

**MAY 15, 2012
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**PICA SYMPOSIUM PRESENTS
KEITH HENNESSY: *CROTCH (ALL THE JOSEPH BEUYS REFERENCES IN THE WORLD
CANNOT HEAL THE PAIN, CONFUSION, REGRET, CRUELTY, BETRAYAL OR TRAUMA...)***

When: June 21, 2012, 8pm
Where: Studio 2, 810 SE Belmont, Portland, OR 97214
Tickets: \$15 PICA Members/\$20 General (online at pica.org starting June 1)

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Press Photos: http://www.pica.org/himages/PRESS/2012/04_Symposium/

Press Kit: <http://picaresourceroom.org/index.php?/symposium/keith-hennessy/>

In conjunction with Keith Hennessy's symposium residency, PICA will present his award-winning solo dance *Crotch (all the Joseph Beuys references in the world cannot heal the pain, confusion, regret, cruelty, betrayal or trauma...)*. On the surface *Crotch* is about art, its histories, and its heroes. Deeper, a sadness grows, a queer melancholy. Moving across a stage full of sculpture, Hennessy references the images and actions of the legendary artist Joseph Beuys, embodying his shamanic beliefs and channeling this mythic figure. With music ranging from Emmy Lou Harris to Nirvana, *Crotch* is a song, a dance, a lecture, and a conversation with the dead. True to Beuys' legacy and Hennessy's improvisational practice, Chaos through Play becomes Form.

PICA

Keith Hennessy is an award-winning San Francisco-based performer, choreographer, teacher, organizer, and a current PhD candidate in Performance Studies at UC Davis. *San Francisco Weekly* writes of his practice that Hennessy, "ignites any subject he tackles [...] it is through a genius like Hennessy, though, that we can confront the state of the human contradiction." Hennessy directs Circo Zero Performance and co-founded 848 Community Space/CounterPULSE in San Francisco. Hennessy has taught and led workshops around the world and has performed at such institutions and Festivals as Queer Zagreb in Croatia, Dance Theater Workshop and American Realness Festival in New York, Impulstanz in Vienna, and YBCA in San Francisco. His awards include two Isadora Duncan Awards, a New York Dance and Performance Award (Bessie), and a Goldie award from the SF Bay Guardian.

PICA Symposium

Crotch is staged alongside of the *PICA Symposium: Bodies, Identities & Alternative Economies*, a weekend of performances, discussions, screenings, and lectures on the ideas and politics behind Hennessy's in-progress TBA:12 performance *Turbulence (a dance about the economy)*. The Symposium takes place June 21–24, 2012. For more details: pica.org.