



October 14th, 2008

MEDIA CONTACT: REBECCA SHARMA
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The Cultch presents

JAKE'S GIFT

Written and performed by Julia Mackey
Directed by Dirk Van Stralen

-and-

WHAT,?

Performed by Ron Stewart
Choreography & direction by Jennifer Mascall

WHEN: NOVEMBER 11 - 16, 2008

Nov 11: Special PWYC Remembrance Day performance @ 7 PM

Nov 12: Media Opening @ 7 PM

Nov 13 & 14 @ 7 PM

No performance Nov 15

Nov 16 @ 2 & 7 PM

WHERE: FIREHALL ARTS CENTRE, 280 E. Cordova St.

Vancouver — The Cultch is pleased to present this powerful double-bill featuring the award-winning work of Julia Mackey and the newest performance by acclaimed dancer Ron Stewart.

Jake's Gift

Jake's Gift is a powerful comedy-drama about a cantankerous WW 2 veteran who reluctantly returns to Juno Beach for the 60th Anniversary of D-Day. Jake encounters Isabelle, a precocious 10-year-old from the local village, whose inquisitive nature & charm challenge the old veteran to confront some long ignored ghosts.

"I am a veteran of the 2nd World War, and this play and its performance made a greater impact on me than all the memorial services I have ever attended." - Antony Holland, Actor & Founder, Studio 58

This one woman show has toured to critical acclaim across the country including; The Centaur Theatre, The UNO Festival of Solo Performance, The Sunset Theatre, The Toronto Fringe Festival and the Victoria Fringe Festival 2008 where it received awards for Best Drama, Best Solo Show, Best Female Performer and Best New Play (2007). Written and performed by Julia Mackey | Directed by Dirk Van Stralen | Lighting design by Gerald King

What,?

What,? traverses a kinetic landscape using video projections to illuminate four stories, four locations and four musical scores. Acclaimed dancer Ron Stewart brings to life the players for the evening: a Canadian paratrooper, a remittance man, a cowboy in a Mid-Western diner and a hip-hop wannabe. In enacting the history of these characters through movement and story telling, Stewart exemplifies the connections between fathers and sons, specifically, the shift from a child's impression of a parent into an adult's understanding of another adult.

What,? is a story about a universal father and son who - as each makes his separate search for home - are more connected than they realize.

"A dance artist for more than 23 years, Ron Stewart is at the top of his game. He's one of those dancers who manage to pack their movement with a density that comes from years of practice and a freshness that looks like the work is being performed for the first time." - Vancouver Sun

A creative collaboration between dancer Ron Stewart and choreographer Jennifer Mascall | Lighting design by James Proudfoot
Video by Chris Randle | Music composed by Doug Macauley, Greg Sanko, Stefan Smulovitz and Ian Cook.