

# PHILLY KERLOP

## MEDIA KIT

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### DANCE & MUSIC

INTERACTIVE PERFORMANCE



# PHILLY KERPLOP IS

A PERFORMANCE  
ENSEMBLE THAT  
COMBINES  
INQUISITIVE  
DANCE THEATER  
WITH PLAYFUL  
ENTERTAINMENT  
FOR ALL AGES

## CURIOSITY + TRADITION:

- Rooted in hip hop with a reverence for African Diaspora traditions celebrating an interactive relationship between dancer and musician.
- Engaging audiences by erasing fourth wall as part of folkloric storytelling methods.
- Informed by early 20th century vaudeville and slapstick traditions that celebrate an interdependence between feats of the body, live music, and exciting content.
- Offering playfulness between sound and physicality to inspire a more understanding, and creative public.



## PERFORMANCES



### I.D.

I.D. is an uplifting duet that celebrates race, culture and gender diversity through a sound and movement journey. Vince Johnson and Francois Zayas use their fluency in multiple styles within their respective disciplines to slide between genre and identities. Their message is that we are all connected. Johnson fuses influences from hip hop, martial arts and contemporary dance into aerodynamic expressions of grace and control. Zayas delivers ear-bending beats, sewing a quilt of percussive textures from around the world.

I.D. was developed with support from MANCC Forward Dialogues Residency.

## CRUMBLE TO CREATION

Crumble to Creation is a fun and engaging performance that explores the fluidity between destruction and creation, the fractured and the whole. The music and movement uses recognizable genres of jazz, funk, rock, hip hop and rumba layered or mutated to challenge audience expectation. The work is made to simultaneously uplift and captivate children and parents alike. Performers emerge from and dissolve into the audience, supporting audience participation and interaction. The dancers contort, fly, fall, collide, glide, redirect, and animate. Crumble to Creation poetically presents brokenness in all its humor, perplexity and beauty through music and dance.



## EDUCATION



### LECTURE/ASSEMBLIES

- history of hip hop
- physical fitness
- leadership anti-bullying
- diversity and cultural appreciation
- folklore of African diaspora

### DANCE CLASSES

- Hip Hop
- House
- Breaking

### MUSIC CLASSES

- Percussion
- Singing
- Music appreciation

### Members of the company bring fluency in Spanish, French, Filipino, and Japanese

Our music programming covers a variety of cultures including West African, Balkan, Carribean, and South American.

We are also equipped to provide programming for professional/pre-professional artists.



## WHO WE ARE


### ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Vince Johnson is a Philadelphia based artist and educator. Hip hop dance and martial arts have been his primary disciplines since childhood. He has also studied physical theater, clown, and percussion. He is alumnus of Rennie Harris Puremovement and has worked in various art sectors. He is founding director of Movemakers Philly and Urban Movement Arts. Both organizations function as community resource centers for a broad range of performing artists and dance practitioners.

### MUSIC DIRECTOR

Francois Zayas is a composer, arranger and percussionist. Born in Cuba, Zayas graduated from and taught at the Instituto Superior de Artes (ISA) in 1998. He was also a member of the National Symphonic Orchestra of Cuba. From 1994 to his establishment in the USA in 2006, he made several international tours with different groups. Francois directs Philly Music Factory.

Philly Kerplop's crew of performers and production team is made up of a rotating cast.



"VINCE RAN WITH THE THEME OF THE DAY AND CREATED A TRULY INNOVATIVE PIECE THAT CAPTIVATED FAMILIES WITH SKILL, ELEMENTS OF SURPRISE, WIT, AND HIGH ENERGY."

**FAMILY PROGRAMS,  
PHILADELPHIA MUSEUM OF ART**

"VINCE JOHNSON JUMPS HIGH HIS FEET HAVE TIME TO TWIRL AROUND CORKSCREW-LIKE BEFORE HAVING TO TOUCH BACK DOWN."

**LISA KRAUS, THE INQUIRER  
(PHILADELPHIA, PA)**

"MAJESTIC ARRANGEMENTS... SWIRLING FROM OUT OF THE FIERY CAULDRON OF AFRO-CUBAN MUSIC."

**RAUL DE GAMA, LATIN JAZZ  
NET (ONTARIO, CANADA)**

2017 MANCC FORWARD  
DIALOGUES, CHOREOGRAPHIC LAB RECIPIENT  
2012 PHILADELPHIA LIVE ARTS/PHILLY FRINGE  
LAB FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT  
2010 ROCKY AWARD RECIPIENT

**PRESS & PRAISE**