

Artistic Director Kevin Finnan's thoughts on Motionhouse's 18th production *Scattered*

Unlike before, the recently completed sabbatical period truly gave me time to think about our next project *Scattered*, especially in relation to our previous shows and what I liked and what I didn't, what was successful and what not.

Scattered started as a series of (literally!) scattered ideas, but eventually I ended up thinking about it with a more thematic approach linking to our experiences, similar observation of the life around us, as with the concept of time in *Perfect*.

During my thinking an enduring image of an ice field kept re-appearing in my thoughts. When discussing the visual ideas and the role and function of film in the production an idea emerged: making a film about ice, snow and water. I started thinking how the same thematic approach that was used in *Perfect* could work with *Scattered* and water, as the mother element for ice, snow etc., became the theme for the new piece.

The notions of body, body of water and body in water became really interesting to me; a kind of observation of our relationship with water and how different modes of water work in our lives and how water affects us.

And we truly live in a world of water – the earth is not called the blue planet for nothing! We cannot live without it; it is fundamental to our existence and we are born of fluid. Yet we only notice it when we have too much or too little of it. Water sustains our bodies in terms of life and also without being made of water our bodies would be crushed by gravity.

I think that *Scattered* and its subject matter will be elemental in our future and I find it a fascinating subject to work on and to look at it from different angles. In this project we will continue to work with highly physical and visually strong expression, developing the aerial work, though there will also an element of surprise involved for those who might think they know our work so well already!