

Radical Impact

October 2017 World Premiere

Concept and Direction: Marc Brew

Choreography: Devised by the dancers in collaboration with Marc Brew

Dancers: James Bowen, Lani Dickinson, Yuko Monden, Edisnel Rodriguez, JanpiStar Crespo Rodríguez and Dwayne Scheuneman

Music: Original Score composed by JooWan Kim of Ensemble Mik Nawooj. Performed live by a string quartet.

String Quartet: Clare Armenante (violin), Mia Nardi-Huffman (violin), Justine Preston (viola), Evan Kahn (cello)

Costume Design: Susan Roemer of S-Curve Apparel & Design

Lighting Design: Allen Willner

Summary

Radical Impact, choreographed by AXIS Artistic Director Marc Brew, was created in collaboration with Composer/Pianist JooWan Kim, Artistic Director of Hip-Hop Orchestra Ensemble Mik Nawooj. Working together for the first time, Marc and Joowan explore what it means to be human through music and movement, investigating themes around politics and identity. The work draws on each dancer's unique experiences and how their stories can be told through the medium of dance.

Collaborators

Marc Brew - <http://www.marcbrew.com>

Acclaimed International choreographer Marc Brew trained as a professional dancer at the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School and The Australian Ballet School. He has been working in the UK and Internationally for the past 19 years as a director, choreographer, dancer, teacher and speaker; with the Australian Ballet Company, State Theatre Ballet Company of South Africa, Infinity Dance Theatre, CandoCo Dance Company and as Associate Director with Scottish Dance Theatre and Guest Artistic Director with AXIS Dance Company. Since 2008 Marc has been dedicating time to his own choreography with Marc Brew Company and is currently Associate Artistic Director with Ballet Cymru in Wales and was Associate Artist in 2015 at Tramway Theatre in Glasgow, Scotland where he is now based. Recent choreographic commissions include Scottish Ballet, Ballet Cymru, AXIS Dance Company (USA), Candoco Dance Company (UK), Touch Compass (NZ), Amy Seiwert's Imagery (USA), GDance, Scottish

Dance Theatre, Greenwich & Docklands International Festival and City of London Festival (UK). Marc was featured by Time Out Magazine as the best of the new breed of London's Rising

Dance Talent and was presented with a Centenary Medal for Outstanding Contribution as a dancer and choreographer. His work *Remember When* was nominated for an Isadora Duncan Dance Award for Best Performance (individual) and his recent solo work *For Now, I am...* was listed in the Guardians Top 10 Dance Shows for 2016.

JooWan Kim, Composer for *Radical Impact*, began his formal training in composition at Berklee College of Music in Boston, Massachusetts. He graduated *Summa Cum Laude* with a B.M. in composition in 2003. He continued his education in composition at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, where he received a M.M. in 2006. Since completing his studies, JooWan's main focus has been the development of "*Hybrid Music*", a novel synthesis of pop and classical music which samples racionales as well as materials from variety of genres. As part of the effort to popularize *Hybrid Music*, JooWan founded Ensemble Mik Nawooj (EMN) in 2010. JooWan's music *makes the Kronos Quartet or the Roots feel like they're afraid of their own voice* ([Pitchfork](#)) and has been considered the *cutting edge of Hip-Hop* ([Huffington Post](#)). Since its inception, EMN have been featured on Wall Street Journal, Super Bowl 50, NPR, Upworthy, NowThis, OZY, and more.

Susan Roemer, Costume Design for *Radical Impact*, is a San Francisco-based costume designer producing dance and athletic apparel under her own label S-Curve Apparel & Design. Born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Roemer trained at the Milwaukee Ballet School leading to her career as a professional dancer over a decade and across the United States, retiring with Smuin Ballet in 2016. Since 2012, Roemer has designed and constructed costumes for San Francisco Ballet, Smuin Ballet, Joffrey Ballet, Ballet West, Ballet Memphis, Amy Seiwert's Imagery, Post:Ballet, Diablo Ballet, Menlowe Ballet, Singapore Dance Theatre, and on the television series *Flesh & Bone*. Roemer is inspired by the many collaborative artists within the Bay Area, and is thrilled to work with AXIS Dance Company for the first time this season.

Allen Willner, Lighting Design for *Radical Impact*, is an award winning lighting designer for theater, dance and music. Awards and nominations include: Isadora Duncan Dance Awards for the lighting design of inkBoat's "*Line Between*", "*Heaven's Radio*" and Deborah Slater's "*Private Life*". Nominations for Isadora Duncan Dance Awards for the Visual Designs of Erika Chong Shuch's "*51802*" and inkBoat's "*Cockroach*". 2016 TBA Award Lighting Design Nominations for Shotgun Players "*Eurydice*" and 2013 Theater of Yugen's "*This Lingering Life*". Bay Area Critics Circle Lighting Design Nomination for The Shotgun Players "*Eurydice*" and "*God's Ear*", 2012 Broadway World Lighting and Set Design Nomination for Symmetry Theater's "*Patience Worth*". Lighting Artists in Dance Awards for inkBoat's "*Line Between*", Erika Chong Shuch's "*Sitting in a Circle*", Laura Arrington and Jesse Hewitt's "*Adult*." And Scott Wells, Amy Seiwert and Shinichi Iova-Koga's "*Take this Dance and Shove it!*"

AXIS Dance Company exists to change the face of dance and disability through Artistry, Engagement and Advocacy. Founded in 1987, AXIS is the nation's most acclaimed ensembles

of performers with and without disabilities. Based in Oakland, CA and in its 30th year AXIS' list of collaborators includes Bill T. Jones, Stephen Petronio, Yvonne Rainer, Ann Carlson, David Dorfman, Marc Brew, Meredith Monk, Joan Jeanrenaud and Fred Frith. AXIS has toured to over 100 cities in US, Europe and Russia. The Company has received seven Isadora Duncan Dance Awards and has appeared twice on FOX TV's So You Think You Can Dance, exposing their important and relevant work of physically integrated dance to millions. Through education and outreach programs thousands of children and adults of all ages and abilities are inspired to dance each year. www.axisdance.org