

Our weekly newsletters. Published every weekend.
SATURDAY STYLELETTER &
BEST OF THE STANDARD



AUGUST 1, 2013



SUBSCRIBE

THE SPRAWL CULTURE STYLE BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY SPORTS FOREIGN DESK VIDEO

SEARCH



Victoria Mohr-Blakeney

Latest articles by contributor

CULTURE | Dance in the City: Divergent Dances for Windows and Walls JULY 27TH, 2012

CULTURE | Dance in the City: Toronto Burlesque Festival JULY 20TH, 2012

CULTURE | Dance in the City: Dance at the Toronto Fringe Festival JULY 10TH, 2012

CULTURE | Dance in the City: Sadeh21 JUNE 18TH, 2012

CULTURE | Luminato: Playing Cards with Robert Lepage JUNE 18TH, 2012

CULTURE | ART AND DESIGN

Dance in the City: Adaptation Project

"The impetus came from Trent's desire to create a piece of choreography that would connect and respond to the company's 38 years of dance"

APRIL 20TH, 2012

Like 98 Send Tweet 3

COMMENTS



Dancemakers - The Adaptation Project - Ömer K. Yükker

Everything has been done already, in some form or another. In the words of Goethe, "Everything has been thought of before, but the problem is to think of it again". On this point, Goethe and Michael Trent, artistic director of Dancemakers Centre for Creation and choreographer of *Adaptation Project*, firmly agree. Delving into Toronto dance history and the Dancemakers video archives, Trent created *Adaptation Project* in response to Mitchel Rose's 1974 choreography, *Following Station Identification*. In *Adaptation Project*, Trent uses Rose's choreography, and the adaptation process itself as the inspiration for his creation.

The impetus for *Adaptation Project* came from Trent's desire to create a piece of choreography that would connect and respond to the company's 38 years of dance, including a repertoire of over one hundred Canadian and International choreographies.

Adaptation Project begins casually. Five dancers mill about the stage in warm-up gear, hoodies and track pants, as musician Thom Gill sets up in the corner fiddling with instruments and sound equipment.

Throughout the performance, offstage is onstage. Along the edges of the space, the dancers seemingly relax, peel off layers, sit down, and watch each other, adding to the casual and personal feel of the show. It looks as though the audience just happened upon a rehearsal, and like a rehearsal, the show has that intimate, messy, and spontaneous, anything-can-happen feeling about it.

Throughout *Adaptation Project*, the dancers shift in and out of each other's spaces, coupling briefly and dissolving, continuously reestablishing their relationships. At one point, Kate Holden and Robert Abudo begin a diagonal duet. Holden's head presses into Abudo's back, as they move slowly like molasses, silently supporting each other's weight. Suddenly, she hangs from him,

DAILY CABLE



Old Walmart Becomes America's Largest Library

Maybe we should just skip a step and build a library on Bathurst? — [More](#)



Attention, Commuters: Spadina-King Intersection To Be Shut Down for Two Weeks

TTC construction will force commuters to seek alternative routes as of August 6 — [More](#)



Drake's New Track "All Me" Features an Aziz Ansari Sample

And it's all about me me me me me me me me — [More](#)



MORNING CABLE: Thursday August 1, 2013

Edward Snowden's latest leaked document reveals the alarming extent of state surveillance and other... — [More](#)



Street Artists in St. James Town to Create the City's Tallest Art Installation

Community mural could break a world record — [More](#)



MORNING CABLE: Wednesday July 31, 2013

Toronto police launch an awareness campaign to ensure e-bikers properly obey rules and avoid... — [More](#)

▲ PREV

Supercharge your savings.



2% CIBC Bonus Rate GIC

Boost your savings over 25 months with this great rate.

Tell me more ▶



Related Most Commented Most Recent



Dance in the City: Hamlet at the National Ballet

ART AND DESIGN | While most

Watch your savings take off.

CIBC eAdvantage™ Savings Account

Earn 1.5%* on new deposits with a balance of \$5,000 or more.

Tell me more ▶



floating as if in an alternate universe, upside down, limbs suspended; all set to Christopher Willes' eerie and atmospheric score performed live onstage by Thom Gill.



Throughout *Adaptation Project*, each performer leaves a piece of themselves in Trent's choreography, a residue of movement which is both personal and palpable.

Arms up and outstretched as though towards an oracle, Kamino stands transfixed as he, and Holden, begin an intimate exchange of thoughts through movement. Grabbing wildly at the air in front of him like a small child catching butterflies, she holds him, her arms wrapped firmly around his chest. Slowly, their roles shift and he clutches her as she leaps backwards, arching towards him, her arms flailing frantically, her eyes closed. Kamino's presence onstage is striking, and together he and Holden construct a precise and delicate emotional world.

The coherence of *Adaptation Project* is not in the movement vocabulary, form, or structure but in the feeling. Trent builds a surprising, yet weighted world of sensation, filled with tenderness, confusion, poignancy and connection. *Adaptation Project* is a thoughtful and intimate a series of unfinished conversations, a re-crafting of movement belonging to other bodies from another time.

This is dance for dancers, which, for better or for worse, has as its primary reference - itself.

At one point, the three male dancers writhe in a pile in the corner, their bodies rolling over each other as they cross the stage struggling to peel off each other's clothes as they tumble. By the end, they are panting, exhausted, and stripped down to nothing but black boxer briefs and knee-pads.

The *Adaptation Project* closes with the dancers laid out on floor, watching a back wall projection of the original footage from Rose's 1974 choreography.

In this moment, the gritty low-resolution archival footage acts as a time capsule, contextualizing what the audience has just seen, the spark from which *Adaptation Project* was born.

Through this interpretation, Trent picks up the thread and continues a years-long conversation. In a world where everyone is striving to create the newest, boldest, and most original work, perhaps, as Trent suggests, there is a value in looking backwards, turning inward, and re-engineering the past to inform the present in a conscious and meaningful way.

Adaptation Project

Dancemakers

April 19-29, 8pm

Dancemakers Centre for Creation

people know something of Shakespeare's world famous tragedy, few people...



Dance in the City: *The Hunger*
ART AND DESIGN | Working with key themes from Hansel and Gretel, Uncanny House's newest production...



Dance in the City: *Swan Lake*
ART AND DESIGN | Victoria Mohr-Blakeney: It's been 33 years since the Bolshoi Ballet last performed...



Dance in the City: *TransMigration*
ART AND DESIGN | Victoria Mohr-Blakeney: "With elaborate costuming and a unique vocabulary of indigenous and..."



Dance in the City: *Agwa/Correira*
ART AND DESIGN | Victoria Mohr-Blakeney: *Agwa/Correira* is hip hop and contemporary dance fusion at...



Dance in the City: *Paris 1994/Gallery*
ART AND DESIGN | Victoria Mohr-Blakeney: "They reach and twist moving gently in and out of..."

Supercharge your savings.



2%
CIBC Bonus
Rate GIC

Boost your savings over 25 months with this great rate.

Tell me more ▶



55Mill Steet, Building 74

For tickets call: 416 367-1800 or visit: www.dancemakers.org

For more, follow us on Twitter at @torontostandard, and subscribe to our newsletter.

Related Posts

ART AND DESIGN



Dance in the City: Dance at the Toronto Fringe Festival

ART AND DESIGN



Dance in the City: Sadeh21

ART AND DESIGN



Luminato: Playing Cards with Robert Lepage

Like 98 Send Tweet 3

ALSO ON TORONTO STANDARD

How Not To Be Gay 6 comments

Councillors Seek to Tame Vigilante By-Law Enforcer 4 comments

Your Advance Guide to Toronto's Festival of Beer 1 comment

Toronto Announces First-Ever Poutine Fest! 2 comments

AROUND THE WEB

What's this?

Pastor Reveals 7 Shocking Biblical Truths on Investing Moneynews

Heartburn: An Early Warning Sign of These 4 Cancers Newsmax Health

6 Simple Tips to Help You Lose Belly Fat Stack

Teacher at Catholic school loses job over ex-husband's sins ArcaMax

0 comments



Leave a message...

Newest Community

Share Settings

No one has commented yet.

Comment feed Subscribe via email



THE SPRAWL

CULTURE

STYLE

BUSINESS

TECHNOLOGY

SPORTS

FOREIGN DESK

VIDEO

Most Read

Most Commented

Recommended

- 1 What "Scale and Character" on Bathurst A...
2 Posing as a Tourist on the City Sightsee...
3 Only God Forgives and the Merits of Push...
4 Why Is the September Issue Still a Thing...

Toronto Standard on Facebook

Toronto Standard on Twitter

The Blackberry Edition Download our Blackberry app today.



Contact

- ABOUT
ADVERTISE
CONTRIBUTE
JOBS
TIPS

Social

- TWITTER
FACEBOOK
FLICKR
YOUTUBE
VIMEO
RSS FEED

More

- NEWSLETTER
ARCHIVES
AWARDS AND RECOGNITION
TERMS OF SERVICE