

Funny Uncle Cabaret & Nut/Cracked at The Dance Complex



Cambridge, MA- October 17th 2018: The Dance Complex, in association with Peter DiMuro/ Public Displays of Motion and The Bang Group, present *Funny Uncle Cabaret & Nut/Cracked* at The Dance Complex, December 14th and 15th at 8pm and December 16th at 7pm. With *Funny Uncle Cabaret & Nut/Cracked*, the holidays have never seemed less dysfunctional and more fun...

First Act: Selections from PDM's alternative family-inspired alternative *Non-Nutcracker*, *Gumdrops & The Funny Uncle* that has toured nationally over the last 15 years, bringing stories and dances about adoptive, LGBTQ+ and all families that don't fit into a Currier and Ives snow scene. At the center of all this is Sienna, a niece waiting in the wings, and in Mexico, to join her family of choice stateside. Public Displays of Motion, an intergenerational and multi-dimensional dance company under Peter DiMuro's direction - and fresh from a year long residency at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum- inhabit this land of sweets and the real world, too. Song stylist Jenny Herzog performs live.

Second Act: "Nut/Cracked" is David Parker and The Bang Group's witty, subversive take on "The Nutcracker." Both neo-vaudeville and neo-burlesque, "Nut/Cracked" takes its inspiration from the entire canon of dance: tap riffs mingle freely with ballet steps, disco, contemporary dance and toe-tapping. Wrenching the context from silly to sublime, "Nut/Cracked" features stomping on bubble-wrap, consuming a Chinese take-out noodle en pointe and an ardent grand pas de deux combining thumbsucking and soaring ballet lifts. Parker often pushes the classical until it bleeds into the vulgar and ridiculous, but the work retains a sense of beauty. "Nut/Cracked" is anchored by Parker's affection for Tchaikovsky's score which ranges from versions recorded by Duke Ellington and Glenn Miller to the traditional orchestral suite. Joining the Bang Group on stage will be young pre-professional dancers from the ..Ballet Arts Centre of Winchester and Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School.

Together, these two acts in two hours will send audiences into the holidays humming a new tune to what we often think of as standard and routine fare.

Tickets \$13-21 when purchased in advance. Tickets and more information available at dancecomplex.org.

Funny Uncle Cabaret handles LGBTQ themes maturely and is suitable for all ages. Please contact press contact with questions.

Join the artists, and special guests to be announced, for a BEE Dance pre-performance discussion regarding alternative Nutcrackers, December 16th at 6pm. This talk is free and open to the public, with reservations encouraged. All "BEE" attendees receive a complimentary refreshment with purchase of a ticket for that evening's performance.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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More About The Artists

Peter DiMuro/Public Displays of Motion

Peter DiMuro/Public Displays of Motion, a dance/theatre company, has performed locally at the Institute of Contemporary Art, Berklee College of Music, The Dance Complex and, as a resident artist company, at The Boston Center for the Arts. Peter's recent commissions from the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Boston Landmarks Orchestra, Luminus Festival, Beau Kenyon and Now+Here, have brought the company to venues as diverse as the Gardner Museum the Hatch Shell on the Esplanade, the Emerald Necklace at Fenway, the streets of downtown crossing and within the concrete ballroom of Liz Glynn's "Open House, installed this fall at Kenmore Square. The company made its Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival debut performance this summer. Their work is supported by The Dance Complex, the Next Steps Grant of the Aliad Fund/Boston Foundation, New England Foundation for the Arts, with additional support of the Barr Foundation, through a Creative City Grant.

Peter's work has been commissioned and performed world wide; he is the Executive Artistic Director of The Dance Complex.

The Bang Group

The Bang Group enters its sixteenth year of Nut/Cracked this season. The company performs throughout the US and often in Europe. David, a Bessie (NY dance award) recipient and named a 2013 Guggenheim Fellow, has created over 50 works for Bang Group and companies world-wide. THE BANG GROUP was founded in 1995 by Jeffrey Kazin and David Parker. It is dedicated to Parker's love of rhythmic form and is known for its commitment to craftsmanship, creative liberty and aesthetic diversity.

The company has toured and performed in 24 of the United States and appears internationally at festivals and venues in Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, Monaco, The Netherlands, Scotland, Slovakia, Switzerland and Canada. It has enjoyed four seasons presented by New York Live Arts and six by its predecessor, Dance Theater Workshop, three by Danspace Project as well as several by DanceNow/NYC, Symphony Space, Harkness Dance Festival, Lincoln Center Out of Doors and others.

TBG has a second home in Boston developed during 15 seasons in residence at Summer Stages Dance and through long-term partnerships with The Institute for Contemporary Art, Dance Complex and The Theater Offensive. Recently Parker and Kazin have launched DanceNow Boston/NYC a choreographic exchange serving artists in both cities. TBG is also company-in-residence at The Yard on Martha's Vineyard having appeared there for the last 7 seasons and will return in 2018. The company's comic/subversive production of The Nutcracker entitled Nut/Cracked which will enjoy its 15th consecutive season in 2017 with a New England tour and performances at The Flea in New York City.

"Nut/Cracked" is a masterful mash-up of nostalgia, artistry, and fun. [It] unpacks the traditional holiday Nutcracker through a post modern dance lens that will make you feel as if you have just eaten a big plate of your very favorite holiday sweets and, joyfully, not gained one pound." — *The Huffington Post*