

# Request For Proposals

## *Momentum: New Dance Works, 2015*

Presented by the Cowles Center for Dance and the Performing Arts  
Funded in part by The Jerome Foundation

**Release Date:** March 28, 2014

**Public Informational Session:** April 5 at 10:00 am, Mason's café, Cowles Center

**Due Date:** Friday, April 25, 2014, by 5:00 pm  
Send to: Cowles Center for Dance and the Performing Arts,  
Attn: Michèle Steinwald/Momentum  
528 Hennepin Avenue, Ste 200, Minneapolis, MN 55403  
Drop off: Cowles box office from 11am-5pm, Tuesday-Friday  
PDF copy: [msteinwald@thecowlescenter.org](mailto:msteinwald@thecowlescenter.org) (please write  
Momentum submission in subject line)

**Series Participants Announced:** June 2014

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The *Momentum: New Dance Works 2015* series is presented by the Cowles Center for Dance and the Performing Arts, in partnership with the Walker Art Center and the Southern Theater, at the Southern Theater, with support from the Jerome Foundation. The series will run July 9-11 and July 16-18, 2015.

**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 Cowles Center for Dance and the Performing Arts as well as provide professional development opportunities facilitated by the presenter. *Momentum* seeks out applicants from a full range of styles, cultures, aesthetics, and approaches that represent contemporary dance in the world today.

**Eligibility Requirements:**

- Emerging professional choreographers/choreographic collaborations, who have produced/presented their own choreography at least three times in a non-student context, and who have not been recognized as established choreographers, are eligible to apply.
- Previous recipients may not apply.

- 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 on April 6 and 13, 2015, 10 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.
- Choreographers will participate in professional development workshops (in partnership with Springboard for the Arts) and group meetings as scheduled by the Walker staff between the commissioning of the new work and its presentation.

Selected artists will receive the following:

- Commission/Presentation fees: Artists will receive a commissioning fee of \$6,000 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 \$1,000 per choreographer/choreographic collaboration.
- Marketing/PR will be provided by the presenters. A series brochure will be created. The series will be marketed and promoted to the press, as well as in the 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. Approximately 8-9 weeks prior to the first week of performances, a meeting with all choreographers and their individual collaborators will be scheduled to walk through the space, discuss resources available and get a sense of the artistic intention of each piece. At 4 weeks prior to each performance week, we will schedule a meeting with both artists on a shared bill to discuss the particulars, logistics, and practical application of the technical ideas so an efficient plan can be created using existing personnel, resources and inventory. An additional group tech showing on June 22, 2015 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 a representative from the presenting organizations and an 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 2015*, 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.**

Resumé:

Submit a resumé or vitae (no more than two pages). Your resumé 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).

Budget:

Fill in attached budget form to the best of your ability and submit along with written materials. This budget form should provide a general outline of the estimated costs and possible income sources for your proposal and will be useful to the panel as an indication of the scope as well as technical elements in your new work. The financial management and oversight of the actual budget will remain the artist's responsibility.

Work Samples with Information Sheet:

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).
- Submit media online through vimeo (preferably) or youtube. Provide the URL links and passwords if needed to view work samples.

- Work samples must be ready to be viewed by the panel upon submission. Please note sections 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. The panel will watch a minimum of five minutes from your selection.
- It is extremely important to include an 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).

PDF copy:

Email complete application as a PDF to [msteinwald@thecowlescenter.org](mailto:msteinwald@thecowlescenter.org) by due date.

**Application Due Date: April 25, 2014**

Complete application package must be received by 5:00 pm at  
Cowles Center for Dance and the Performing Arts,  
Attn: Michèle Steinwald/Momentum  
528 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55403

**Series Participants Announced: June, 2014**

*Please contact Michèle Steinwald with any questions regarding these application guidelines: [msteinwald@thecowlescenter.org](mailto:msteinwald@thecowlescenter.org) 612-206-3644*

**Budget Form** (proposed draft)

<b>EXPENSES</b> (direct, no in-kind)	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>Notes (if needed):</b>
- Artistic fees (rehearsal/performance)	\$ _____	
- _____	\$ _____	
- _____	\$ _____	
- _____	\$ _____	
- Designer/Collaborator fees	\$ _____	
- _____	\$ _____	
- Set Materials/Construction	\$ _____	
- Costume Material/Construction	\$ _____	
- Space & Equipment rentals	\$ _____	
- Transportation	\$ _____	
- Video/Media/Sound recording	\$ _____	
- Other: _____	\$ _____	
- Other: _____	\$ _____	
<b>TOTAL:</b>	\$ _____	(*should match income)

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
- Commission fee	\$ 6,000.00
- Performance fee	\$ 1,000.00
- Individual contributions	\$ _____
- Foundations & Corporations	\$ _____
- Government	\$ _____
- Other: _____	\$ _____
- _____	\$ _____
- Earned income (benefits)	\$ _____
- Merchandise sales	\$ _____
- Out of pocket	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL:</b>	\$ _____ (*should match expenses)

**ADDITIONAL IN KIND DONATIONS** (not factored into overall budget above)

- Lighting Designer (COWLES)	
- Video documentation (COWLES)	
- Promotional photos (WAC)	
- 6 hrs rehearsal at Southern Theater (ST) Week of June 29-July 4, 2015	
- _____	\$ _____ value
- _____	\$ _____ value
<b>TOTAL:</b>	\$ _____ (for your records only)