Press release
12 August 2011

ICA

ARTIST PABLO BRONSTEIN RE-INTRODUCES BALLET TO THE INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS

Pablo Bronstein's ballet *Plaza Minuet / The Birth of Venus*
16 & 17 September and at Tramway, Glasgow, on 3 September
Contemporary artist Pablo Bronstein (born 1977, Buenos Aires), whose critically acclaimed exhibition *Sketches for Regency Living* continues at the ICA until 25 September, presents *Plaza Minuet* / *The Birth of Venus*, an original ballet devised by Bronstein and co-commissioned by the ICA and Tramway, Glasgow, at both venues in September.

Classically trained dancers, including Matthias Sperlinger and Rosalind Masson, perform the two-part ballet. In *Plaza Minuet*, Bronstein develops ideas explored in his contribution to the Tate Triennial 2006, in which performers obey a series of rules of behaviour. They follow lines marked out on the floor that might represent an architectural void or an imagined piazza. Part two, *The Birth of Venus*, opens with the entry of the King symbolising the birth and triumph of Venus.

London-based Pablo Bronstein creates drawings, models, installations and performances that examine the mechanisms of architectural space and highlight the inherent power structures that define and direct human behaviour and movement. The dance performances that he has choreographed combine the language of baroque and neoclassical styles with minimalistic aspects of modern dance and ritualised actions. For his exhibition *Sketches for Regency Living* at the ICA until 25 September*,* Bronstein draws upon London's Regency history and that of the ICA building, Nash House.

Canadian **Matthias Sperling** is an associate artist with the national dance agency Dance4 and winner of a Bonnie Bird New Choreography Award. International festival appearances include Nottdance (UK), Dance Umbrella (UK), Les Rep'rages (France) and Springdance (Netherlands), and he has performed and collaborated with companies including Wayne McGregor's Random Dance and Siobhan Davies Dance.

Rosalind Masson trained at the London Contemporary Dance School. She currently works with La Nua Dance Company and Bodysurf Scotland. She has worked with Movement Research, learning from choreographers such as Miguel Guitterez, John Jasperse and Katie Duck in New York, and Arthur Staldi and Renate Graziadei at Labor Gras Studio in Berlin.

Plaza Minuet /*The Birth of Venus* is a co-commission between the ICA, London, and Tramway, Glasgow, and is generously supported by The Workroom, Scotland's independent dance atelier, based at Tramway. *Sketches for Regency Living* is supported by Bloomberg, Herald Street, The Henry Moore Foundation, John Jones and Arts Council England.

Ballet was listed on the ICA's original Companies House registration document in 1947 along with painting, etching, engraving, drawing, poetry, philosophy, literature, drama, music, opera, sculpture, architecture, designs, photography, films, radio and television.

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ICA Listings information: Pablo Bronstein: *Plaza Minuet / The Birth of Venus*
16 & 17 September, 8 - 9pm. Tickets £15 / £12 Concessions / £10 ICA Members
Booking fees for non ICA Members: £1 per ticket or maximum charge per transaction £2.80
Box Office 020 7930 3647 **Textphone** 020 7839 0737 **Web** www.ica.org.uk
For booking details on the 3 September performance at Tramway, Glasgow visit www.tramway.org
Free exhibition: **Pablo Bronstein: *Sketches for Regency Living*** 9 June to 25 September 2011
Institute of Contemporary Arts, The Mall, London, SW1Y 5AH
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