

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**World Premiere of NVA's Ghost Peloton to illuminate Yorkshire leading up to the  
Grand Depart of the Tour de France**

The World Premiere of **Ghost Peloton** was today announced as part of the Yorkshire Festival Programme. Taking place on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> May 2014 at Waides Yard (former Tetley Brewery), Leeds as part of the very first cultural festival in over 100 years to accompany the Grand Depart for the launch of the Tour de France.

**Ghost Peloton** is an exciting collaboration between Glasgow based public arts charity **NVA** and Leeds based **Phoenix Dance Theatre**, in partnership with the national cycling advocacy charity **Sustrans**. **Ghost Peloton** builds on the worldwide success of NVA's *Speed of Light* which since 2012 has choreographed 5,000 endurance runners in sites as diverse as Arthur's Seat, Yokohama docks and the entire Ruhr valley. Originally planned to be part of the Glasgow Commonwealth Games programme it represents a massive coup for the Yorkshire Festival.

Ghost Peloton incorporates a riding team of 50 road racers, stunt cyclists and large-scale projection of supremely athletic dancers all utilising unique remote controlled light suits to produce a stunning live choreography. An appeal has already been launched to engage experienced Yorkshire racing cyclists to encourage them get involved in this once-in-a-lifetime experience.

**Ghost Peloton** utilises formation choreography of the self illuminated squad of cyclists drawing on the spirit of the Tour de France but forsaking dreams of individual heroism. A performance of mass communal movement in Central Leeds is juxtaposed with complex film sequences inspired by the wheel in motion and performed by Phoenix's highly trained dancers alongside film of the ghost peloton on location throughout the race route across Yorkshire.

The combined effect of this kinetic and electromagnetic energy is sensational being made by cyclists and dancers lending their honest toil to creating a strange new visual geometry across the rural land and cityscapes of the county.

Each ghost rider, bike and dancer will be fully illuminated with a bespoke LED light suit which can instantaneously change colour, flash-rate and luminosity. The combined results produce mesmeric light patterns as the riders interact with their passing surroundings culminating in the monumental performance and film projection in central Leeds.

Both as large-scale public art and through the powerful film and photography it will inspire, the work allows us to see the body in perfect motion and to look again at familiar perspectives where we live.

The landscape of Yorkshire from remote moor to urban heartland becomes an open canvas carrying a new visual language, expressing mood and movement seen in live performance and **a final film which may be broadcast to an audience of 180 million people in over 150 countries during the Grand Depart over the opening two days of the race in July 2014.**

For ticket and performance information and full festival details go to:

[www.nvaspeedoflight/ghostpeloton](http://www.nvaspeedoflight/ghostpeloton)

<http://festival.yorkshire.com>

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