



**JOYCE THEATER WELCOMES THE NEW YEAR
IN AN ALTOGETHER DIFFERENT WAY
ALTOGETHER DIFFERENT FESTIVAL, JANUARY 6–18
*John Kelly, Rebecca Stenn, Peter Pucci,
Margie Gillis and Ben Munisteri***

What's the relation of the dancing of Canadian soloist Margie Gillis to the transformative work of John Kelly? Or to Peter Pucci's musicality? Or for that matter, to the wit of Ben Munisteri or to Rebecca Stenn's dramatic humor? Actually, they are Altogether Different.

Which is part of the reason why they are in the 2004 festival at The Joyce Theater, January 6–18. "What distinguishes The Joyce Theater's Altogether Different festival is that it includes a mix of artists at different stages in their careers, from younger artists who are emerging on the scene, to mid-career artists who might be experimenting with new directions in their work," said Linda Shelton, Executive Director of The Joyce Theater.

Two of the choreographers – Rebecca Stenn and Ben Munisteri – are Joyce Theater first-timers and three are returning alums: Peter Pucci, Margie Gillis and John Kelly. All, however, will present new works, many of which will be highlighted by original and live music.

The two-time Obie Award winner John Kelly opens the festival with "The Skin I'm In," a multimedia evening of new and old works that suggest the career trajectory of this multitalented, multifaceted artist. Performed by a cast of six including Kelly, the show features re-staged excerpts from six works from repertoire dating back to 1984 including "The Dagmar Onassis Story," "Pass the Blutwurst, Bitte" and "Love of a Poet," among others. Kelly's own uncanny ability to inhabit his characters will be showcased in his classic and riveting portrayals of Dagmar Onassis, Cesare, Egon Schiele, Barbettes and Orpheo.

MORE

ADD ONE
ALTOGETHER DIFFERENT 2004

Not only her six-member dance company, Rebecca Stenn/PerksDanceMusicTheatre – but all her family including her composer husband, Jay Weissman and fourteen-month-old baby – will perform in Rebecca Stenn’s “The Seventh Wave,” a world premiere. Set to music by Jay Weissman and Dave Eggar, the dance presents the cycle of life, from our first to last breath. Another highlight of the show will be Stenn’s 11-minute, darkly imaginative riff on “Sacre du Printemps,” entitled “Left of Fall.” The music is a blend of Stravinsky’s primal modernism with the throbbing energy of a rock band, while the choreography offers athletic and geometric variations on Nijinsky’s archaic classicism. Stenn’s otherworldly imagination will be showcased the dreamy, floating quality of “Ocean” (1994). Also on Stenn’s program will be “Embrace,” “Zimzum” and her hilarious “The Carmen Suites.”

Peter Pucci’s “To Begin Again,” his first venture into a full-evening solo, is a semi-autobiographic dance drawing on his 25 years of choreographic and performance experience. It is performed to live music. In addition to several Chopin “Nocturnes” (referring to Pucci’s mother’s Polish roots), an original score – inspired by the musical form – features new compositions and performances by Brent Michael Davis, Charlie Giordano, Beata Moon, Nana Simopoulos, Sloan Wainwright and Michael Wolff. The resulting music is a mix of jazz, blues, folk and rock. Each “Nocturne,” which introduces another facet of Pucci’s story, features a different musical style and instrument, including accordion, Greek mandolin, wurlitzer, crystal flute, harmonica, classical piano, toy piano and voice.

Canadian performer Margie Gillis, whose almost spiritual sense of drama has riveted audiences for thirty years, will also present an evening of solo work. On the boards will be four New York premieres, each of which vividly showcases a different aspect of her imagination. The new dances include: “Elimination,” which explores Gillis’s healing process after a serious shoulder injury, set to Doreen Bray and Josée Dandurand; “A Complex Simplicity of Love,” which explores the joy/sadness of love and its absence, set to Handel; “Breathing In Bird Bone,” at times elegant and soaring, at others, an awkward and funny musing on the possibilities of flight, set to music by Gaétan Leboeuf; and “Viridian” by Irene Dowd, described as a “crossword puzzle of dance,” set to Bach.

MORE

**ADD TWO
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The program will also include “Blue,” “What the Wind Whispers” and “Waltzing Mathilda.” (Don’t worry at their number, the dances are quite brief.)

And last, but certainly not least, is Ben Munisteri Dance Projects, which makes its Joyce Theater debut with its Altogether Different engagement. Highlights include the world premiere of “Turbine Mines,” a work for seven dancers set to the score from “Blade Runner.” Formally structured, the work’s emotional expression emerges from movement, which is a synthesis of styles and vocabularies including ballet. Also scheduled is an excerpt from “Muse of Fire” (2002), set to the soundtrack of “Run, Lola, Run;” “Smash Through to Sunlight” (1999) created to an original score by Evren Celimli; Munisteri’s ever-popular “Late-Night Sugar Flight” (1998) set to music by Donizetti, Cornershop and Satie; and his 2003 “Earthly Perch,” created to excerpts from Benjamin Britten’s cello suites, Op. 72 and 80.

Altogether Different began in 1986 as *The Joyce Sampler*. To date, over 146 premieres have been presented by 104 different dance companies led by such choreographers as Stephen Petronio, Doug Varone, Ralph Lemon, Neil Greenberg, Karole Armitage, John Jasperse and Donna Uchizono.

Tickets for the individual performances are \$20, and are available at the box office, by calling JoyceCharge at 212-242-0800, or online at www.joyce.org. The Joyce Theater is located at 175 Eighth Avenue at 19th Street.

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ALTOGETHER DIFFERENT

January 6–18, 2004

The Joyce Theater

175 Eighth Avenue at 19th Street

Box Office: 212-242-0800

Tickets: \$20

By Date

Tuesday, January 6 at 8pm

John Kelly & Company

Wednesday, January 7 at 8pm

Rebecca Stenn/PerksDanceMusicTheatre

Thursday, January 8 at 8pm

John Kelly & Company

Friday, January 9 at 8pm

Peter Pucci

Saturday, January 10 at 2pm

John Kelly & Company

Saturday, January 10 at 8pm

Rebecca Stenn/PerksDanceMusicTheatre

Sunday, January 11 at 2pm

Rebecca Stenn/PerksDanceMusicTheatre

Sunday, January 11 at 7:30pm

John Kelly & Company

Tuesday, January 13 at 8pm

Margie Gillis

Wednesday, January 14 at 8pm

Ben Munisteri Dance Projects

Thursday, January 15 at 8pm

Margie Gillis

Friday, January 16 at 8pm

Peter Pucci

Saturday, January 17 at 2pm

Peter Pucci

Saturday, January 17 at 8pm

Margie Gillis

Sunday, January 18 at 2pm

Margie Gillis

Sunday, January 18 at 7:30pm

Ben Munisteri Dance Projects

By Company

John Kelly & Company

Tuesday, January 6 at 8pm

Thursday, January 8 at 8pm

Saturday, January 10 at 2pm

Sunday, January 11 at 7:30pm

*The Discovery of Sound**; *Cherokee Louise**; *Drawing from Life**; *Paradise**; Excerpts from: *The Dagmar Onassis Story (1984)*; *Diary Of A Somnambulist (1985)*; *Pass The Blutwurst, Bitte (1986 & 1995)*; *Love Of A Poet (1990)*; *Light Shall Lift Them (1993)*; and *Find My Way Home (1988 & 1998)*.

Rebecca Stenn/ PerksDanceMusicTheatre

Wednesday, January 7 at 8pm

Saturday, January 10 at 8pm

Sunday, January 11 at 2pm

*The Seventh Wave**; *The Carmen Suites (2000)*; *Left of Fall (2002)*; *Zimzum (1998)*; *Embrace (1996)*; *Ocean (1994)*.

Peter Pucci

Friday, January 9 at 8pm

Friday, January, 16 at 8pm

Saturday, January 17 at 2pm

*To Begin Again**

Margie Gillis

Tuesday, January 13 at 8pm

Thursday, January 15 at 8pm

Saturday, January 17 at 8pm

Sunday, January 18 at 2pm

*Viridian (2003)***; *Elimination (2003)***; *A Complex Simplicity of Love (2003)***; *Breathing in Bird Bone (2003)***; *What the Wind Whispers (2001)*; *Blue (1998)*; *Waltzing Matilda (1978)*.

Ben Munisteri Dance Projects

Wednesday, January 14 at 8pm

Sunday, January 18 at 7:30

*Turbine Mines**; *Earthly Perch (2003)*; *Muse of Fire (2002)*; *Smash into Sunlight (1999)*; *Late-Night Sugar-Flight (1998)*.

* World Premiere

** New York Premiere

DanceTalk

December 15 at 6pm

With the Altogether Different Artists

At Joyce SoHo, 155 Mercer Street