

Weekend

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FAMILY FARE

Laurel Graeber

Running In the Family

Tomorrow families will matter more than ever at Family Matters, the series from Dance Theater Workshop. This season's opening program will not only entertain families but also star, explore and be created by them.

Called "It's All Relative: Kinfolk, Tales and Trails," the show will open with songs by Rachelle Garniez and her mother, Nancy Garniez. More family arrangements — musical and otherwise — will follow.

The participants' work is "an extension of their lives together," said Keely Garfield, a co-curator.

One of those lives is only just beginning. At 10 months, Sasa Yung isn't much of a walker, much less a dancer, but she will star in "Fussy Sasa," a piece about parenthood featuring the choreography of her mother, Maura Donahue, and the flute music of her father, Perry Yung.

"Maura moves the baby around her body," Ms. Garfield said. "It's almost as if they're crossing rapids, and the baby is being borne aloft."

Traversing distances is also the theme of "Walt's Travels," a dance by Rebecca Stenn, set to music by Dave Eggar and Ms. Stenn's husband, Jay Weissman. Peggy Peloquin, the series' other curator, will dance with her sixth-grade daughter, Claire Hart, to music by C. Hyams Hart, Ms. Peloquin's husband and Claire's father. They based their piece, "The Fossil in Amber," on the shifts in their relationship.



Piro Patton

Keely Garfield in "A Fishy Tale," part of "It's All Relative."

More waves will be made in Ms. Garfield's finale, "A Fishy Tale." "My children make guest appearances," Ms. Garfield said, her daughter as a mini-mermaid and her son as a pirate. The biggest family embrace, though, is for the audience. "We bring as many of the children as possible onstage," Ms. Garfield said, "for a kind of calypso moment."

"It's All Relative," tomorrow at 2 p.m. at Dance Theater Workshop, 219 West 19th Street, Chelsea, (212) 924-0077. Tickets: \$20; children, \$10.