



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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VELOCITY PRESENTS
4 EMERGING ARTISTS CREATE 4 NEW WORKS IN
THE PRESSURE COOKER OF JUST 4 WEEKS
velocitydancecenter.org

THE BRIDGE PROJECT 2014
JAN 31 – FEB 2 / 8PM

Velocity Founders Theater 1621 12th Ave on Capitol Hill

TICKETS \$18 / \$20 at the door / \$12 students+ senior / \$15 MVP

“The Bridge Project is one of Velocity Dance Center’s great gifts to the city —
you want to find the next important dancer or choreographer (or musician or
designer or filmmaker) in this town? That person might be here.”

— *The Stranger*

(Seattle) — 4 of Seattle’s most promising choreographers create 4 new works in the pressure cooker of just 4 weeks at Velocity’s Bridge Project — turning Velocity into an intense hive of urgency, excitement and dedication. This year’s performance features exciting new work by emerging Seattle artists **Shannon Stewart, Babette McGeady [the Pendleton House], Anna Conner** and **Colleen McNeary**.

Shannon Stewart brings her Velocity BIG BANG! mosh pit to the stage with a cast of 17, Babette McGeady combines her exquisite choreography with the Pendleton House collaborators’ live sculpture and sound, Anna Conner explores herd mentality with tight-knit unity fused with “impressive sensitivity” and new original music, and Colleen McNeary debuts a stunning solo work.

The Bridge Project Creative Residency showcases Velocity’s fierce commitment to supporting new generations of dance artists. Each choreographer receives the creative, financial and administrative support they need to develop their work before it reaches the stage. They also receive the creative support of a cast of dancers and the choreographic mentorship of Velocity 2013 Artist-in-Residence Dayna Hanson.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Shannon Stewart is a Seattle-based contemporary dance artist and choreographer who has taught and performed inter/nationally. In 2012-13 Shannon had the pleasure of working with Crystal Pite and Deborah Hay and going on her first National tour through Velocity's SCUBA program. She was awarded Individual Artist Funding from 4Culture and two years of residencies from Seattle Storefronts and Open Flight (Seattle). Shannon received degrees in Urban Planning and Dance from the University of Washington and teaches technique, improvisation, GYROKINESIS®, and is a teaching artist at Velocity and with the Mark Morris Dance for Parkinson's program. She primarily collaborates with filmmaker Adam Sekuler. feetlikebirds.blogspot.com

"[Stewart's] dancers beautifully balance their way through a complicated scheme of light, sound and video of themselves that is rich and disorienting."
— *Seattle Times*

Babette Pendleton McGeady, curator, choreographer, entrepreneur, founder and executive director for the Pendleton House, began her training at the acclaimed Baltimore School for the Arts and Nutmeg Conservatory for Ballet. She trained with Alonzo King Lines Ballet/BFA program before graduating with a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Cornish College of the Arts. She currently works in collaboration with artists in the Pendleton House, combining multiple art forms to create post-disciplinary work that pushes the dynamics and depth of traditional aesthetics. thependletonhouse.tumblr.com

Anna Conner studied at the American Dance Festival under full scholarship and at Dance New Amsterdam, NY and has received residencies at Germany's Ponderosa Dance and at Velocity. Anna is a recipient of a 2013 SmART Ventures Grant from the Seattle Office of Arts & Culture and a 2013 Art projects 4Culture grant for her work *Luna*. She is a graduate of Cornish College of the Arts with a Bachelors of Fine Art in Dance. annaconnerandco.wordpress.com

"[Conner's movements are] simple, but punishingly difficult . . . whether slow and intense, or wildly frenetic, the dancers' unity speaks not only to many hours in the rehearsal studio, but also impressive sensitivity and community feeling on the part of each individual." — *SeattleDances*

Colleen McNeary is a Northwest artist working in Seattle, WA. Her work is grounded in dance and movement but includes and is inspired by theater, music and the visual arts. Currently she is working as a solo artist, as well as collaborating with the Pendleton House, a multidisciplinary artist group in Seattle, of which she is a founding member. She holds a BFA in dance from Cornish College of the Arts. colleenmcneary.com

TICKETS for The Bridge Project

206.325.8773 | velocitydancecenter.org

FRI – SUN | JAN 31- FEB 2 | Velocity Founders Theater 1621 12th Ave

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The Bridge Project is made possible by the generous support of Horizons Foundation, 4Culture, ArtsFund, The Paul G. Allen Family Foundation, The Office of Arts & Culture, The Seattle Foundation, Pacific Continental Bank, The Pruzan Foundation, Microsoft and the Morris Clitherow Family Fund.

ABOUT VELOCITY

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. It is recognized as a leader in new dance development in the US. 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 Horizons Foundation, 4Culture, ArtsFund, The Office of Arts & Culture, The Paul G. Allen Family Foundation, The Boeing Company, The Pruzan Foundation, Morris Clitherow Family Fund, Pacific Continental Bank, Microsoft, and the generous support of individual donors.



The Morris Clitherow Family Fund

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