



The Power of Performance **Public Energy**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday, January 25, 2017

BBOYZIM DELIVERS DAZZLING LOOK INTO THE WORLD OF STREET DANCE

February 11th at 8pm

Market Hall Performing Arts Centre

(Peterborough, ON) – Street dance hits the Market Hall stage with Canadian dance troupe Bboyizm. With dynamic global beats and a fusion of authentic street dance and contemporary dance, Bboyizm's latest full-length creation, *Music Creates Opportunity*, is a brilliantly innovative, high energy dancework.

"[The audience] understands that Bboyizm has left the basics behind and is carrying urban dance to the next level..." – Paula Citron, Globe and Mail

Music Creates Opportunity features traditional street dances including B-boying, Rocking, House, and Pantsula, a street dance from Soweto, South Africa. As always, Bboyizm delivers precise and mastered technique; explosive movement; synchronicity and individualism together; and a festive and communicative spirit of movement, music, and life.

In *Music Creates Opportunity*, Crazy Smooth and his Bboyizm dance company, based out of Ottawa/Gatineau, explore themes of personal expression through street dance, pushing the art form to its edges. Audiences will witness music as a universal language that offers a multitude of possibilities for expression -- whether the music is an external force or created by the dancers themselves. They will also witness a new dance form, Rhythmic Contact, as Crazy Smooth and his dancers mix the contemporary dance form known as *contact improvisation* with the music and rhythmic patterns of street dance to create an entirely new dance hybrid. For Bboyizm dance becomes a theatre of meeting -- sometimes harmonious and gentle; sometimes antagonistic and in conflict; always transformative.

Crazy Smooth believes street dancing is about community and growing together and is committed to outreach activities and working with youth as a way of giving back. Members of Bboyizm will teach 10 in-school workshops to students from grades 1-6 on February 6th and 7th, as well as offer community workshops. On Sunday February 12th Bboyizm will teach a workshop

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to newcomers at Peterborough's New Canadians Centre on the basics of street dance including Hip-Hop, Rocking and B-boying. "This is a really exciting opportunity" says Yvonne Lai, Outreach Coordinator at the New Canadians Centre, who is grateful for chance to host this unique workshop at the NCC.

About Bboyizm

Bboyizm (pronounced 'Bee-boy-iz-im') is an award-winning street dance company mandated to promote and preserve the foundation, authenticity and true essence of all street dances. The artistic philosophy of the company is based on the idea that a dancer's self expression is paramount; their motto being "Dance to express! Not to Impress."

Founder and artistic director, Yvon Soglo, aka 'Crazy Smooth' (Smooth to his friends), has been dancing since 1997 and is one of Canada's top street dancers, performers, choreographers, instructors, judges, and community leaders. He was the first b-boy to obtain a Canada Council grant to hone his art and studied with some of America's top street dancers. He coached acrobats at Cirque de Soleil and has performed, taught, coached, and judged competitions in cities and events throughout North America and Europe. In 2004, Smooth founded Bboyizm and the company has successfully brought authentic street dance into the professional theatre setting.

Presented by Public Energy, *Music Creates Opportunity* will be a **one-night-only performance at the Market Hall Performing Arts Centre on Saturday February 11th at 8:00 pm**. Tickets are available at the Market Hall box office (140 Charlotte Street, 3rd Floor) and online at tickets.markethall.org Admission \$24 general / \$17 students, underwaged / \$8 high school students.

The audience is invited to stay for a **post-show Q&A** immediately following the performance.

Appreciation is extended to our show sponsor: **Monkman, Gracie & Johnston Insurance Brokers**.

Our thanks to the Peterborough Foundation for providing school and community outreach project funding. For more information, contact Victoria Mohr-Blakeney at 705-745-1788, or victoria@publicenergy.com.

Show Credits:

Artistic Director/Concept/Choreographer/Performer: Yvon Soglo, aka 'Crazy Smooth'

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Performers: Yvon Soglo, aka Crazy Smooth; Melissa Flerangile, aka Melly Mel; El Houari Si Abdelkader, aka Wary the Warrior; Julie Benoit, aka Julie Rock; Marie Benoit, aka Miss Marie; Mathieu Ulrich, aka Soul Step; Rahime Gay-Labbé, aka NOSB.

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Photo Cutline: Bboyizm street dance troupe in *Music Creates Opportunity*, Saturday, February 11, at 8:00 p.m. Post-show Q&A immediately following the performance. (submitted photo.)

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Please visit the press page on our website (publicenergy.ca/press) for additional show information, press quality images, video trailer, logos and further information about our organization.

Public Energy is a presenter and animator of contemporary dance, theatre, performance, and interdisciplinary work. Their work is dedicated to supporting the creation, touring, and presentation of innovative contemporary performance arts, and to developing audiences that are knowledgeable and passionate.

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