

Motionhouse

# SCATTERED

A METEOR SHOWER OF UNLIKELY MOMENTS

**Motionhouse's new middle-scale production *Scattered* is touring from Autumn 2009 and throughout 2010.**

*Scattered explores the amazing in the everyday in a meteor shower of unlikely moments.*

*Scattered* combines Motionhouse's trademark **highly physical dance theatre** and mesmerizing **imagery** in a unique **interaction between film and live performance**, created in collaboration with **Logela Multimedia** from the Basque region of Spain.

*Scattered* explores **our relationship with water** and how it surrounds us in different forms throughout our lives: in birth water ties us to life and on a more elemental scale, in ice, floods and tides, it can sweep our lives away. *Scattered* delves into the majesty and savagery of water, a fundamental force in our lives as **seven dancers** plunge into an ocean, tumble down a waterfall, gasp with thirst under a scorching sun and slide on an avalanche to a frozen landscape of arctic beauty.

With *Scattered* Motionhouse is again exploring new artistic dimensions. **Performed on a huge curved floor which disappears skywards**, *Scattered* uses projection technology, daring dancing plus aerial harnesses and bungees to create an extraordinary world in which the **dancers move seamlessly in, on and through the image**.

*Scattered. Moments frozen in ice.*

*Scattered* will be performed by seven dancers on and within an extraordinary set designed by long term collaborator Simon Dormon, with an original music score by Sophy Smith.

*Scattered* is commissioned by Warwick Arts Centre and created with support from Playbox Theatre. *Scattered* premiered at Warwick Arts Centre 2 October 2009.

*Scattered* requires a full day before Get in. Whilst much of our touring is one night per venue, we are keen to work where possible with our partner venues on programming longer performance runs.

**"The only Company in our spring season to repeat the success of their previous visit was Motionhouse. Their work is exciting, accessible and appealing."**

**David Fry, Head of Theatres Programming, The Lowry**

**"Choreography, visuals, music and narrative come together in a seamless balance to create something terrific!"**

**Alan Rivett, Director, Warwick Arts Centre**

**"How wonderful and well received *Scattered* was. It is a fabulous piece, very inventive, creative and beautifully executed. The audience loved it and your post show talk was attended by around 150 people, a testament to how entertained the patrons were by the production. Well done all concerned.**

**Phil Harrison, Programme Manager, The Grand Theatre Blackpool**

**"*Scattered* was amazing! I'll be honest I am not the biggest contemporary dance fan – but this show has well and truly converted me! The set, choreography, dancers, theme – all fantastic! The audience reaction was brilliant and they were all inspired! I was observing audience reactions during the show and all their eyes were transfixed on the dancers in awe. So, in all, a great show!"**

**Press and Marketing Officer, Lawrence Batley Theatre**

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## Technical information - please see drawings for reference

The set for *Scattered* is a large modular floor to back wall curve (like a giant skate board ramp), maximum fixed height of 3.9m. Action will take place at a height of up to 5m - see drawings.

This production is in development but the guidelines for being able to stage this in your venue are:  
Minimum size of clear stage **10m wide \* 9m Deep** (this will allow for lighting booms and room upstage of set for backcloth and working area upstage).

Minimum clear height of **6.5m**

***If your stage dimensions are smaller than this please contact our Production Manager with details of your stage size, grid height etc to hand – we may be able to work around the issues.***

We will hang 3 points from the grid approximately above the highest point of our set structure (7m to 8m upstage of the DS setting line) – one at centre, one stage left 2m from centre and one stage right 2m from centre (to be confirmed). ***Weight loading to be decided however each point will have at least one cast member on a bungee cord, silk or fixed line.***

We will hang a projector that will require power/AV signal/DMX feed for shutter centre of your number 1 LX bar onstage or the first available bar onstage of the proscenium – preferably at a height of 6m to 7m.

The back wall (skateboard ramp) is a solid structure and action takes place at a height of up to 5m therefore please check any sightline issues that your venue may have. ***If your venue has a circle/upper circle etc this may have an impact on the sight-lines – also may affect seats in the stalls that are not flat on to the stage.***

We need to do the Get in usually from 9am the day before the first performance; this may vary depending on our tour schedule. Get out will take place immediately after final performance and will take a maximum of 2 hours. We require 4 House crew on the get in day. Two crew 1 LX and 1 stage will be required for performance days, and four required again for de-rig/load out.

Possible load in issues: there are eight large fibreglass structures approx 200mm deep and 1000mm high \* 4000mm long. Also a number of sections of truss up to 4m long. Please check that your load in area and access route to the stage are large enough to accommodate this.

Sound: we will tour a DVcam player running both sound and AV situated in the stage left wing – this will require a feed (stereo sound, left and right) into the house system and a send for two monitors situated DS left and right. The house system must be good quality full range.

Lighting: we will tour a Congo Junior lighting desk – if your dimmers don't accept DMX please inform us asap. It is likely that all lanterns will be in-house.

Film: the projected film contains stroboscopic type flashing images.

All queries and concerns contact Pete Herbert, Production Manager

**[phps@mac.com](mailto:phps@mac.com)**  
**07872 378115**

September 2009



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## Participatory options and Residency packages

As with all our productions, *Scattered* is available as the centrepiece of a residency in your area. Committed to delivering exceptional participatory activity to accompany our performance work, we can tailor-make residencies to suit your needs.

Residencies may include one-off workshops, creative projects leading to performance by 'core' groups, professional development and teacher training, skills development, open company class and post show talks.

We can work with a wide range of ages and abilities and deliver workshops in contact improvisation and partnering skills, street dance, contemporary dance, dance for children, boys' dance, repertory work or theme based workshops. All our workshops emphasise creativity.

With our work appearing on the GCSE Dance syllabus from 2009 (*Perfect*), we can also offer curriculum specific workshops and create opportunities for students to have in depth access to our methodology and approach.

*Scattered* residencies may also include performances of our non-theatre pieces *Chaser* or *Underground* – created to be performed in the public arena these dance works may be used as a valuable addition to a longer residency in your area or as an effective audience development tool.

**"My objective in inviting Motionhouse into school was to make dance cool and to generate more interest from boys wanting to join the Boys dance company. Both of these were more than fulfilled. -- I think the 15min upbeat in your face performance is a great way to raise the profile of dance and reach an audience that would otherwise be lost."**

**Jane Turner, Teacher at Windsor Boys' School on Chaser and workshop**

**"I LOVED every minute of it. It's given me such confidence in dance and has made we want to dance all day every day!"**

**GCSE student on PerfectED workshop**

**"Motionhouse is a pleasure to work with, popular with audiences, highly effective and committed to genuine audience development."**

**Dorothy Wilson, Director, mac Birmingham**

## Workshop Guidelines

Our dancers usually operate in teams of 2. Each team can teach up to 2 sessions (2 x 2.5 hours per session) per day. This could be morning/afternoon or afternoon/twilight for example. Travel time will need to be factored in at the start and end of the workshop days.

When planning schedules, please bear in mind that we have only one company vehicle and that this must be factored in unless you are able to help out with transport.

We require a large, clean, warm space with a wooden floor (such as a school hall or gym).

The dancers will require time to warm up before the workshop starts.

Drinking water should be available for all participants if required.

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If a wooden floor is not available then please contact us to discuss your space.

Workshops are ideally for groups of no more than 20 but we can be flexible depending on the age/ability of the group, and whether there are other dance teachers available to support.

We often have a range of teaching experience within our dancer team and therefore ensure that less experienced dancers shadow the more practiced teachers. This will affect our ability to respond to some requests although we endeavour to meet the needs of our partners.

## Marketing and Audience Development

We are committed to audience development and this runs through the core of our programme embodied in our productions themselves, our style of dance, our residency packages and the comprehensive marketing support we offer to all our venues.

Our marketing support is delivered where possible through face-to-face meetings. Our marketing packs are indispensable guides to support you in your own campaigns and our print is highly visual and eye-catching.

**"Absolutely top-notch marketing pack - really useful stuff and a dream to use!"**

**Fjola Stenning, Marketing Manager, The Wycombe Swan**

**"It is incredibly refreshing to work with a Dance Company who do more than talk in incomprehensible flowery language."**

**Madelaine Smith, Marketing and Development Manager, Theatre Royal Winchester**

## Further information & contacts

**Louise Richards, Executive Director**

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**Kevin Finnan, Artistic Director**

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**Pete Herbert, Production Manager**

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**[www.motionhouse.co.uk](http://www.motionhouse.co.uk)**

***"The 70 minutes simply flew past, and I could have sat through it again immediately. With Scattered, Finnan and his talented dancers have taken the company to a new level."***

**Dancing Times, October 2009**

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