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October 17, 2007

“DANCEMAKERS HAS A NEW LEASE ON LIFE UNDER MICHAEL TRENT’S DIRECTION...”

CBC Radio

things in between builds on Dancemakers’ 3Cs - contemporary, collaboration, cross-disciplinary

TORONTO, ON... Under the guidance of Artistic Director **Michael Trent**, Dancemakers presents The Home Season and the visually provocative *things in between* (title is all lower case). *things in between* also introduces a new ensemble of dancers including **Clinton Draper**, **Kate Holden** and **Benjamin Kamino** who have been invited to join current ensemble members **Steeve Paquet** and **Kate Hilliard** to form the new Dancemakers company.

things in between offers audiences a first glimpse of the new Dancemakers ensemble in the company’s Centre for Creation at the historic Distillery District. This re-creation and re-envisioning of Trent’s *things in between* (2004) turns space and the audience’s viewpoint sideways and face-to-face, using real-time and mediated video on two moveable screens. The collaborative team for *things in between* brings new eyes, ideas and responses to the project and include video artist **Jeremy Mimmagh**, lighting designer **Andy Moro** and costume consultant **Jorge Sandoval**. Returning to the team is composer **Robert Poizner**, who re-enters the process after three years to push and pull his original score in exciting new ways.

things in between is the second work that Trent brings into the company’s repertoire since his appointment as Artistic Director in 2006. In response to his evolving aesthetic point of view and his desire to make potent work that is created, in the true spirit of collaboration, with the dancers who will perform it, Trent is building an entirely new dance that reflects the original intent of the work but looks at it through a differently focused lens alongside the Company’s current crop of exceptional interpreters.

Trent has created an environment that blurs the lines between traditional notions of theatrical private and public space. No longer relegated exclusively to the darkened auditorium, the audience is invited to share a space that builds intimacy with the performers who explore all of the potential spaces, from the macro to the micro, that exist between them. In a world in which geographic, political and cultural boundaries are in a constant state of dissolution, *things in between* reminds us that human connection remains the most powerful site for meaningful communication.

2007/2008 marks the first Dancemakers season programmed entirely from the artistic inspiration of Michael Trent. “The philosophical filter I apply to every aspect of our activities is an extension of my

creative process," says Trent. "Captured in what I call the 3Cs, this curatorial point-of-view embraces work that is **contemporary** in its aesthetics, **cross-disciplinary** in its approach and **collaborative** in its process."

**High resolution photography for *things in between* and photos of dancers
is available for download at:**

<http://www.dancemakers.org/aboutPress.html>

Details

DATES: November 14-17 & 20-24, 2007 at 8 p.m., November 18 & 25, 2007 at 4 p.m.

MEDIA/VIP OPENING: November 14, 2007 at 8:00 p.m.

TICKETS: Call or Click 416.367.1800 or info@dancemakers.org; www.dancemakers.org
A limited number of tickets for students with valid ID will be made available through **hipTIX** throughout the season. Visit www.totix.ca for updates. Save from 20% to 10% with Subscription Packages ranging from \$48 to \$95.

LOCATION: Dancemakers' Centre for Creation, The Distillery District, 55 Mill Street, The Cannery, Bldg. 58, Studio 313.

Artistic Bios

**Michael Trent
Artistic Director**

Toronto-based dance artist Michael Trent was appointed Artistic Director and Resident Choreographer of Dancemakers and the Centre for Creation in August 2006. Trent has garnered national recognition as a choreographer, dancer and teacher in a career spanning over twenty years. He is the co-recipient of the 2004 K.M. Hunter Award in dance, presented to Ontario-based artists who are making an impact in their field. Trent was nominated for a 2006 Dora Award for best performance in Louise Bédard's *Ce qu'il en reste*.

In 2000, Trent founded the empty collective, a crucible for the creation and presentation of collaborative projects that involve two or more media. The collective's 2001 inaugural project, *The Memory Show*, brought together works by Trent, Sarah Chase and Laurence Lemieux. It subsequently toured to the National Arts Centre (Ottawa) and *Dancing on the Edge Festival* (Vancouver) with a repeat Toronto performance at Spring Rites. The collective's second project, *invisible borders*, premiered at the Harbourfront Centre Theatre, Toronto, in November 2004 with work by Trent and guest artists Louise Bédard and Doug Varone. *invisible borders* was co-presented by DanceWorks and co-produced by the Dancemakers Centre for Creation in association with Le Groupe Dance Lab.

Outside the collective, Trent has created over 30 works. His choreographic explorations began with a commission from the Judith Marcuse Dance Company in 1988. His repertoire ranges from solos to large group works and has been created in a wide range of contexts: companies and independent artists, senior dance students from most of Canada's professional training institutions and one for a group of hearing impaired youth on behalf of the National Ballet of Canada's *Dance in the Schools* project. His solo *Acts of Light* received the Paula Citron Award for best new work at fFIDA 1997. For the 2004-2005 season, he was the Artist-in-residence at Canadian Children's Dance Theatre. On three occasions, Trent's work has been supported and guided through the brilliant eye of monitor Peter Boneham, Artistic Director of Ottawa's Le Groupe Dance Lab. In September 2006, he premiered a new full-length work, *Mappa Mundi*, on emerging Halifax dance company Mocean. Trent's repertoire for Dancemakers to date includes remounts of *Random Access* (2001) and *Acts of Light* (1997), and new works *Dark, Quiet & Cool* (2006) and *Constructing Doubt* (2007). New York choreographer Doug Varone's *The Thing of the World* (2004), originally created for Varone and Trent, was added to the season's program.

Clinton Draper

Interpreter

Clinton began his dance training in Victoria, B.C in 1999. He continued his training in Toronto and graduated from Ryerson University's Dance program in 2005. While at School he had the pleasure of working with D.A Hoskins, Bill James, Justine Chambers and Andrea Nann. Since graduating he has had the opportunity to be a company member of Tilt Sound+Motion for two years and a guest artist with Danny Grossman Dance Company, Dance Theatre David Earle and Menaka Thakkar Dance. He has also performed works by Sasha Ivanochko, Darryl Tracy, Meghan MacNeil, Marie-Julie Asseline, Rob Abubo and Meaghan O'Shea.

Clinton teaches dance to beginners through to pre-professionals and has taught extensively throughout Ontario and British Columbia. He also teaches pilates in downtown Toronto. This is Clinton's first season with Dancemakers and he is excited to be part of such a great group of people!

Kate Hilliard

Interpreter

Kate Hilliard completed eight years of classical ballet training at the Quinte Ballet School in Belleville, Ontario and later joined the Professional Training Programme in Modern Dance at The School of Dance in Ottawa. She trained with Peter Boneham at Le Groupe Dance Lab and performed with the company during Shauna Elton's 2003 residency. Kate was one of six emerging artists to work with Paul-André Fortier in his creation *Risque*, which toured across Canada and to France. She performed in Sylvie Desrosiers's premiere of *Flots*, at the 2006 Canada Dance Festival in Ottawa. Kate has been a long time member of the Grasshoppa Dance Exchange, and is a full time company member of Dancemakers in Toronto under the directorship of Michael Trent.

In addition to her strong love of performance, Kate has enjoyed teaching the Ontario Provincial Arts Curriculum to children of all grades. She has also worked closely with professional students choreographing and directing rehearsals. Kate has performed her self-choreographed work

Kate Holden

Interpreter

Born and raised in Toronto, Kate Holden is a graduate of the School of Toronto Dance Theatre and Etobicoke School of the Arts. Concurrent with her professional training, she performed frequently with PBJ Dance and Gabby Kamino. A member of the Danny Grossman Dance Company from 2001-2003, Kate has recently been splitting her time between Montreal and Toronto; interpreting the works of many esteemed Canadian choreographers, including Peggy Baker, Robert Desrosiers, David Earle, Sylvain Emard, Sasha Ivanochko, James Kudelka, Michael Trent, Andrea Nann and Yvonne Ng. In 2005 she was the winner of *Le Grand Prix de l'Excellence* and *Le Coup de Coeur*, at the Mondor Challenge, in Trois Rivieres Quebec for her interpretation of Roberto Campanella's *Flotsam and Jetsam*. Kate has been a board member of the Canadian Alliance of Dance Artists since 2004.

Kate is co-Artistic Director of *firstthingsfirst productions* with Kate Franklin, The company made its successful debut in January of 2007 with its sold out run of *Namesake*; featuring choreography by Kate Alton, D.A. Hoskins, Laurence Lemieux, Claudia Moore and Matjash Mrozewski. Kate is thrilled to be joining the Dancemakers team.

Benjamin Kamino

Interpreter

Benjamin Kamino started his dance training in Toronto Canada with the PBJ dance company and the Etobicoke School for the Arts, where he was under the guidance of Shari Wolfson, Laurie Raymond, Colleen Freidman and his mother Gabby Kamino. While in Toronto, Benjamin was fortunate to have worked with choreographer Peter Chin in his award winning film *Streetcar*. After moving to New York Benjamin worked with choreographers Alethea Addsit, Charlotte-Boye Christenson, Tracy Lang, Emily Pope-Blackman, Sho Ikushima, Danielle Russo, Ashley Brown and Emily Harper as well as creating and performing his own work.

Benjamin completed his BFA in Dance at NYU's Tisch School of the arts in May 2008. Most recently

Benjamin has been on tour with Edisa Weeks and her company Delirious Dance Co. Benjamin would like to especially thank Kay Cummings, Phyllis Lamhut and Gus Solomons for their guidance and support.

Steeve Paquet

Interpreter

Steeve Paquet was born in St-Raymond-de-Portneuf, in Quebec, where he discovered a passion for movement through the practice of karate, having won two junior championships. It was in Montreal where dance revealed itself as his calling, when Steeve was accepted into L'École Supérieure de danse du Québec; he subsequently brought his new skills to a greater level when he joined Canada's only professional jazz dance company, Decidedly Jazz Danceworks. Six years later, Steeve was invited to join Dancemakers, where he has had the opportunity to further develop his strengths in creative interpretation.

Independently, Steeve has been thrilled to work with various established Toronto choreographers and has also participated in the creation of new media projects. This is Steeve's fifth season with Dancemakers.

Mark the Date!!

Upcoming at Dancemakers and the Centre for Creation:

Unless otherwise noted, all performances take place at Dancemakers' Centre for Creation, The Distillery District, 55 Mill Street, The Cannery, Bldg. 58, Studio 313.

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| Dec. 3-7 | Central Focus: Theatrical Improvisation with Tom Stroud
Pre-registration required. Please contact Dancemakers for more information about the Master Teacher Series |
| Jan. 15-31 | Master Classes with Peter Boneham
Pre-registration required. Please contact Dancemakers for more information about the Master Teacher Series |
| Jan. 17, 22, 25, 7 pm | The LAB meets FAST TRACK: Public Presentations
New work by Sasha Ivanochko, Kate Hilliard, and Jacob Wren; Peter Boneham, monitor
Tickets: Regular \$10; Students/Seniors/CADA \$8 |
| Feb. 11-22 | Master Classes with Matija Ferlin
Pre-registration required. Please contact Dancemakers for more information about the Master Teacher Series |
| Feb. 14-16, 8 pm | Dancemakers Presents: Martin Bélanger
Tickets: Regular \$22; Students/Seniors/CADA \$18 |
| Mar. 13-15, 8 pm | Dancemakers Presents: Catherine Tardif
Tickets: Regular \$22; Students/Seniors/CADA \$18 |
| April 9-12, 8 pm
April 12, 3 pm | Double Bill #1: Ame Henderson and Michael Trent
Premiere Dance Theatre, part of Harbourfront Centre's <i>NextSteps</i> series; 207 Queens Quay West
Tickets: Regular: \$22-\$38; Students/Seniors/CADA:\$20-\$33
Call/Click: 416.973.4000 or www.harbourfrontcentre.com |
| May 22-24, 8 pm | Dancemakers Presents: Mélanie Demers
Tickets: Regular \$22; Students/Seniors/CADA \$18 |

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About Dancemakers

In 1974, a group of Toronto independent dancers ventured out to create contemporary dance with a clear Canadian voice. The result was electric and Dancemakers was born. Three decades later Dancemakers remains on the leading edge of contemporary dance in Canada with its reputation spreading throughout the Americas and Europe. 2002 was a monumental year for Dancemakers, with a major move to the new Dancemakers Centre for Creation in the Distillery Historic District. Establishing the Centre gave the company permanent physical roots in one of Toronto's newest and most dynamic cultural settings.

In August 2006, award-winning dancer/choreographer **Michael Trent** was invited to take the lead as the Company's and Centre's Artistic Director and Resident Choreographer. At the core of Dancemakers and the Centre for Creation's re-envisioned philosophy is the desire to promote and facilitate new creation and provide professional and audience development activities that are rooted in **contemporary** aesthetics, **cross-disciplinary** dialogues and **collaborative** engagement. The Dancemakers Centre for Creation offers dancers and other artists a rich working environment — a home devoted to the act of creation where different art forms collide and co-exist. Beautifully designed with state-of-the-art features, the Centre is a place of encounters between artists and the public, a place that puts engagement with multiple communities at the heart of its mission.

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For further media information and artist interviews please contact **Kim Blackwell** at 416-346-4709, 416-686-0982 or blackwellcommunications@gmail.com