



Photo: William Cameron

## ARTIST BIO

Pramila Vasudevan is a choreographer and interdisciplinary artist. She is the founding Artistic Director of Aniccha Arts, an experimental arts group producing site-specific performances that examine agency, voice, and group dynamics within community histories, institutions, and systems. Aniccha Arts is best known for *3600 Cuts* (2017), *Census* (2016), and *In Habit: Living Patterns* (2012), Northern Lights.mn commissions that were experienced by thousands at the annual all-night Northern Spark Festival; *Every Other* (2015), a site-specific performance installation at Grain Belt Studios; plus commissions from the Walker Art Center and Weisman Art Museum. Pramila is a 2017 Guggenheim Fellow for Choreography. Pramila is a Teaching Artist with Upstream Arts, serving individuals with disabilities; and Director of Naked Stages, a fellowship program for emerging performance artists at Pillsbury House + Theatre.

## REPERTOIRE AVAILABLE FOR TOURING

Through Aniccha Arts, I will be collaborating with Piotr Szyhalski to present **3600 Cuts**. This interdisciplinary performance is about the endless quest for “higher resolution”—the technological obsession of achieving finer grain and more detail—and how this sometimes illuminating, sometimes destructive phenomenon connects to the parallel quest for understanding human ecology.

**Performers:** 1 sound artist, 6 dancers, 1 interface designer

**Tech:**

- 2 rollable screen contraptions that include:
  - 75 inch TV screen
  - 1 rollable Rectangular screen (10ft wide x 6ft high)
  - 1 rollable sound table (2ft x 8ft x 2ft high)
  - 12 LED tube lights hung from the grid

## WHAT ARE YOU WORKING ON IN THE NEXT TWO YEARS?



Photo: Tim Rummelhoff

Early next year I will collaborate with NYC dancers to recreate *3600 Cuts* at Gibney Dance (February 8-10, 2018). I will also be working on the 'Parking Ramp Project', a project where I use the visible slant of a parking ramp to explore questions about transience and migration brought about by my third-culture identity. This piece will feature 63 performers in a seven-level BCS Health Partners parking ramp in Bloomington, Minnesota, September 28-29, 2018. Audiences can view the work from the outside, witnessing the striking image of many bodies across the ramp at once, or they can go inside the ramp to experience a more intimate, immersive environment filled with performers, objects, sound, and light/projection. The slant of each level visually conveys a sense of instability and constant movement: the performers' bodies have to work against the slope to find their individual verticality. How do we find poise in constant transience?

### MCKNIGHT ARTIST FELLOWSHIPS

The McKnight Fellowships for Choreographers awards Minnesota choreographers whose work is of exceptional artistic merit, who have created a substantial body of work over a period of time, and who are at a career stage that is beyond emerging. Three fellows are selected each year to receive a substantial unrestricted cash award, as well as additional support for career and artistic development.

The McKnight Fellowships for Choreographers is a program of The Cowles Center for Dance & the Performing Arts and is funded by the McKnight Foundation. Support for individual artists has been a cornerstone of The McKnight Foundation's Arts program since it began in 1981. The foundation recognizes that the arts cannot flourish or enhance community life without the ideas, energy, and drive of individual artists, and that artists cannot make these contributions without unfettered creative time. Awards are made in 10 disciplines through nine arts organizations and presenters.

### THE COWLES CENTER

The Cowles Center for Dance & the Performing Arts is the flagship institution for dance in Minnesota. Centrally located in Downtown Minneapolis, The Cowles Center includes the 500-seat Goodale Theater, a historic Shubert building and the oldest theater in Downtown; the former Hennepin Center for the Arts, home to 20 leading dance and performing arts organizations; the state-of-the-art Target Education Studio, housing The Cowles Center's innovative distance learning program; the Illusion Theater; the James Sewell Ballet TEK Box; and the U.S. Bank Atrium. The Cowles Center is a catalyst for the creation, presentation, education, enjoyment, and celebration of dance and the performing arts in the Twin Cities.