

worldstage

Ⓞ Harbourfront centre

Harbourfront Centre Commission Selected to 2010 Cultural Olympiad

TORONTO, ON (July 15, 2009) – Harbourfront Centre is proud to congratulate **bluemouth inc.** on their selection to be part of the **Cultural Olympiad** during the **Vancouver 2010 Olympics**. The Toronto-, Montreal- and New York-based bluemouth inc. will perform ***Dance Marathon***, originally produced in partnership with Harbourfront Centre, through Harbourfront Centre's national commissioning programme, **Fresh Ground new works**. *Dance Marathon* had its world premiere at Harbourfront Centre's **World Stage** performing arts series in February of 2009.

The multi-disciplinary production won high praise from critics and participants alike. It attracted interest from the Cork Midsummer Festival of the Senses (Ireland), where it had its European premiere in June 2009.

A mix of performance and audience participation, *Dance Marathon* is inspired by the physically gruelling contests of the 1920s and 1930s. Under the pretext that *Dance Marathon* is a veritable endurance contest, bluemouth inc. shapes a fully participatory theatre that fuses live music, video projection, and a variety of integrated scenes and choreographed dance numbers.

Presented to artists working collaboratively across disciplines, Harbourfront Centre's Fresh Ground new works commissioning awards were introduced as part of its 30th anniversary celebrations in 2004. The awards of \$20,000 each uphold Harbourfront Centre's mandate to champion the creation of new artistic works, providing a platform for innovation, creation and excellence. With the generous support of individual donors, the Imperial Tobacco Canada Arts Fund and the Canada Council for the Arts, Harbourfront Centre has now awarded \$300,000 toward the creation, development and presentation of 15 new Canadian works to date.

Dance Marathon will be produced during the Cultural Olympiad by Vancouver's own Boca del Lupo Theatre Company.

About Cultural Olympiad – from <http://www.vancouver2010.com>

Vancouver 2010 Cultural Olympiad is a celebration of the contemporary imagination. A series of three multi-disciplinary festivals that grows in scope and scale from 2008 through 2010, this is the first time an Olympic Winter Games has hosted a Cultural Olympiad two years before Games' time.

From artistic collaborations that fuse contrasting perspectives to emerging talents re-inventing the voice of contemporary Canada, the Cultural Olympiad has something for everyone. Working in close partnership with the creative community, this amazing showcase of Canadian and international arts and popular culture will feature an

unparalleled variety of music, dance, theatre, visual arts, film, outdoor spectaculars and digital media experiences, as remarkable and diverse as the planet itself.

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For more information about Harbourfront Centre's Fresh Ground new works national commissioning program, visit **www.harbourfrontcentre.com**

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Fresh Ground new works is made possible by the generosity of several individual donors who have actively assisted in the creation of new Canadian art works: Anne Marie Canning and the late Robert Canning, the late John Harkness, George E. Myhal, Jim and Sandra Pitblado, Michael and Sonja Koerner, Wil and Judy Matthews, Peter Allen, Margaret and Jim Fleck, Lionel F. Conacher and Joan Dea, and grants from the Imperial Tobacco Canada Arts Fund, Canada Council for the Arts and the J.P. Bickell Foundation.