

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kill Date: 5-19-17

Contact: Jessie Marion Smith

Director, Marion Walker & Dead Bird Movement

deadbirdmovement@gmail.com

www.marionwalker.org & www.deadbirdmovement.com

Marion Walker & Dead Bird Movement present

ILLEGAL SUNSHINE

Where: Jewelbox Theater, 2322 2nd Ave, Seattle, WA 98121

When: May 18th, 2017, 8pm

Tickets: \$15/advance, available at StrangerTickets.com

\$10-20/sliding-scale at the door

21+

Info: <http://marionwalker.org/illegal-sunshine/>

Directors: Jessie Marion Smith & Kyle Walker Akins

Live Music: Marion Walker (i.e. Jessie Marion Smith & Kyle Walker Akins)

Live Choreography: Dead Bird Movement (i.e. Jessie Marion Smith)

Live Dancers: Ellie Sandstrom, Jim Kent, & Jessie Marion Smith

Video Directors, Editors, Composer/Musicians: Jessie Marion Smith & Kyle Walker Akins

Video Choreographer/Performer: Jessie Marion Smith

Video Cinematographer: Kyle Walker Akins

Guest Opening Performers: LIMITS (i.e. Corrie Befort & Jason E Anderson)

About the show:

Marion Walker (Seattle/Reno Rock'n'Roll Art Punk) presents ***ILLEGAL SUNSHINE***, an evening of dance cinema, live music, and contemporary dance. This event celebrates the premiere of ***Patience, Atlas*** a stop-motion dance film/music video produced by **Marion Walker**. The stop-motion video captures a dancer stranded in the waiting room where patience is paramount and the weight of the world eventually tears everything apart. The evening will also feature some very special performances of live contemporary dance choreographed by **Jessie Smith** of **Dead Bird Movement** and featuring dancers **Ellie Sandstrom, Jim Kent, and Jessie Smith** with live music by **Marion Walker**. Guest openers **LIMITS** (interdisciplinary-performance art/music group) will also perform.

ILLEGAL SUNSHINE is funded in part by Office of Arts & Culture Seattle.

About the companies:

Marion Walker is the Seattle/Reno based Rock'n'Roll Art Punk team of Jessie Marion Smith and Kyle Walker Akins. Smith is a dancer, choreographer, filmmaker, and musician. Akins is a musician, visual artist, sound engineer, and filmmaker. Together, they play as a band and make interdisciplinary video and performance work. Formed in 2012, Marion Walker has produced/released several EPs and compilations and toured extensively around the United States. Their music is a head-on collision between doomy bleak worlds and fuzzed-out technicolor tones.

Dead Bird Movement is a Seattle-based contemporary dance and film company directed by Jessie Smith. Since being founded in 2005, Dead Bird has presented numerous live dance/music works and screened its experimental short films across the United States, Canada, Europe, and Japan. Smith mainly works in solos and duets, creating intensely charged endurance battles with a razor blade of grace.

LIMITS is the Seattle-based performance/film hybrid formed by dancer Corrie Befort and sound artist Jason E Anderson in 2014. The duo draw upon their extensive involvement with improvisation, film, video art, installation and experimental performance to investigate psychological experiences of time, memory and perception.

About the artists:

Jessie Marion Smith is Co-Director of Marion Walker and Artistic Director of Dead Bird Movement. She has also choreographed for experimental theater groups Saint Genet and Implied Violence (2004-2016) as well as danced for Dayna Hanson, Locust, SOM (Sonic/Optic/Movement), and LeGenre Performance. She has also played in the bands The Gargle Blasters and Rollin' Hazard.

Kyle Walker Akins is Co-Director of Marion Walker. He has also played in multiple other bands including Yesir, Think In French, and WretchEdward. He is one of the original members of the Reno cooperative record label Humanterrorist Records. He studied sound engineering and has been producing his own recordings, music videos, and short films for over a decade. He holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Nevada, Reno.

Ellie Sandstrom is a choreographer, performer and celebrated dance educator, who is fueled by movement in many forms. She has performed with and for many artists over her thirty-five year career including Scott/Powell Performance, Locust, Amy O'Neal, Mark Haim, Dayna Hanson, Reggie Watts, Lynn Shelton and countless others. She shows her own choreographic work under the name SANDSTROMMOVEMENT.

Jim Kent is a dancer and musician who has performed for several Seattle-based choreographers and performance endeavors, including Scott/Powell Performance, Whim W'Him, Mark Haim, zoe | juniper, Dayna Hanson and Saint Genet. He also plays piano for Diverse Harmony, Seattle's queer-straight alliance youth chorus. He holds a BFA in Dance from Cornish College of the Arts.

Corrie Befort is a Seattle-based dancer, choreographer, designer and filmmaker whose collaborative performance works have been presented and commissioned nationally and in Japan and Belgium. Her primary partnerships are with performance companies Salt Horse, LIMITS, and with composer Tom Baker. Corrie builds movement-inspired, physically-activated visual art and effects, scenography and costuming.

Jason E Anderson is an artist from Seattle whose work includes performance, recorded works, video, installation, and music for dance. He creates sound using synthesis, acoustic recordings, programming and text. Anderson makes work under his own name, Spare Death Icon, LIMITS, and as a member of network computer music collective Mesh Collaborative.