

Fleshy Thud presents

# OSKOREI

at Market Hall  
\$15/\$12

January 7-9, 2010  
8pm



choreography by Ryan Kerr  
music by Ian Osborn

fueled by Public Energy

## Schism

choreographed by Ryan Kerr  
performed by Anne Ryan, Ryan Kerr  
music by Vitamin String Quartet  
lighting design and lighting/sound op by Esther Vincent

Originally performed in 2008, *Schism* is a personal reflection on those people who went to work at the WTC on the morning of September 11, 2001 and had to choose between two options: choke on the smoke in the building, or leap outside into the fresh air. Shortly after the first jet hit at 8:46 a.m. people began to jump or fall and did so as long as the north tower stood. The fall lasted 10 seconds. They fell at 240km per hour – not fast enough to cause unconsciousness while falling, but fast enough to ensure instant death on impact. People jumped from all four sides of the north tower. They jumped alone, in pairs and in groups. After 9/11, Tom Junod a writer from Esquire magazine contacted the coroner's office in New York and asked for a count of how many people jumped. He was told that nobody jumped. The official word was that victims were blown out or they were forced out, but nobody jumped. "There were just those things that day that you weren't supposed to see, you weren't supposed to say and you weren't supposed to talk about." Now it's estimated that anywhere between 50 and 200 jumped out of the Trade Center that day, although experts believe that the higher number is more likely. If so, nearly 8% of those who died in New York on September 11th died by falling or jumping out of the buildings. "In some ways it might just be the last elements of control. To be out of the smoke and the heat, to be out in the air... it must have felt like flying."

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### brief pause

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## Oskorei

choreographed by Ryan Kerr  
performed by Anne Ryan, Sophia Darling,  
Jenn Cole, Ryan Kerr  
music composed by Ian Osborn  
lighting design and lighting/sound op by Esther Vincent  
costumes by Martha Cockshutt  
technical assistance by Don White, Brian Mitolo, Josh Fewings

*Oskorei* lives in many legends. The Norse god Odin leads a horde of wolves howling across the sky, snatching the godless from the Earth below to ride forever through the night. Ranks of Valkyries bear dead warriors from the battlefield, upward, to eternal peace in Valhalla. Bands of outlaw horsemen, their faces blackened, roam the winter countryside demanding tribute from all those whom they encounter. In all these tales, The Dark Ride (*Oskorei*) presages Ragnarok, Armageddon, the end of this Earthly era, the beginning of the next.

The music of *Oskorei* was created during the early summer of 2004. At that time, it was my intention to bring the instrumental portion of the work to near completion and then to add a number of free-form vocals, before mixing the finished piece. Unfortunately, the flood which struck Peterborough that summer destroyed all my audio files, as well as every instrument and

piece of equipment that I had been using on the project. I was left with a rough stereo mix of the instruments on a CDR and thought that the project must end there.

Hearing of my original plan for the piece, a friend convinced me that it was worthwhile attempting to add the vocals to this surviving version. Four singers lent their time and talent to the project and *Oskorei* was finally finished in the autumn of that year. I handed a copy to Ryan Kerr, telling him that I thought the music might be suitable for a dance piece and that, if he agreed, perhaps he'd take on the task of its' choreography some day. So, *Oskorei* then would never have evolved past a water-stained instrumental CDR without the efforts of many generous people within our community.

*I extend my deepest thanks and respect to:*

Cait Neilsen for convincing me to persevere.

Brian Sanderson, Jill Staveley, Brian Mitolo and Sarah Follett for their vocal performances.

Jill Staveley for her brilliant final mix of music and voices.

Ryan Kerr for his five year effort to bring *Oskorei* to the stage.

The whole Backlash tribe for their ongoing support, most especially

Brian Mitolo, Jordan Mack, Rob MacInnis and Loretta Gauthier.

Sara for Beauty, my precious bass guitar, lost in the summer of 2004.

~ Ian Osborn ~ Splinter

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## About Fleishy Thud

Fleishy Thud is a collective of movement based artists in Peterborough, ON, founded by Ryan Kerr in 2008, committed to the creation and production of original dance/movement projects, including live presentations, workshops, site specific works, and film. Fleishy Thud finds its inspiration in the idea that when words fail, dance begins. Through striving for honesty, both in performance and movement, Fleishy Thud attempts to express the inexpressible, interpret the undefined, and learn to have some fun in the process. In just over a year, this group has created nine new choreographic works as well as six short dance films co-created with firewirechannel and Mustang. *Oskorei* is Fleishy Thud's tenth and most ambitious project.

Fleishy Thud would like to thank the following for their assistance and encouragement:

Bill Kimball and Laurel Paluck at Public Energy,

Odin, Julie Fallis and Move n' Groove, and Esther Vincent.

Fleishy Thud will take a one month hiatus upon completion of this production to recuperate and recharge before starting two more exciting new projects to be presented in July 2010.

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This production of *Oskorei* is supported by two programs aimed at assisting the presentation of new work by Peterborough artists: Public Energy's "Fuelled by Public Energy" program and The Market Hall's Innovation Fund. For more information please visit [publicenergy.ca](http://publicenergy.ca) or [markethall.org](http://markethall.org).

Jan 7, 2010



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