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EDITOR NOTE: Show poster here:

http://www.getrugged.org/images/ruggedshowposter11x17-final_7d37.jpg

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tawnya Kuzia and RUGGED Dance Company present the world premier of

OURGROUND

WITH LIVE MUSIC

Performance Saturday May 29th 8pm > Montgomery Theater in Downtown San Jose

SHORT VERSION:

RUGGED is a young contemporary dance company who's unique style is current, fresh, and contemporary. In OURGROUND unfolds a tale of love and acceptance when a young man finds himself amidst an isolated society of strong self confident women. The show will include highly energetic and percussive live music by Street Drum Corp's BANG. For more information please visit www.getrugged.org, and <http://www.facebook.com/pages/RUGGED-Dance-Company/152410382811?ref=ts>.

TICKETS: www.sjtix.com / 408.792.4111

LONG VERSION:

Dynamically combining innate human emotion, electrifying choreography, and live drums Tawnya Kuzia and RUGGED Dance Company present the world premiere of Ourground, Saturday May 29th 2010, at 8pm, at the Montgomery Theater 271 S. Market St. San Jose, CA 95113. Drenched in youthful, fresh, contemporary movement, Ourground unfolds a tale of love and acceptance when a young man finds himself amidst an isolated society of strong, confident, curious women. Based on themes from Charlotte Perkins Gilman's "Herland" the dancers dwell (or the story surrounds) in a futuristic isolated society of women existing underground forbidden from any contact with men. Void of all contact with the male race, the women have developed into a strong,

independent, self producing community sustaining themselves through a miraculous source of energy in the center of their colony. Although, their seemingly utopic society does incur one tragic law, the absence of love and the oppression of the human necessity to love and be loved. Without the freedom to share this need with whom they choose creates division and tension amongst the pack when one of the women falls wildly in love with their unexpected male visitor. The story surrounds the individual emotional journeys of these people and how they learn to accept each other's differences.

Tawnya Kuzia's choreography is feminine but masculine, and mechanical while still human. The music like the movement is instinctive as it travels through emotional and physical layers of intense, vulnerable, mechanical and sensual melodies. The show will include highly energetic and percussive live music by Street Drum Corp and a full theatrical production design by motion picture designer Jason Kuzia. To-date sponsors of Ourground include, Dancer's Group, Nor Cal Dance Arts, and Lowes.

ABOUT TAWNYA KUZIA AND RUGGED DANCE COMPANY:

Since the company's inception in late 2009 RUGGED dance company has produced two world premiers as well as several performances locally in San Jose and San Francisco California. Under the direction of Tawnya Kuzia, the company dares to entertain audiences while blurring the lines between commercial and concert dance. Tawnya's style combines classical technique such as ballet, jazz, and modern, with contemporary vision and hip hop movement quality. This combination of presentational and visceral choreography is best classified as current, contemporary, rugged.

Recently the company traveled to New York City to perform in the annual Capezio A.C.E. (Award for Choreographic Excellence) choreography competition and showcase. Kuzia was selected out of hundreds to present her work and compete amongst some of the best emerging choreographers in the nation. Her choreography as well as the Company received rave reviews and much support from the Bay Area as Tawnya was named Top 25 to watch in the Metro Silicon Valley Newspaper in April of 2010. Throughout their first season RUGGED has also performed at Cowell Theater (SF), The Garage (SF), CounterPulse SF, The Hyatt (San Jose), Montgomery Theater (San Jose), The Circle of Palms, and San Jose State University where the company was awarded the "Peoples Choice" award honor.

Rugged is extremely passionate about exposing the non-dance community to the art of dance. The company is determined to increase support for the art of dance locally and internationally through entertaining audiences and provoking communication about the joy and art of dance amongst dancers and non-

dancers alike. RUGGED strives to be a fresh and original voice in the artistic community. For more information visit www.getrugged.org.

ABOUT STREET DRUM CORP

Street Drum Corps presents BANG! is a high energy mobile drumming trio known for their unique blend of amazing percussion skills with ordinary found objects. The group was born from Interscope Records artist Street Drum Corps desire to bring their singular brand of beat-driven music shows to the masses. BANG! has been wowing audiences for over 5 years with their fun, interactive percussion show. They have performed at California's Great America Halloween Haunt, they have previously been on the Vans Warped Tour 2008 playing with pop sensation Katy Perry on her hit song "I Kissed A Girl," drummed alongside Warner Bros. Records band the Used and with multi-platinum artists Linkin Park and Chris Cornell on the ProjektRevolution Tour. They have also been seen on The Tonight Show with Conan O'Brien performing with 30 Seconds to Mars. Street Drum Corps presents BANG! has also played various amusement parks and college campuses across the U.S. and are available for private events.
<http://www.myspace.com/bangsdcc>

TICKETS AND INFORMATION

Tickets for the world premier performance of Ourground are priced \$15-\$20 and may be purchased by calling the Montgomery Theater box office at 408.792.4111 or at www.sjtix.com.

CALENDAR EDITOR PLEASE LIST

World Premier of groundbreaking RUGGED Dance Company's OURGROUND

What: World premiere of Tawnya Kuzia and RUGGED Dance Company's Ourground

When: Saturday May 29th @ 8pm

Where: Montgomery Theater 271 S. Market St. San Jose, CA 95113

Tickets: General: \$20, Students with ID and Seniors \$15

Available by calling Montgomery Theater box office: 408.792.4111

www.sjtix.com Visa and Mastercard are accepted

Website: www.getrugged.org

Show Trailor: <http://www.youtube.com/user/getRUGGED>