

***Philadelphia Dance Projects Culminates Season with New Work by
Niki and Jorge Cousineau as Subcircle:
“All this happened, more or less”***

PHILADELPHIA — **Philadelphia Dance Projects** closes a season full of regional and world premieres with the presentation of a moving new work by Choreographer **Niki Cousineau** and Designer **Jorge Cousineau**, together as **Subcircle**. The premiere piece, ***All this happened, more or less***, will run **April 3 – 5** at the **Performance Garage**.

All this happened, more or less derives its title from the opening line of Kurt Vonnegut’s ***Slaughterhouse Five***. “In this novel, alien concepts of time intertwine with attempts to comprehend the WWII bombing of Dresden, an event my grandparents only miraculously survived,” explains Jorge. “My eventual birth and meeting Niki in the same place serve as a point of reference as we look back at our own twenty year history and forward to where this might lead us.”

Together, Niki and Jorge perform as two artists creating a work that uncovers process, collaboration and design while in performance. The piece begins with the collapse of all elements so that rebuilding becomes the journey, exposing partnership, decisions and silences. They are supported by an ensemble epitomizing some of Philadelphia’s best modern dance artists: **Beau Hancock, Rosie Langabeer, Christy Lee, Scott McPheeters** and **Christina Zani**.

Since being founded in 1997, Subcircle is known for creating poetic and moving theatrical works that focus on the space where performance happens; transforming both site-specific spaces and works for the stage by merging dance, sound, set design, lighting and film. The multi-media approach is rooted in collaboration, and aims to convey to the audience and performer alike an inseparability of performance from environment.

“I found the proposed transparency of de-constructing/re-constructing the performing space for this new Subcircle work intriguing,” says Philadelphia Dance Projects Executive Director **Terry Fox**. “I know their usual collaboration to be meticulously thought out, where all the elements build an atmosphere that plays with the viewer’s sense of what is real, and look forward to seeing Subcircle reveal this ‘more or less’.”

All this happened, more or less takes place Thursday, April 3; Friday, April 4; and Saturday, April 5 at 7:30 p.m. Performances will take place at the Performance Garage, 1515 Brandywine Street. Tickets are

\$20 general admission or \$15 with a DancePass and can be purchased at DanceBoxOffice.com or by calling 215-546-2552. For more information, please visit PhilaDanceProjects.org.

About Subcircle | www.subcircle.com

Subcircle was founded in 1997 by co-directors Niki Cousineau and Jorge Cousineau. Their work transforms theatrical and site-specific spaces, merging dance, sound, set design, lighting and film. Whether site-specific or performance for the stage, the work aims to convey to audience and performer alike an inseparability of performance from environment. With collaboration at its core, the company has worked with choreographer/director Carol Brown (London/New Zealand), composer Toby Twining, actor Geoff Sobelle, and choreographers Darla Stanley and Gin MacCallum among others. Some of their works include *Just Between Me* (2001), *Crevice* (2003), *Somewhere Close to Now* (2005), and *Only Sleeping* (2010). In January 2011 Niki traveled to Auckland, New Zealand to work with Carol Brown on Subcircle's SEED which premiered in November 2011. In 2012 Subcircle created *forget me...forget me not* as part of the site-specific Commotion Festival at Grays Ferry neighborhood in Philadelphia.

Subcircle's work has been performed throughout Germany in Potsdam, Berlin, Dresden, and Broellin, where they participated in the Body and Landscape Residency at the International Theater Research Center Schloss Broellin. In Philadelphia, they have been presented in DanceBOOM, the nEW Festival, Philadelphia Live Arts Festival, and Blindspot 2011. Their dance film HERE was presented at the Michener Museum as part of the exhibit *Lucid Dreaming* and in the Philadelphia Dance Projects' Motion Pictures mini-fest of dance on film/video. In 2010, Niki and Jorge collaborated with Arden Theatre Company's production of *Sunday in the Park with George*.

About the Artists

Niki Cousineau is a Philadelphia based choreographer and dancer. She is the co-director of Subcircle, a company she founded with Jorge Cousineau in 1998. As a performer she often works with Headlong Dance Theater and Nichole Canuso Dance Company. Niki is a 2007 Pew Fellow and was a Choreographic Fellow at Maggie Allesee National Center for Choreography in 2012.

Jorge Cousineau was born in Dresden, Germany. In 1997 he moved to Philadelphia to work as a theater designer and has since created sets, lights, sound and video, most notably with Denver Center Theatre, Humana Festival, Arden Theatre Company, Wilma Theater, 1812 Productions and New Paradise Laboratories. He is a recipient of two Independence Foundation Fellowship grants and was awarded the F. Otto Haas Award for Emerging Theater Artist. He has received several Barrymore Awards as well as a Lortel Award for his sound design on the production of *Opus* in NYC. Jorge was awarded the Pew Fellowship in the Arts in 2011.

About Philadelphia Dance Projects | www.philadanceprojects.org

Philadelphia Dance Projects (PDP) supports contemporary dance through Projects that encourage artists and audiences to more fully participate and engage in the experience and pursuit of dance as an evolving form. Since its inception in 1993, under the aegis of Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Philadelphia Dance Projects has engaged stellar dance artists many of whom were enlarging the modern and postmodern vocabularies with personal and/or cultural explorations in both technique and content. PDP achieves its mission by presenting performances, workshops, classes, a dance-film fest, dialogs and forums for a broad-based audience including artists, aspiring artists, students and the general public. *Philadelphia Dance Projects Presents* is a full presenting series highlighting national and local contemporary dance artists. The successful series is introducing new artists to Philly and premiering work by some of Philadelphia's finest contemporary dance artists.

For more information about Philadelphia Dance Projects, visit www.philadanceprojects.org.

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