October 27 - November 6, 2022

The History of Empires

Company: Witness Relocation
Venue: The Downstairs
Location: New York, NY

Photo by Christopher L. Hicken

Maybe things won't ever be okay and you might need some sort of exorcism, but let's figure out if we can be happy in the meantime.

Cheerfully nihilistic dance/theater by the iconoclastic Witness Relocation/Dan Safer. Topics include animals, pleasant afternoons, high kicks, torture, a viola, and vivid descriptions of dystopia.

THE HISTORY OF EMPIRES is comprised of a solo directed and co-choreographed by Dan Safer, performed and co-choreographed by Marcus McGregor, and a duet with Daniel Pettrow and McGregor.

THE HISTORY OF EMPIRES marks McGregor's return to performance after a 15-year hiatus, following a long and distinguished career as a dancer with DANCE THEATRE OF HARLEM and FELD BALLET. Daniel Pettrow is known for his work with THE WOOSTER GROUP, French director Arthur Nauzyciel and choreographer John Heginbotham, amongst many others.

THE HISTORY OF EMPIRES was originally developed starting September 2020 at the height of the pandemic when Safer and McGregor and then composer Frederickson hunkered down together with Chuck Mee's text and Frederickson's score weekly for almost two years in a 'pod' at Safer's home/studio in upstate New York. The piece has grown to include a film by Tom Kalin (SWOON, SAVAGE GRACE) and recorded texts by Kevin Mambo (FELA) and Angela Winkler, the German New Wave film star of THE TIN DRUM, and a duet section created with McGregor and Pettrow. Everything is designed by Jay Ryan (lights) and Deb O (set/costume) and produced by Sophie Ancival.

Witness Relocation
66 East 4th Street, basement level
New York, NY, 10003
646-430-5374
https://web.ovationtix.com/trs/pr/1136933

Schedule
October 27, 2022: 8:00pm
October 28, 2022: 8:00pm
October 29, 2022: 2:00pm, 8:00pm
October 30, 2022: 4:00pm
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