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**ISLAND MOVING COMPANY NAMES PETER BRAMANTE AS  
THEIR NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**NEWPORT, R.I. (January 2, 2020)** -- After a nationwide search, Island Moving Company (IMC) has named Peter Nicholas Bramante their new executive director. Bramante represents IMC's third executive director and will begin his new role on January 2, 2020. Bramante brings strong leadership skills and over 25 years of experience in the nonprofit cultural sector as an executive, manager, artist and educator. Bramante's movement work for Rhode Island theatre includes productions at Trinity Rep, The Providence Performing Arts Center, and Perishable Theatre.

Bramante previously served as Managing Director for FirstWorks. His duties included strategy, program/operations, marketing and institutional advancement. In 2010, he developed FirstWorks arts-learning program-initially serving 500 students. By 2016 the initiative benefitted over 4,500 students. Bramante produced FirstWorks participation in PVD Fest, co-wrote and implemented a Dance USA- for Engaging Dance Audiences grant and helped raise \$375,000 annually. Bramante also served as a liaison to Providence Mayor Jorge Elorza's office and Providence's Department of Art, Culture & Tourism on its signature PVD Fest.

Martha Parker, IMC's Chair of the Board of Directors says, "The Board of Directors is excited to have Peter Bramante join Island Moving Company as the new Executive Director. He will bring his first-hand experience and knowledge of dance and the Rhode Island non-profit community to our organization. Peter and Miki Ohlsen, our Artistic Director, make a dynamic team; they complement each other in so many ways."

"This is an exciting time to be joining the leadership team at IMC, Bramante says. I've known and admired Miki Ohlsen's work for many years-and have watched the artistic quality of the company ascend to world-class standards. IMC has evolved into a vital economic and cultural asset to Newport and Rhode Island. I am proud to have been selected to help steward the organization into its fourth decade and beyond."

IMC's Artistic Director, Miki Ohlsen says, "I am so excited to be working with Peter as we co-lead IMC into its fourth decade. Peter has been a leader in the arts community in Rhode Island and further afield for many years. He brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise of the dance world and has great experience in leading not for profit organizations into the future. I have no doubt he will be successful with IMC. This is a wonderful opportunity for all of us."

### **Peter Bramante Biography**

Bramante grew up in Fitchburg, Massachusetts. He lived in Providence for 24 years and now resides in Tiverton, R.I with his husband. He earned a B.A. in Arts Management and Dance at Roger Williams University. He also earned an MFA in Dance Science and Performance Studies at Connecticut College while enrolled through a full fellowship. An advocate for experiential, arts-based learning, Bramante has held adjunct and associate professorships at Brown University/Trinity Repertory Consortium, Roger Williams University, Rhode Island College and Connecticut College.

From 1984 to 2000, Bramante was a founding member and Co-Artistic Director of Groundwerx Dance Theatre. He created over 25 choreographic works and directed all company productions and educational programs. During his time at Groundwerx, he was recipient of four choreographic fellowship awards from the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts and a fellowship from the American Dance Festival. His choreographic work and commissions were presented at numerous universities, theatres and festivals across the country, including Gowanus Arts Exchange, Brooklyn, New York, Juneau Dance Unlimited, Juneau, Alaska and The Kennedy Center in Washington D.C.

Bramante provided leadership for the Rhode Island Chapter of the Arts & Business Council (A&BC/RI) by serving as Executive Director from 2000-2010. During his tenure, A&BC/RI expanded local programs and services, created innovative audience development tools and broadened the scope of nationally funded resources aimed at building capacity of R.I.'s cultural institutions. Bramante co-developed and implemented the State's first centralized, marketing & box office service--ArtTixri.com in 2002--that served over 50 arts and cultural organizations.

In 2010, Bramante oversaw an upgrade to a new generation of the ArtTix platform that allowed for the creation of a centralized, community event calendar consortium comprised of the State Tourism, State Arts Council, Providence Department of Art, Culture & Tourism and Downtown Improvement District presently known today as ArtsNowRI.com.

### **IMC History & Mission**

IMC is a non-profit, classically trained contemporary ballet company located at 3 Charles Street in Newport, R.I. IMC was founded in 1982 on the belief that collaboration and a supportive environment enhance the creative process, producing great works of art representing profound expressions of the human spirit and experience.

IMC seeks to develop dance as a valuable art form for our community through presenting original works of choreography which connect audiences to their own emotions and provides a shared experience that transcends cultural boundaries. Through education and outreach, dance enriches the life of our community and positively impacts the individual's sense of self.

Under the leadership of Artistic Director Miki Ohlsen, IMC has produced and presented dances by a diverse group of choreographers, working with musicians, poets, and visual artists. IMC is known for its creative use of unusual venues, creating site specific work for Rosecliff, Belcourt Castle and other Newport sites.

Open for Dancing, a site-specific dance and art festival, has engaged over 500 participants in the community, as well as choreographers such as Monica Bill Barnes, Joanna Haigood, Noemie Lafrance, Third Rail Projects' Zach Morris, and Tom Pearson.

The Great Friends Touring Project uses a ten-day summer dance festival as the basis for a network of partnerships with other dance companies around the country. The project has brought IMC to audiences in Missouri, California, Texas, and Colorado. IMC traveled to Kazakhstan to dance with Samruk Dance Company and their Artistic Director Gulnara Adamova. The tour coincided with the celebration of the 25th Anniversary of US/Kazakhstan relations. The US Consulate sponsored cultural exchanges in two additional cities after we spent the first week in Almaty with Samruk. IMC also works extensively in the schools, interacting with students K-12 in curriculum based movement residencies throughout R.I. and Massachusetts. IMC' dancers work with over 5000 children annually through creative movement programs that imaginatively link movement to the curriculum.

For more information about IMC visit [www.islandmovingco.org](http://www.islandmovingco.org)