

INTERACTIVE PRESS KIT 2015

BARE DANCE COMPANY

ABOUT BARE

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www.baredanceco.org

BARE DANCE COMPANY

BARE Dance Company was established in 2005 by Mike Esperanza with the help of Dance/ USA and the Irvine Foundation. Over the years, BARE's versatile approach to movement has been described as "smart, effective, technically accomplished work." - Michael Upchurch, Seattle Times. BARE has produced acclaimed productions in the Southern California area and has headlined events for the Orange County Children's Therapeutic Arts Center, The Center Orange County, Inland AIDS projects and the Epilepsy Foundation of Southern California. BARE was nominated for numerous Lester Horton awards for productions in the Southern California including "Manhattan", a work selected by ODC Theater to tour CA as part of their 2011 "Innerstate" program. BARE was also awarded the paid engagement award at the 2011 Dance Under the Stars festival in Palm Spring, CA.

BARE relocated to New York City in 2012 and has since produced work for Danspace Project, Dixon Place, Peridance and Ailey Citigroup Theater. In 2014, BARE was selected to take part in the inaugural CUNY Dance Initiative and will produce a new work for LaGuardia Performing Arts Center. 2015 marks the company's 10th year anniversary with performances in numerous cities around the nation.



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ABOUT MIKE ESPERANZA

Born in Manila, Philippines and raised in Southern California, Mike Esperanza has established himself as a sought after teacher and choreographer. With a BFA in graphic design from California State University, Fullerton, Mike's approach to visual construction has influenced a unique movement orchestration on stage described as "captivating visuals of impeccable lines and shapes" Jessica Abejar, Broadway World. His works have been commissioned by prestigious college and university dance programs including Chapman University, Loyola Marymount University, UNLV, Cal State Long Beach, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, Utah Valley University, Shenandoah University, Grand Valley State University and Colorado Mesa University to name a few.

In 2005, Mike was awarded the "Dance: Creation for Performance" grant presented by Dance/USA and the Irvine Foundation. With this distinguished award, BARE Dance Company began. Mike has also been a finalist at the Palm Desert Dance Under the Stars Choreography Festival in 2006, 2008, 2009 and 2010 taking second place in 2009 and winning the paid engagement award in 2010. In 2011 BARE was part of the "Innerstate" roster presented by ODC Theater and funded by the Irvine Foundation. The program allowed the company to tour California and present the Lester Horton nominated show "Manhattan". In 2014, Mike received the Steps Repertory Ensemble Commission award at the Reverb Dance Festival and became the recipient of the CUNY Dance Initiative grant creating a new for work, VENOMOUS, for LaGuardia Performing Arts Center. Mike Currently teaches at Peridance, Steps on Broadway and serves as a guest teacher at Broadway Dance Center.

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“It was a delightful romp that melded innovation and fun”

Rachel Levin, Explore Dance

“The choreography was consistently inventive and engaging throughout”

– Mariko Nagashima, SeattleDances

“Esperanza has achieved his goal of bringing contemporary aesthetics to this timeless story. Moreover, he creates a rich world with simple visual and aural cues that succeed in capturing the indescribable ache of modern love, mediated as it is by social stratification, electronic stimulation, and urban alienation.”

– Rachel Levin, Explore Dance

“The most emotionally charged dance on the program”

– Diane Monroe, Beverly Hills Outlook

“Intensely alluring and pleasantly dark”

– Katie Dravenstott, Theater Jones, Dallas, TX

“BARE Dance Company turned the stereotype of serious modern dance on its head with a fun piece demonstrating expressive capability, musicality, and a very connected delivery.”

– Lisa Fitchett, The Daily Fitchett

“This is smart, affecting, technically accomplished work.”

– Michael Upchurch, Seattle Times

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REPERTORY

SILK OR COTTON CA

McCallum Theatre

MANHATTAN CA

- Gotham Moon Studios
- Innerstate / A program directed by ODC Theater and funded by the Irvine Foundation

Performances:

- Temecula Performing Arts Center
- The Walking Festival
- Tahoe School for the Arts

MAPPING CA

- Los Angeles Dance Festival

AVES NY

- Danspace Project / Dance Access Series

VITALS NY

- Reverb Dance Festival (Commission Award)
- Pushing Progress Dance Festival
- Dance Gallery / New York

POLLEN NY

- Dixon Place

VENOMOUS NY

CUNY Dance Initiative

- LaGuardia Performing Arts Center
- Men in Dance Festival / Seattle
- Dance Gallery / Texas
- Modern Dance at Bryant Park

YETI AND THE PROM QUEEN NY

- Pushing Progress Dance Festival

WALLPAPER NY

- Modern Dance at Bryant Park
- 14th St Y Fall Season

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Stephen Sells/Dance



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Thank you for your interest in BARE Dance Company. For more information regarding BARE, please contact our staff for further details.

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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BOOKING

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EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Erin Love
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