

About Scattered (2009)



Performed on a vertiginous sloping wall, inspired by a quarter pipe, *Scattered* uses Motionhouse's highly physical trademark style, as the seven performers slide, climb and dive through magical scenes created by entrancing digital projections. In this extraordinary world where dancers and images interact seamlessly, the performers plunge into an ocean, tumble down a waterfall and slide on an avalanche to a frozen landscape of arctic beauty - a remarkable interaction between film and live performance. Motionhouse presents visually striking performances that are not just pure dance:

as well as its daring choreography, *Scattered* also includes aerial work.

Watch the 1 minute trailer here:

<http://www.motionhouse.co.uk/productions/venue-touring/scattered.shtm>

Scattered is Motionhouse's 18th production. It is the first part of Motionhouse's 'Earth Trilogy' *Scattered* is the first part of Kevin Finnan's 'Earth Trilogy', touring to much acclaim in the UK Europe, China, Japan, Macau and the USA since its creation in 2009. *Broken*, exploring our relationship with the Earth followed in 2013 and *Charge* – the final instalment of the trilogy – will premiere in October 2017.

This is the eighth tour of *Scattered*, the show has been brought back by popular demand from venues and audiences alike.

About Motionhouse

Motionhouse creates awe-inspiring '4D' spectacles where music, visuals, dance and physical theatre integrate to form a seamless immersive experience. The company's distinctive style takes movement to its limits, integrating elements of circus and acrobatics with contact choreography and breath-taking dance.

Motionhouse prides itself on producing shows of outstanding quality that are exciting, accessible and enjoyable for all.

Founded in 1988, Motionhouse is based in Leamington Spa and tours to theatres and festivals at home and across the globe. The company's ambitious experimentation with setting, action and context have become an integral part of its trademark style.

Motionhouse's Artistic Director Kevin Finnan MBE was Choreographer and Movement Director for the Opening Ceremony of the London 2012 Paralympic Games. His interest in exploring and questioning the traditional use of space in performance has led to the creation of extraordinary dance spectacles including the acclaimed Machine Dance for JCB diggers and dancers, site based performances at heritage sites, on beaches and in disused buildings, and a series of outdoor shows that tour festivals and other outdoor venues across the UK and Europe. In recent years, Finnan's preoccupation with the human condition and our connection with the world in which we live, has led him to create a series of pieces which explore the place that humanity occupies within the natural world, with *Scattered* in 2009 and *Broken* in 2013.

A wide ranging education and participatory programme runs parallel to Motionhouse's touring performance work. A respected and key player in the UK dance scene, Motionhouse is supported using public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England.

The 2005/06 production Perfect is a set piece on the GCSE Dance curriculum in England and Wales and the company has developed a series of educational workshops and teaching resources entitled PerfectED to support the study of this piece.

The cast

Scattered has a cast of seven dancers: Martina Bussi, Daniel Connor, Junior Cunningham (Rehearsal Director), Chris Knight, Luka Owen (role share), Naomi Tadevossian (role share), Alasdair Stewart and Rebecca Williams

Junior Cunningham and Alasdair Stewart have performed in Scattered since its creation in 2009. All other performers in this tour have joined the company since.

The theme of water

Scattered has clear, identifiable theme of water running throughout. It explores our relationship with water, a fundamental force in our lives. The seven dancers delve into the majesty and savagery of water, plunging into an ocean, tumbling down a waterfall and sliding on an avalanche to a frozen landscape of arctic beauty.

The film projections

In Scattered Motionhouse collaborates with Logela Multimedia, a company from the Basque region of Spain. Using multiple projection technology they created the unique film projections that help to bring Scattered to life. The film creates an important interaction between film and live performance.

The set

The Scattered set is like something you've never seen before: a huge curved floor, which disappears skywards upstage. Think of the curve of a skateboard ramp or a snowboard half-pipe; then imagine the dancers running, sliding, climbing and falling on/off it. The set also works as a canvas for film and other visual effects.

The actual structure was built by a yacht builder; every section of the wall was made using a hand-made mould and moulded sections were made individually and then bolted together. They are designed to nest within each other so that they fit into the truck that transports the set. It's a very complex structure, quite beautiful in its simplicity when viewed by the audience.

Frequently asked questions

Is it OK if I'm a first timer? I don't want to feel out of my depth...

Motionhouse attracts a large number of first time attenders to dance. Motionhouse productions are known for having something intriguing going on during every minute of the performance. There are moments of breathless fast paced action segued with slower, more poignant scenes.

I'm not sure if I'll like contemporary dance – will I understand it?

One of the great strengths of Motionhouse's work is its theatricality, embracing themes that are common to us all and instantly recognisable. Motionhouse's work is an exciting mix of dance, circus and theatre. Motionhouse's work is gripping, fast paced and entertaining, appeals to all sorts of people.

But my friend sees loads of contemporary dance, will she still like it?

People who see lots of contemporary dance will certainly find something different, and hopefully exciting, in Scattered. The work is highly energised, probably the most physical of any company around and raises intriguing questions within the themes that it explores.