FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE/LISTING, PLEASE!

Press contact: Brian Rogers 718/482-7069

brian@chocolatefactorytheater.org



THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY PRESENTS Megan V. Sprenger / MVworks

Flutter

September 18-21, 2013 Wednesday - Saturday @ 8pm

@ The Chocolate Factory
5-49 49th Avenue, Long Island City, NYC 11101
*7 train to Vernon/Jackson (1st stop in Queens - 5 minutes from Grand Central!)

August 12, 2013 – **The Chocolate Factory** (<u>www.chocolatefactorytheater.org</u>) opens its Fall 2013 season with *Flutter*, a new performance by **Megan V. Sprenger / MVworks**. Tickets are \$15 and may be purchased in advance at (212) 352-3101 or on the web @ www.chocolatefactorytheater.org.

Flutter is a new evening-length piece created by **Megan V. Sprenger** / MVworks. Through the creation and presentation of *Flutter*, MVworks is exploring themes of individuality, vulnerability and compassion. Compositionally, *Flutter* places abstract movement next to, within, and following story-driven content. The interaction between these elements creates subtle plot lines that ebb and flow throughout the dance. Much of the movement for the work has been individually crafted for each performer based on their personality, preferences and habits.

Flutter is a collaborative project created by Megan V. Sprenger with performers Donna Cicchesi, Michael Ingle, Tara O'Con, and Anna Adams Stark, with additional movement vocabulary provided by Megan Madorin, Kendra Portier, Yarden Raz and Alli Ruszkowski. The production will include lighting design by Joe Levasseur, scenic design by Brad Kisicki, sound composition by Jason Sebastian, and costumes by Naomi Luppescu.

MVworks was founded in 2005 by Megan V. Sprenger. The company's first two evening-length works, *No Where* and ... within us., were commissioned by Performance Space 122. The company has also been presented in New York City through Performance Space 122's COIL 2010, Fridays at Noon at the 92nd Street Y, THROW at The Chocolate Factory and Galapagos Art Space, WAXworks at University Settlement, and Dance Theater Workshop's 40th Birthday Celebration. International engagements include the Mexico/US Contemporary Dance Festival in Coyoacán, Mexico. MVworks was a 2006 Abrons Art Center Drawing Board Series Artist in Residence. Nationally, company

repertory has been set on students at Anderson University in Anderson, IN through their Guest Artist Program. www.mvworks.org

Megan V. Sprenger is the Artistic Director of MVworks. In addition to her work with the company, she curated a Friday's at Noon program at the 92nd Street Y titled Am I too Close?, and was a member of the Dance Theater Workshop Fresh Tracks Performance and Residency selection Panel in 2010. As a performer she has danced with Tina Croll & Dancers and Catherine Tharin. She recently had the pleasure of guest performing with the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company. Ms. Sprenger worked in the marketing department at Dance Theater Workshop from 2003 – 2011 and was the Director of Marketing and Public Relations when the organization merged with Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company to form New York Live Arts, where she worked until 2012. She currently can be found at Polskin Arts & Communications Counselors. Ms. Sprenger is a board member of The Shakespeare Forum.

ABOUT THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

"It feels a little bit like the first New York I knew in the '70s and '80s,' " he said. "Not in a retro way at all, but art and residence and commerce were in a more balanced relationship than they are now. It's not a reference to that time, just a little place where that is occurring again." – Tere O'Connor, in a New York Times Profile of the Chocolate Factory, May 2010

The Obie Award-winning Chocolate Factory Theater supports the creation of new work in a variety of disciplines including theater, dance, music, multimedia and the visual arts. The Factory's 5,000 square foot facility is home to new work by the company's founding artists; and provides support to visiting artists in the form of multi-week creative residencies; dedicated access to space and technical equipment free of charge; marketing, press, and administrative assistance; commissioning support; and a guaranteed artist fee. Since its first season in Fall 2005, the Visiting Artist Program (curated by Artistic Director Brian Rogers) has become a leading incubator for new developments in experimental performance.

The Chocolate Factory values the process of creation and the spirit of experimentation. The work of our founding artists and our dedication to supporting the creation of new work by Visiting Artists bears this out. The Factory's founding artists needed a space in which to create and present their work on their own terms, with full technical support, over an extended period of time. Our work with Visiting Artists is an extension of this principle.

Artists invited to work at The Chocolate Factory receive dedicated rehearsal and performance residencies and are encouraged to put our space and technical resources to use in imaginative ways, with very few practical limitations. To this end, our multi-use spaces are designed for maximum flexibility.

The work of the Factory's founding artists emphasizes multi-disciplinary collaboration – combining movement, music, video and text to devise a means of storytelling that is

immediate, collage-like, highly visual, and dependent on new technologies. When successful, our work is not easily categorized as theater, dance, new music, or video art and is rather a thorough intermingling of these disciplines. By extension, our curatorial values when it comes to Visiting Artists leads us to work that exists across or between disciplines – work that requires new methods, more time, and a new kind of audience.