

# S T E P H E N P E T R O N I O C O M P A N Y

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## THE CRITICS COMMENT

"He is one of the few contemporary dance makers who have created an instantly recognizable style...fresh and unpredictable...infused with emotional texture and wit...jarring and just right"

-*Roslyn Sulcas, The New York Times*

"...Stephen Petronio and his elegant troupe create indelibly beautiful imagery by matching steps with just the right music and visuals...a feast for the senses..."

- *Rebecca Milzoff, New York Magazine*

"...He has had a singular knack for pairing his sexually charged, elegantly virtuosic movement language with some of the hottest musicians and fashion designers of the moment..."

- *Claudia La Rocco, The New York Times*

### **UNDERLAND (2011)**

The movements of his magnificent dancers are both three-dimensional and incisive...In my mind's eye these wily athletes are always turning, vaulting, charting new directions. In *Underland*, I see them as survivors, insisting on life while buildings collapse and bombs explode behind them...The beautiful, dangerous *Underland* progresses toward a more hopeful conclusion... Although black hearts still flourish underground, art, perhaps, offers redemption.

-*Deborah Jowitt- The Village Voice*

"There's a visceral thrill to Stephen Petronio's choreography that is unlike anything offered by other contemporary choreographers... a superb craftsman who knows how to build and layer a dance, pace the whiplash speed and ....create intriguing configurations through spatial patterns...the movement, with its improbable juxtapositions, seems to pour across the stage..."

-*Roslyn Sulcas, The New York Times*

### **Ghostown (2010)**

"*Ghostown* explores new territory. There are specters among its brilliant population...the choreography conveys a feeling of growth, of yielding, of intermittent tenderness...the dancers seem heated not just by the furnace of their limbs, but by what's changing in the gorgeous, dangerous climate that surrounds them."

- *Deborah Jowitt, The Village Voice*

"...The way Mr. Petronio uses ever-shifting groups of dancers and the edges of the stage is structurally fascinating...this piece conveys a sense of both loss and mystery...Petronio is trying something new here, and the new can take time to settle before our eyes. Like most of his work, you want to see it again."

- *Roslyn Sulcas, The New York Times*

### **I Drink the Air Before Me (2009)**

"...the music and choreography create a sonic, ephemeral wave...ferocious speed, rigorous structure and dancers who ravel and unravel like ribbons... (his) movement also reverberates as an energetic echo, moving past the physical form to etch invisible lines onto his canvas...Mr. Petronio has weathered a perfect storm."

- *Gia Kourlas, The New York Times*

"Stephen Petronio choreographically navigated stormy seas in *I Drink the Air Before Me*, successfully bringing his new hour-long work into a safe harbor. Petronio is known for turbulent dances. But here he's created a piece rich in fantastic implications as well as powerful actions." Of Nico Muhly's score....."Here was one of the finest new dance scores in recent years."

- *Jack Anderson, New York Theatre Wire*