

# Request For Proposals

## *Momentum: New Dance Works, 2009*

Co-presented by Walker Art Center and the Southern Theater  
Funded in part by The Jerome Foundation

**Release Date:** June 16, 2008

**Due Date:** Wednesday, August 6, 2008, by 4:00 pm

Return to: The Southern Theater, Attn: Momentum Application  
1420 Washington Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55454

**Series Participants Announced:** September 19, 2008

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The *Momentum: New Dance Works 2009* series is a partnership between Walker Art Center and the Southern Theater, with support from the Jerome Foundation. The series will run July 16-18 and July 23-25, 2009 at the Southern.

**Purpose of Series:** The *Momentum* dance series was created to promote the work of an exciting new generation of dance and dance-theater creators in Minnesota. The series enables innovative, under-recognized choreographers to have their work presented by the Walker Art Center and the Southern Theater as well as provide professional development opportunities facilitated by the co-presenters. *Momentum* seeks out applicants from a full range of styles, cultures, aesthetics, and approaches that represent contemporary dance in the world today.

### **Eligibility Requirements:**

- Choreographers/choreographic collaborations who have produced/presented their own choreography at least three times in a non-student context, but who have not worked as choreographers for more than ten years, are eligible to apply.
- Previous recipients of commissions that were awarded during the first four cycles of *Momentum* (2001, 2002, 2004, 2005) may apply, although preference will be given to new applicants.
- Applicants must be a resident of Minnesota, have lived in Minnesota for at least one year prior to application, and have produced choreographic works while living in Minnesota.
- Applicants must be 18 years of age or older.
- Full-time students are not eligible.

### **Project Description:**

- Presentation: Artists are expected to present a half-evening (30-40 minutes) of work. The evening will be shared with another choreographer/choreographic collaboration, and will run a minimum of three nights at the Southern Theater.

- Choreographers will participate in one peer review showing/feedback session during the rehearsal stage. This showing will take place 6-8 weeks prior to the performances, and will involve curatorial/programmatic staffs of the co-presenters, other Momentum recipients, and invited guests of the artists. The goals of this showing are to support the creative process, to provide valuable observations of the works-in-progress, to learn about the works, and to build a community of artistic peers.

Selected artists will receive the following:

- Commission/Presentation fees: Artists will receive a commissioning fee of \$3,900 per choreographer/choreographic collaboration, to be made available no less than six months in advance of the engagement. There will also be a performance honorarium of \$400 per choreographer/choreographic collaboration.
- Marketing/PR will be provided by the co-presenters. A series brochure will be created. The series will be marketed and promoted to the press, as well as in the co-presenters' own publicity materials.
- Tech production support will be provided, including light design, overall technical direction, and light and sound operators. Lighting, sound, masking, and marley dance floor (if needed) as owned by the Southern, will be provided. A reasonable attempt will be made to accommodate any special needs, subject to time and budget constraints and consistent with the shared evening format. An individual tech meeting will be set according to your schedule 4 weeks prior to your show dates. An additional group tech showing the week of June 22, 2009 will be scheduled for all participants to run their completed pieces from start to finish without tech support.

**Selection Process and Criteria:**

Up to four choreographers/choreographic collaborations will be selected for *Momentum*.

The selection panel will consist of representatives from the two presenting organizations and at least one ad hoc panelist active in Minnesota's dance community. The panel will review applications and work samples to select the *Momentum* participants.

The panel will make decisions based on the quality and innovation of the artist's work and interest in the project as described in the application.

The panel shall not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, sexual preference or national origin. The panel seeks out a spectrum of dance styles and aesthetics, with a particular interest in contemporary and innovative approaches. However, the intent of the panel shall be to select applicants of high artistry and interest, rather than to make a distribution for the sake of balance.

**Applicants must submit the following materials for consideration:**

Written Materials: The written portion of the *Momentum* application must be typed. Submit five (5) collated copies (original plus 4 copies), all on 3-hole punch paper. Do not staple copies.

- Include a cover page with the title *Momentum: New Dance Works 2009*, listing: choreographer(s) name, contact name (if different), address, phone number (day/evening/cell), and email address. Include any unusual technical requirements you may have, and whether or not your performance requires a marley floor (ie, yes, no, or no preference).
- Please answer the following two questions, on no more than 2 typed pages (12 point type); *please note that you may join your answers to these questions together in one statement, however please be sure to specifically address both topics:*
  1. **Describe the work you propose to create for the series, and detail its unique qualities.**
  2. **Outline the new directions you see your work taking and how these directions fit into your evolution as a choreographer.**

Resume:

Submit a resume or vitae (no more than two pages). Your resume must clearly indicate your role in each work listed: choreographer, co-choreographer, performer, etc. Please also indicate what inspired you to make this work and which tools you used (i.e. specific dance/performance forms, fields of research, personal experiences).

Work Sample:

It is important that you submit the best quality representation of your choreographic work:

- Select a minimum of 2 and maximum of 4 works (preferably of work created within the last 1-2 years).
- Acceptable media forms are videotape (VHS) and DVD. *With a VHS, the sample(s) to be viewed must either be at the beginning of the tape or the tape must be cued to the selection. With a DVD, the work to be viewed must either be at the beginning of the DVD, or in a separate chapter, or the only work on the DVD. If there are separate works on a single DVD, each work must be in a separate chapter and clearly marked.*
- Work samples must be ready to be viewed by the panel upon submission. Please cue tapes or note sections on the DVD to the twenty minutes you feel best represents your current creative output. These twenty minutes may consist of a mix of different works or one continuous selection. If you include edited sections, we encourage you to allow each to unfold enough to give a sense of how your choreography develops.

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Work Sample Information Sheet:

It is extremely important to include a work sample information sheet that clearly indicates the title and duration of each work, as well as performance dates, venue, and your role in creating the work (no more than 1 page).

**Application Due Date: August 6, 2008**

Complete application package along with a SASE must be received  
by 4:00 pm to The Southern Theater, Attn: Momentum Application  
1420 Washington Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55454

**Series Participants Announced: September 19, 2008**

*Please contact Dana Kassel at the Southern Theater with any questions regarding  
these application guidelines: [dana@southerntheater.org](mailto:dana@southerntheater.org) 612.340-0155 x 315*