IS... VITAL SIGNS....VITAL

30x30x30/7

BalletMet Columbus has found an innovative-and numerical-way of celebrating the summer of their 30th anniversary. Over the course of seven days, 30 choreographers will create 30 new works in only 30 hours! Artistic director Gerald Charles has assembled a diverse roster that includes James Kudelka, Alex Ketley, Nai-Ni Chen, and BalletMet's own Princess Grace Award winner Jimmy Orrante. The company (including David Tlaiye, Adam Hundt, and Jackson Sarver at right) will allow audiences to observe the process. They will witness the drama of rehearsals, the frenzy of showings, and the spectacle of performance. Aug. 6-26. www.balletmet.org.



Kitty McNamee's L.A.-based Hysterica Dance Co. (below), known for its high voltage contemporary style, will celebrate its 10th anniversary as part of Ford Amphitheatre's 2007 season. With revivals of Sticks & Stones (2002) and Noir (2000) the company will put their erotic appeal on display, and premiere three new pieces set to original music in high fashion costuming. Aug. 3. www.hystericadance.com.



Aichael Horta, Courtesy Hysterica



How do you make dances in a space-challenged city? Answer: on a pint-sized table top. This is what Ten Tiny Dances, based in Portland, OR, has been doing for five years. Two or more dancers get on top of a low 4' x 4' platform, dance real close, and try out their choreography in miniature (Carla Mann, left). Mike Barber, who came up with the idea, calls it a "traveling performance party." Recent Tiny Dances have come to the Bluehour restaurant in Portland; Jazzbones music venue in Tacoma, WA; and the lobby of the grand McCaw Hall during Pacific Northwest Ballet's "Celebrate Seattle" festival. Want to make your own tiny dance? See www.tentinydances.org.



COULD IT BE? NEW NUREYEV!

Just when you thought you knew everything there was to know about Rudolf Nureyev, PBS makes you think twice. On Aug. 29 their Great Performances series will air the documentary Nureyev: The Russian Years. Voices from the past tell another side of the familiar story. Once shrouded behind the Iron Curtain, friends and colleagues of the iconic dancer speak freely about his time in the Soviet Union. And what would a film about Nureyev be without dancing? The Russian Years includes performance footage never before seen in the West. The old is new again as the icon dances on. See www.pbs.org.



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