekuler, composer Jeff Huston, and performers Meredith Horiuchi, Mary Margaret Moore, Aaron Swartzman, Rosa Vissers, and David Wolbrecht, the work fulfills the physicality of space distilled into distinct dance units.

Shannon Stewart has danced with companies tEEth & Salt Horse and is a 2012 and 2013 Velocity Creative Resident. Shannon is a 2012 participant of Deborah Hay's Solo Performance Commissioning Project and is developing a body of work entitled *DAVID AND DEBORAH* through her Velocity residency, the support of Seattle Art Museum and 82 individual patrons. For her last suite of work she was awarded Individual Artist Funding from 4Culture and two years of residencies from Seattle Storefronts, Open Flight (Seattle), the Shannon received degrees in Urban Planning and Dance from the University of Washington and teaches technique, improvisation, GYROKINESIS®, and is a teaching artist with the Mark Morris Dance for Parkinson's program.

feetlikebirds.blogspot.com

“...dancers beautifully balance their way through a complicated scheme of light, sound and video of themselves that is rich and disorienting.” — *Seattle Times*

ABOUT SCUBA

SCUBA National Touring Network for Dance is a co-operative enterprise founded by Velocity Dance Center, in conjunction with ODC Theater in San Francisco, The Southern Theater in Minneapolis, and Philadelphia Dance Projects. From the beginning, SCUBA has met the ambitious goal of touring regionally established, nationally emerging artists to and from the participating cities. SCUBA strives to present these artists/tours through co-operative presenting and grassroots mobilization without sacrificing the highest standard of professionalism.

SCUBA 2013 is made possible by the generous support of 4Culture, ArtsFund, The Seattle Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs and Media Sponsor The Stranger.

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.



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