



ULSTER COUNTY NEWS

ULSTER COUNTY NEWS INFORMATION
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Risa Jaroslow & Dancers Premieres County Encounters At The Ulster County Office Building

Risa Jaroslow & Dancers will make their Ulster County debut in an unlikely place – outside of the Ulster County Office Building. This new work, titled *County Encounters*, brings electrifying dance and provocative questions into an otherwise prosaic experience for people visiting the building, passers-by, and the general public.

The upcoming presidential election has created an unusual focus on government and our role in it as citizens. *County Encounters* will focus that attention on the most local level of government. Seven dancers will engage in a range of small to large confrontations with each other. Some will be resolved, others won't, and others will end without a discernible outcome. Simultaneously, an interviewer will interact with people entering and leaving the building. Why are they there? Did they get what they needed? Does local government serve them well? If not, why not? How could it be better? What do they think of the dance that's happening? Their answers will be amplified, forming the sound score for the dancing.

All performances of *County Encounters* are free and open to the public. Performances will take place at 1 pm and 4 pm on Wednesday, July 2nd and at 1 pm on Thursday, July 3rd at the entrance to the county offices, 244 Fair Street, Kingston. Performances are funded by the New York State Danceforce, and presented by Ulster County.

Jaroslow says she was inspired to make this piece by the entry to the Municipal Building in New York City, where the piece will be performed later in the month. "People come to city buildings for so many different reasons," she says. "I wanted to see if dance could bring a different kind of awareness to that experience, and to see if, by placing it in people's paths, I could make dance feel relevant to people's everyday lives."

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Jaroslow's critically-acclaimed company has been making dances for over 23 years. They have performed at all the major venues for modern dance in New York City, including Dance Theater Workshop, Lincoln Center Out-of-Doors, and Danspace Project. Jaroslow works with a wide range of different communities, from senior adults to survivors of domestic violence to at-risk teens. She is an increasingly regular presence in Ulster, and is looking forward to engaging with Ulster residents as she establishes a second home base for her company in the Kingston area.

For more information about this performance, contact: 845-340-3566. For more information on Risa Jaroslow & Dancers, call 212-233-0330, or go to www.risajaroslow.org. This project is supported by the New York State DanceForce with funding from the New York State Council on the Arts and Altria Group, Inc, and by the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council's Sitelines 2008.