

Seattle Dance Annual, reviewers recall highlights of 2013

Sandra Kurtz

Ezra Dickinson's *Mother for you i made this*, focused our attention on a different kind of prison, the grim combination of homelessness and mental illness that traps so many people we see on the street. The work was full of beautiful and painful contradictions—the evening I went, the air was balmy and the light was tender, which gave an almost unrealistic romanticism to the experience. He led us through the streets and alleys that are home for too many people, but his innate sweetness was a welcome buffer against despair.

Rachel Gallaher

The emotional pull of Ezra Dickinson's *Mother for you I made this*. This is hands-down my personal favorite piece of 2013.

Melody Elena Datz

Ezra dickinson's *Mother for you I made this* literally brought dance into the streets of downtown Seattle. Instead of merely demonstrating his work to an audience, Dickinson equalized the choreography with its historical and emotional foundations, the music, and the venue—creating a work that was both a product of his environment and a gift to it.

Michael Upchurch

Ezra dickinson: In what was surely the most unusual dance project of 2013, Dickinson made the streets around Seattle's Greyhound bus station his stage set for this mediation on his relationship with his schizophrenic mother. The headphone audio guide had its practical side, ensuring you could hear the sounds and music Dickinson had assembled with composer Paul Walsh. But it also stood in as a kind of illness- mimicking auditory hallucination, cutting you off from your normal surroundings.

Marcie Sillman

Dancer Ezra Dickinson's moving solo *Mother for you I made this*. Dickinson's mother suffers from mental illness and at one point in her life was homeless on the Seattle streets. This solo was performed in the evening on those same streets and was an elegant meld of street art, classical performance, and tribute. I haven't stopped thinking about it since I saw it.