velocity
DANCE CENTER

Velocity Presents Kim Lusk's *A Dance for Dark Horses*
World Premiere of First Evening-Length Work from Fast-Rising Seattle Choreographer
March 8–11 / 7:30PM / Velocity

SEATTLE—Velocity presents the world premiere of Seattle choreographer Kim Lusk's first evening-length work, *A Dance for Dark Horses* from March 8 to 11. *A Dance for Dark Horses* is packed with Lusk's signature "gut-busting parody," dry humor, and physical virtuosity. With an original score inspired by 90s pop beats, Lusk promises to tell stories about failure, success, and the power of group magic.

Kim has been working with Velocity for several years and is a 2018 Made in Seattle artist. *A Dance for Dark Horses* is produced through Velocity's Made in Seattle program—designed to boost choreographers onto the national stage and providing multi-dimensional direct support to artists over a period of a year or more. Artists meet regularly with Velocity's Artistic + Executive Director Tonya Lockyer to focus on career strategy and their larger artistic goals. Begun in 2012, Made in Seattle has produced several world premieres including Kate Wallich's *Industrial Ballet*; Cherdonna's *Worth My Salt*; KT Niehoff's *Before We Flew Like Birds, We Flew Like Clouds*; Alice Gosti's *How to become a partisan*; and more. In 2015, when *Dance Magazine* named the international "25 Dance Artists to Watch," three of them were Made in Seattle alumni.

Kim calls the work "a dance for everyone" that "combines the things we all love to watch: humor, physicality, rhythmic music, and a story about a group of underdogs." Her work often leaves audience feeling "enlivened and electric," and *A Dance for Dark Horses* promises that once more.

> **"Lusk is in a sweet spot as a choreographer . . . developing a movement vocabulary that literally vibrates at the intersection of classicism and pop action, like a slam-dancing sarabande."**—Sandra Kurtz, *Seattle Weekly*

Her collaborators for *A Dance for Dark Horses* include dancers Shane Donohue, Erin McCarthy, and Alexander Pham; composer Ryan Hume; and costume designers Jeffery + Juliana Shirbourn / Jolie Joli; and lighting designer Amiya Brown.

Performance Dates + Times:
> Thursday, March 8, 2018; 7:30PM
> Friday, March 9, 2018; 7:30PM
> Saturday, March 10, 2018; 7:30PM
> Sunday, March 11, 2018; 7:30PM

Location: Velocity; 1621 12th Ave, Seattle
Tickets: $20 advance ($25 at the door); $17 MVP members; $15 under 25 (w/ ID); $50 Patron

velocitydancecenter.org Event Page
Facebook Event Page

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ARTIST BIOS

Kim Lusk is descended from a hearty line of cowboys, homesteaders, and mountaineers, and is the choreographic assistant/performer for zoe|juniper. Since her choreographic debut commissioned by Velocity's Next Fest NW, she's gone on to be presented by Seattle International Dance Festival, On the Board's NorthwestNW, Vashon Center for the Arts, and Velocity's Bumbershoot Showcase. kimlusk.com

Amiya Brown (Lighting Designer) is a Seattle-based lighting designer and visual artist specializing in generative performance. Her work has been presented in NYC at The Baryshnikov Performing Arts Center and The Joyce SOHO; in Seattle at On the Boards and The Moore; and elsewhere across the globe including The Kasser Theatre (Montclair, NJ), REDCAT (LA), ODC (SF), The Guthrie Theatre (Minneapolis), The Kohler Arts Center (Sheboygan, WI), Maui Center for the Arts, Miami Light Project (Miami), The Della Nuova Danza Roma (Rome, Italy), and Theatre Le Quai (Angers, France) and many others. She received a Gypsy Rose Lee Award in 2012 for her work on *The Skriker* (Janet Findley Production) and recently designed lights for Pat Graney's Bessie award winning production *Girl Gods*. Long-standing collaborators include Pat Graney, Amy O'Neal, zoe|juniper, Alice Gosti, Kyle Loven, Kate Wallich, and KT Niehoff. She holds a Masters Degree in Theatrical Lighting Design from the University of Washington. amiyabrowndesign.com

Shane Donohue (Dancer) currently works with Zoe Scofield, Elby Brosch, Alyssa Casey, Kate Wallich (YC2), and Kim Lusk. Shane is originally from Madison, Wisconsin, and graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point with a BA in Dance.

Ryan Hume / Xssory (Sound Designer) is a daytime industrial designer and nocturnal music producer/media artist out of Seattle. Shuffling between the far limits of club music, cinematic sound design and pop structure, his sound refuses to stay in one place for long. Armed with technology, Ryan seeks to destroy your previous relationship with music, and replace it with an uneasy but enjoyable sense of freshness. Raw minimalism and confusion are core ingredients in Ryan's work, cut with a measure of familiarity to make it palatable. soundcloud.com/xssory

Jolie Joli (Costume Designer) is a luxe custom clothing business that handcrafts any garment for all silhouettes from sketch to final piece. The company was founded by siblings Jeffrey and Juliana, who have a deep commitment to craftsmanship, sustainability, and fashion and grew up on Bainbridge Island where they studied classical dance. The pair carefully consults with clients on styles, cuts, colors, likes/dislikes *et cetera*, to cultivate a personal understanding of one's wants and fashion dreams. joliejolidesign.com

Erin McCarthy (Dancer) has performed in works by artists such as Ohad Naharin (re-staged by Danielle Agami), Colin Connor, Daniel Charon, and Zoe Scofield. She currently works at Velocity Dance Center as their Audience Services Coordinator and dances for numerous independent choreographers in Seattle. Erin received her formative training from the School of Oregon Ballet Theatre and holds a BFA in Dance from California Institute of the Arts.

Alexander Pham (Dancer) began his professional career dancing for Contempo Physical Dance in Minneapolis and has collaborated and performed with Kim Lusk, zoe|juniper, Anna Conner +CO, and Dylan Ward / Sleep Nod. Alexander is a company artist with Spectrum Dance Theater under the artistic direction of Donald Byrd. He has also had the privilege of performing works by artists such as Roy Assaf, Gregory Dolbashian, Martha Graham, Bill T. Jones, Larry Keigwin, Stephen Petronio, Uri Sands, Zoe Scofield, and Yin Yue, among others. Alexander is originally from Rosemount, MN, received his BFA in dance from the University of Minnesota.

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ABOUT VELOCITY

Velocity is Seattle's forward-thinking laboratory and essential incubator for dance and emerging ideas. Velocity fosters new works, critical conversations, artists, community, and teachers. A national nexus for dance, Velocity is recognized as a leader in a new dance development in the US. With artist-driven, community-centered artistic and education 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 daily, performances weekly, three annual dance festivals, and ongoing humanities programs that activate thoughtful conversations, Velocity is a portal for those new to dance and an important community resources. Home to hundreds of independent dance artists and renowned for

producing innovative, cutting-edge work, Velocity has featured performers and master classes by art stars Tere O'Connor, Pat Graney, Reggie Watts, Miguel Gutierrez, Anouk van Dijk, Deborah Hay, Faye Driscoll, 33 Fainting Spells, KT Niehoff, Zoe Scofield/Juniper Shuey, Danielle Agami, Monica Bill Barnes & Co, and many more. Velocity is Seattle's only dedicated contemporary dance venue where groundbreaking work and disciplined practice coexist.

Velocity advances contemporary dance and movement-based art by fostering the creative explorations or artists and audiences through an invested commitment to education, creation, performance, inquiry, community participation, and inter/national exchange.

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LINKS

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