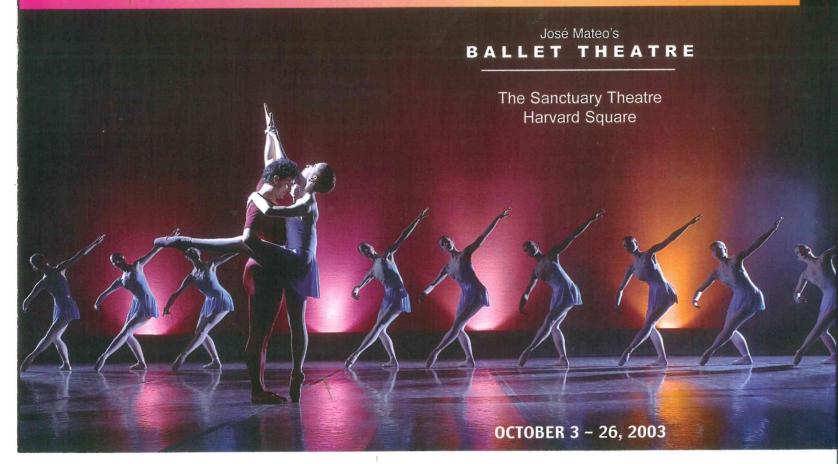
undercurrents



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SAT	OCT 4	8 PM	SAT	OCT 18	8 PM
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THU	OCT 9	7:30 PM	THU	OCT 23	8 PM
FRI	OCT 10	8 PM	FRI	OCT 24	8 PM
SAT	OCT 11	8 PM	SAT	OCT 25	8 PM
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The Last Circus (Stravinsky), Courtly Lovers (Haydn) plus a premiere (Schumann)

dance

OCTOBER 17, 2003 ARTS THE BOSTON PHOENIX 11

Apéritif

José Mateo's 'Undercurrents'

BY MARCIA B. SIEGEL

he idea of José Mateo's Ballet Theatre is to present classical-ballet performances in a non-threatening atmosphere. Civilians with nothing but a dim suspicion of this high art will, one presumes, relax and see how approachable and even relevant it can be. The company's convertible home in the beautiful Sanctuary space at Cambridge Baptist Church can be set up with little café tables. You can buy a drink and even consume it during the performance. A solo flute warbles Debussy in the intervals.

For Mateo's fall presentation (which runs through October 26), the program notes encourage us to look for social "Undercurrents" within the seemingly abstract patterns of the choreography. This is a truism for all dance lovers - structured movement is never without a meaning. A man and a woman dancing together are either equals or differing souls; if a second woman appeared, the balance between the man and the first woman would shift. What a man and a woman do when they move is more than esoteric steps; they're also leading and following, accommodating, opposing, touching, supporting, separating. Choreographic narrative is embedded in the way the steps are put together, and the way the steps relate to the music.

In Mateo's new Suspect of Passion, our attention is gradually drawn to the man and two

women who emerge as principals from a group of six other men and women. The music is Robert Schumann's E-flat Piano Quintet (the same music Mark Morris used for his *V*), and its varying romantic moods help establish dramatic possibilities for the trio.

Costumes give our reading another assist. The leading man (Parren Ballard) wears the same plain black dancewear as his three companions, plus a blue printed vest. There are various dances for the four men, with four women who are identically dressed in silky, knee-length, high-waisted skirts and scanty black tops. Another woman (Elizabeth Scherban Shinazawa) arrives in the second movement, wearing a decorated red unitard.

Shinazawa and Ballard dance together. He seems to lose her; then, after they dance back to back, he lowers her to the floor as if she'd died and calmly walks away. But soon she revives. Instead of having an ecstatic reunion, they leap and run in different parts of the stage. After all this, an unnamed woman detaches herself from the group and the hero shows an interest in her. Shinazawa seems to invite his embrace, but then she pushes him away. At the end of the fugue section, he streaks out and she looks dejected. The other woman rejoins her companions.

But there's more dancing to come, until everyone has reassembled and the piece can end on an unresolved pose, with Shinazawa standing center, the delegate from the corps



SCHOOL RECITAL? Ballet Theatre's training and discipline are evident in the dancers' good manners, but even the leading dancers look preoccupied with getting through the technique.

eyeing her from upstage, and Ballard, at the other end of the diagonal, gazing off into the distance. Maybe it's all a gloss on *La Sylphide*. Or maybe I'm dipping into the wrong undercurrent.

This ballet, along Mateo's other two pieces on the program, Courtly Lovers and The Last Circus, has lots of dancing in it along with its enigmatic story line. Perhaps the newcomers in the audience think this is what ballet ought to look like and are willing to work out the mysteries for themselves. But for me, the evening's classical pretext wore the veil of a school recital.

Although the movement vocabulary is quite basic and repetitive, the stage seems crowded. Small groups of dancers wearing ill-matched sets of costumes cross and recross the space in what could be random counterpoint patterns. It's a way of keeping the movement simple but giving lots of people stage experience. As the

dancers replay scenes that evoke situations in ballet literature, like the flirtatious behavior of the elusive Sylphide or (in *The Last Circus*) the girl abandoned on the floor à la *Serenade*, you get clues about their relationships, but the situations don't play out as expected. They don't play out at all.

Ballet Theatre's training and discipline are evident in the dancers' good manners — and in their apparent anxiety about performing. With a couple of exceptions, even the leading dancers look too preoccupied with getting through the technique to project character or hold onto a narrative connection. Mateo takes on musical giants for his accompaniments, but the dancers don't yield to the music's dynamic pressures or play up its expressive opportunities. Whether Haydn is launching surprises or Stravinsky is romping to a wind-up with dissonant bravado, they look just as bland and proper.





ONGOINE

On your toes

Talk about dance fever. Not only is Jose Mateo's Ballet Theatre (left) in the midst of its season opener, "Undercurrents," but Boston Ballet (top left) opens a run of "Don Quixote" on Thursday night at 7. (If you think you're in for a rough week, try putting on a pair of toe shoes.) "Undercurrents" is at the Sanctuary Theatre in Harvard Square through Oct. 26; tickets are \$28. "Don Quixote" is at the Wang Theatre through Nov. 2; tickets are \$38 to \$95.

Sanctuary Theatre, 400 Harvard St., Cambridge. & 617-354-7467. Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St. & 800-447-7400.

A month of events

up two nights at Scullers. We hope the room can mists over there are billing it as the "first annual" pokes to people who de-

Mateo's 'Passion' shines

Three-ballet show lacks as a whole

The Jose Mateo Ballet Company's "Undercurrents" currently running at Sanctuary Theatre in Harvard Square — lacks feeling and chemistry between the dancers and is rough around the edges.

theaterreview The setthe three-ballet performance is very Balanchine, and the corps de ballet sets the mood for "Courtly Lovers" — danced to the musical work of Franz Joseph Haydn. Cosmin Marculetiu dominates the male role and delivers the entire story - engaging the audience by his facial expressions and comedic gestures.

"The Last Circus" is a revival from its last appear-



Elizabeth Scherban Shinzawa and Parren Ballard perform in the Jose Mateo Ballet Company's "Undercurrents."

ance in 1996, danced to an Igor Stravinsky's "Concerto for Piano and Wind Instruments." Described as "a circus within a circus," the piece shows the dark, complex lives of circus characters. The choreography seems choppy and "The Last Circus" puts a damper on the evening.

Kudos to Emmee McInnis: She is dead-on and confident in all of her steps and delivers exceptional poise and

Mateo's newest creation, "Suspect of Passion," set to the music of Robert Schumann, is the most exciting, energenic and enjoyable ballet of the night. Elizabeth ren Ballard shine in the very simple five-on-four playful partnering. The choreography is exceptionally innovative and it is evident that the dancers are enjoy themselves. The pas de duex section is a beautiful sequence - Parren Ballard shows off the beautiful long lines of Shinzawa.

The novice balletgoer may look beyond the technique and the storyline for a night of cocktails and ballet. However, the trained eye may leave a bit dissappointed in the performance as a whole, but find themselves talking about "Suspect of Passion" with a twinkle in their eye and a bounce in their step. Katrina Tentor

Tickets to "Undercurrents" are \$28 for reserved table seating at The Sanctuary Theatre in Harvard Square through Oct. 26. For information call (617)

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Martin tapped for 'Panther' remake

Film. "The Pink Panther" is sliding toward Steve Martin. The actor has emerged as MGM's top choice to play Inspector Jacques Clouseau in a redmake of the 1964 feature. A studio spokesman confirmed MGM is in talks with Martin about starring in the project. (Reuters)

'American Idol' to air X-mas show

Television. Fox will not let the November sweeps pass without another encore from the "American Idol" gang. The network has scheduled the one-hour holiday special "American Idol: Christmas Songs" at 8 p.m. on Nov. 25, the next-to-last night of the sweep. The special is tied to the CD "American Idol - The Great Holiday Classics," due in stores

J. Lo EP/DVD 'Reel' ready for Nov. 18

Jennifer Lopez is getting back to the business of making music.

On Nov. 18, Epic will release "The Reel Me," an EP featuring the new song "Baby I Love U" and an accompanying DVD with 17 of the artist's music videos. The package also sports a remix of "Baby I Love U," featuring R. Kelly

The DVD runs the gamut from Lopez's first video as a solo artist ("If You Had My Love") to a clip for the new single, which peaked last month at No. 26 on Billboard's Top 40 Mainstream chart. Comments Lopez gave about each video in an interview with MTV VJ Sway are woven throughout the DVD. Aside from the two ver-



J. Lo and Ben Affleck appeared Saturday at Fenway Park.

sions of "Baby I Love U," the EP features remixes of the tracks "Jenny From the Block," "All I Have," "I'm Glad" and "The One."

Lopez will next be seen on the big screen in "Jersey Girl," directed by Kevin Smith and co-starring her fiance of uncertain status, Ben Affleck. The film opens March 19 in U.S. theaters.



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CLASSICAL

Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cam. 10/12, 7:30 p.m. Works by Faure and Dvorak. Call 617-349-0086. \$16-\$42.

BOSTON CONSERVATORY. Seully Hall, 8 the Fenway, Bos. 10/10, 8 p.m. The Boston Conservatory Wind Ensemble. Call: 617-912-9222. BOSTON PHILHARMONIC. Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cam. 10/9 and 10/12: The Philharmonic performs "Mahler's Beginnings: An Explosion of Genius." Call: 617-496-2222. BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Sym-

phony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Bos. 10/10-10/11, 8 p.m. Boston Symphony Orchestra w/guest conductor Bernard Haitink & pianist Emanuel Ax. Call: 617-266-1200.

BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY CONCERTS. Slosberg Recital Hall, Brandeis University, Waltham. 10/14, 12:10-1:30 p.m. "Lift Every Voice: Black Sacred Music at Brandeis," feat. Horace Clarence Boyer. Call: 781-736-3331.

FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE. 11 Garden St., Cam. 10/11, 8 p.m. The Boston Early Music Festival presents baroque violinist Andrew Manze. Call 617-424-7232. \$20-\$52.

KING'S CHAPEL. King's Chapel Concert Series, School & Tremont Sts., Bos. 10/14, 12:15 p.m. Flutist Bridget Kazukiewicz & guitarist Sharon Wayne. \$2. Call: 617-227-2155.

MUSIC IN THE CATHEDRAL. Cathedral

Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Bos. 10/15, 12:15 p.m. Members of Renaissonics. Call: 617-482-4826 ext. 1103.

NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORY. 241 St. Botolph St., Bos. 10/14, 8 p.m. Borromeo String Quartet Guest Honor Award Concert. 10/15, 8 p.m. NEC Chamber Orchestra. Call: 617-585-1100.

OTHER

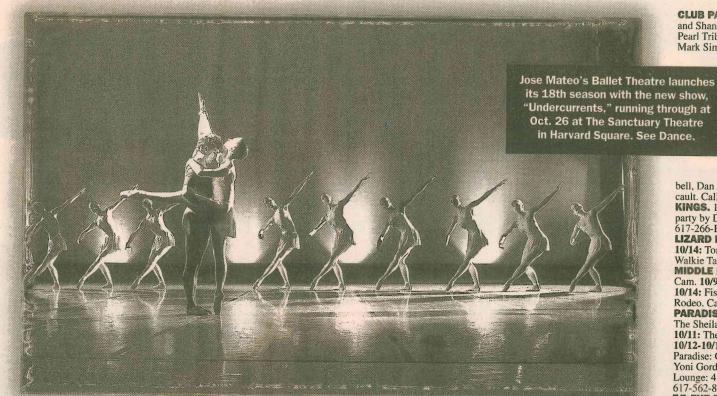
BERKLEE PERFORMANCE CENTER. 136 Mass Ave., Bos. 10/11, 8 p.m. Joan Baez. \$30-\$37.50. 10/14, 8:15 p.m. The Three Tenors: Greg Badolato, George Garzone & Frank Tiberi. \$20-\$30. Call: 617-747-2261.

ICA THEATER. 955 Boylston St., Bos. 10/11, 8 p.m. Music: Sunny Murray/Sabir Mateen/Oluyemi Thomas Trio.. \$12-\$16. 10/13, 8 p.m. Music: Available Jelly. Call 617-354-6898. \$12-\$16. SANDERS THEATRE. 45 Quincy St., Cam. 10/10, 8 p.m. "Remember Shakti," feat. John McLaughlin w/Zakir Hussain. Call 617-876-7777. \$35-\$45.

DANCE

JOSE MATEO'S BALLET THEATRE. 400 Harvard St., Cam. 10/9-10/13: "Undercurrents." \$28. Call: 617-354-7467.

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MUSEUMS

ALIANZA. 154 Newbury St. Bos. 10/9-10/13: "Clockworks" works by various artists. Call: 617-262-2385

ALPHA GALLERY. 14 Newbury St., Bos. 10/9-10/13: New abstract paintings by Wlodzimierz Ksiazek. Call: 617-536-4465.

BRICKBOTTOM GALLERY. 1 Fitchburg St., Somerville. 10/9-10/13: "Homemade: Images of Home - Architectural, Domestic, Historical." Call: 617-776-3410.

BROMFIELD ART GALLERY. 27 Thayer St., Bos. 10/9-10/13: "Neighborhood of the Valley," new paintings and prints by Arthur Hardigg. Call: 617-451-3605.

BUSCH-REISINGER MUSEUM. Harvard University, Cam. **10/9-11/2:** "Marcel Breuer: A Special Installation of 1930s Furniture." Free. Call: 617-495-9400.

CAMBRIDGE ART ASSOCIATION. University Place Gallery, 124 Mt. Auburn St., Cam. 10/9-10/30: "Radiant and Resilient: Haitian Art Today." 10/9-10/30: "Pushing the Envelope," juried by Robert Siegelman. Call: 617-876-0246. CHILDS GALLERY. 169 Newbury St., Bos. 10/9-10/13: "Raphael and Marcantonio: Prints of the High Renaissance." 10/9-10/13: Florence Robinson in Italy. 10/9-10/13: "Power of Myth." Call: 617-266-1108.

Boom Pow! The Influence of Cartoons in Contemporary Art." Call: 617-266-5152.

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM.

2 Palace Rd., Bos. Ongoing: The museum offers a number of classes, lectures and family events in addition to its art. 10/12, 1:30 p.m. Classical music from violinist Corey Cerovsek & pianist Paavali Jumppanen. \$5-\$18. Call: 617-566-1401. KAJI ASO STUDIO. 40 St. Stephen Street, Bos. 10/9-10/13: Open Studios 2003. Call: 617-247-1719

KANTAR FINE ARTS. 382 Kenrick St., New. 10/9-10/13: "Dream & Reality," oil paintings by Dinora Felske Justice. Call: 617-332-7495. KINGSTON GALLERY. 450 Harrison Ave., 2nd floor, Boston. 10/9-10/13: "Flowers and (Germs)," paintings by Elif Soyer. Call: 617-423-4113

MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF ART. Bakalar Gallery, 621 Huntington Ave., Bos. 10/9-10/13: "Photographers, Writers and the American Scene." Call: 617-879-7710. MIT LIST VISUAL ARTS CENTER. Wiesner Building, 20 Ames St., Cam. 10/9-11/12: Film: "Calder's Circus." Call: 617-253-4680. NEW ART CENTER. 61 Washington Park, Newville. 10/9-10/13: "Plant Matter." Call: 617-964-3424

PANOPTICON GALLERY. 435 Moody St., Wal. 10/9-10/13: "About Children," photographs by B.A. King. Call: 781-647-0100.

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LES ZYGOMATES. 129 South St., Bos. 10/9: Silas Hubbard. 10/14: Tuesday Night Wine Tastings: Sparkling Wines. 10/14: Alvin Terry Trio. 10/15: The David Eure Band/Latin Explosion. Call: 617-542-5108.

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party by Duke and the Drivers. Call: 617-266-BOWL.

LIZARD LOUNGE. 1667 Mass. Ave., Cam.

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MIDDLE EAST. 472-480 Massachusetts Ave., Cam. 10/9: Hieroglyphics. 10/10: Radio 4.

10/14: Fishbone w/King's X. 10/15: Blue Rodeo. Call: 617-864-3278. PARADISE CLUB. Comm. Ave., Bos. 10/10:

The Sheila Divine w/Helicopter Helicopter. 10/11: The Sheila Divine w/Aerial Love Feed. 10/12-10/13: Boz Scaggs. 10/13: Songwriters in Paradise: Chris Korwin Band w/Jumpin Juba, Yoni Gordon & Joe Kowan. 10/15: Paradise Lounge: 4 Way Street w/Reed Foehl. Call: 617-562-8804.

T.T. THE BEAR'S. 10 Brookline St., Cam. 10/14: Over The Rhine. Call: 617-492-2327. THE ATTIC. 107 R. Union St., New. 10/12, 7 p.m. Reading and musical performance by author Neal Pollack ("Never Mind the Pollacks."). Call: 617-964-6684.

READINGS

BROOKLINE BOOKSMITH. 279 Harvard St., Brk. 10/9, 7 p.m. Reading by Henry Petroski, author of "Small Things Considered." 10/14, 7 p.m. Reading by Gregory Maguire, author of "Mirror Mirror." 10/15, 7 p.m. Reading by Mary" Pipher, author of "Letters to a Young Therapist.", Call: 617-566-6660.

CENTER FOR NEW WORDS. 186 Hampshire St., Cam. 10/9, 7 p.m. Reading by Claire Robson, author of "Love in Good Time." Call: 617-876-5310.

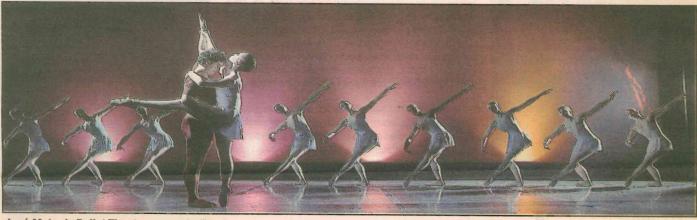
MCINTYRE AND MOORE. McIntyre and Moore Bookstore, 255 Elm St., Som. 10/9, 7:30-9:30 p.m. "the new renaissance (tnr): A Celebration of the First 35 Years," feat. local writers. Call: (617) 628-2313.

NEWTONVILLE BOOKS. 296 Walnut St., New, 10/9, 7:30 p.m. Charles Baxter signs and reads from his novel, "Saul & Patsy." 10/14, 7:30 p.m. Suzanne Kingsbury signs and reads from "The Gospel According to Gracie." Call: 617-244-6619.



Boston Ballet opens with Rudolf Nureyev's "Don Quixote" Oct. 16-19.

preview



José Mateo's Ballet Theatre presents "Undercurrents" in Harvard Square Oct. 3-26.



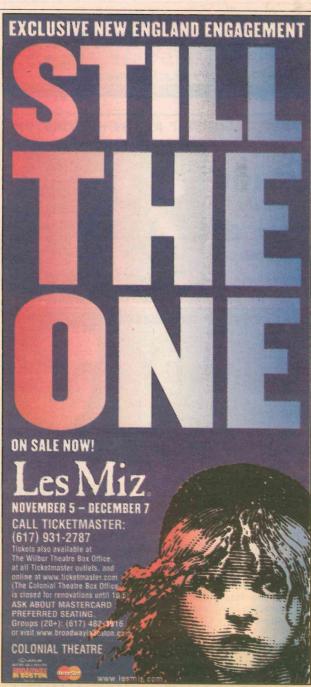
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Love the ballet? Enjoy a few drinks? Either way, we have the show for you! José Mateo's **Ballet Theatre** presents "Undercurrents," a concert of three ballets featuring cabaret-style seating, close-up view of the dancers, and cocktails during the show. Oct. 3-26 at The Sanctuary Theatre in Harvard Square. Call (617) 354-7467 for tickets and information.

Boston Ballet's 40th Anniversary Season kicks off with the classic: Rudolf Nureyev ballet: "Don Quixote." Refurbished sets and costumes, and Nureyev's choreography, filled with bravura dancing and Spanish verve, make this a dance event not to be missed! Oct. 16-19 at the Wang Theatre. For tickets and information call (617) 695-6955.



"Chopiniana," choreographed by Mikhail Fokine in 1908, is one of the ballets the Kirov will perform in November.

Kirov to stage five Fokine ballets in Boston

By Christine Temin GLOBE STAFF

"The Dying Swan": 1907. "Chopiniana": 1908. "Scheherazade": 1910. "The Firebird": 1910. "Le Spectre de la Rose": 1911.

Dance

The names of these ballets and the dates of their premieres are crucial markers in the history of dance. All were choreographed by Mikhail Fokine, and all are coming to Boston when the Kirov Ballet and Orchestra appear at the Wang Theatre this fall. (Note that "The Dving Swan" and "Le Spectre de la Rose" will be performed only at the Nov. 13 opening night gala.)

The Kirov's last appearance here was in 1992. It's high time for a reassessment. Say "Kirov" and most ballet fans automatically think of the great Tchaikovsky/ Petipa collaborations of the 19th century. Or they think of the great stars of the company's past - Nijinsky, Pavlova, Karsavina - and the celebrated defectors, with Nureyev and Baryshnikov heading the list.

There are superb dancers with the Kirov at the moment. But except for those who have often made guest appearances in the West (Farukh Ruzimatov and Igor Zelensky, for example, have both danced

time, it's the names of the ballets and the man who made them that the Kirov's local co-presenters — FleetBoston Celebrity Series and the Wang Center for the Performing Arts - hope will be the big lure.

Celebrity Series executive director Martha Jones says that \$300,000 has already been donated by Boston-area indi-

viduals, foundations, and corporations to support the \$900,000 cost of the run. To The Kirov Ballet and her, that's proof there is an audience for ballet in Boston.

Meanwhile, the Kirov is in such a state of flux that even its name is a bit uncertain. In the late 19th century it was called the Maryinsky. In 1935 it was renamed Ki-

rov, after the recently assassinated head of Leningrad's Communist Party. In 1991 it reverted to the Marvinsky title. But a generation of ballet fans had grown up knowing it as the Kirov, and so, for the sake of name recognition, it's currently called the Kirov Ballet of the Maryinsky Theatre of St. Petersburg.

With the Fokine program the company celebrates one of its most glorious periin Boston), they're not names that will ods, but also one that saw it losing its stars ton Opera House.

automatically flood the box office. This to the West, under the aegis of Serge Diaghilev and his Ballets Russes. Of the five ballets on the Boston bill, only "Chopiniana" (known in the West as "Les Sylphides") and "The Dying Swan" actually premiered in St. Petersburg. The others debuted in Paris or Monte Carlo.

> Fokine espoused an expressionist style in which dance and mime blended seam-

Orchestra in an all-

Fokine program at

the Wang Theatre,

Nov. 13-16. 617-482-

2595; www.celebrity

series.org.

lessly and the corps was more than living scenery. Each ballet had its own vocabulary - whether based on ancient Greece or Russian folk dance. Dance, decor, and music were equal partners in this enterprise. The Maryinsky authorities didn't buy into this revolution, though, and Fokine decamped,

spending his most productive years in Europe, then basing himself in the US. He ended up in Yonkers, N.Y. (There's much about him at www.yonkershistory.org.)

Boston balletomanes up on their dance history will recall that there's a local connection with Fokine, too. His last work - made for Ballet Theatre (now American Ballet Theatre) in 1942, the year of his death - had its premiere at the old Bos-

Let us entertain you: Dance

Boston Ballet in Rudolf Nurevey's "Don Quixote." It was 1982 when the Ballet first performed Nureyev's version of the 19th-century classic on tour, with the great star himself in the lead. It was a pivotal production for the company (in terms of international exposure, for one thing). And Nureyev was a demanding taskmaster who virtually bullied the Boston dancers to a new level of stage presence: He set the example himself. The show sizzled. Artistic director Mikko Nissinen has chosen to revive "Don Q" to open the company's 40th season, and to mark the 10th anniversary of Nureyev's death. The company performs the fulllength extravaganza at the Wang Theatre Oct. 16-19 and Oct. 30-Nov. 2. 617-695-6955; www.bostonballet.org.

Dance Collective in "Dangling by a Thread." While the title of the collective's 30th-anniversary program makes it sound as if the company is barely hanging on, the reality is more that it's evolved significantly since 1973. Through their choreography, performing, mentoring, and teaching, the six women who have jointly served as artistic directors have greatly enriched the volatile Boston-area dance scene. This program also marks the retirement of Dawn Kramer, the last of the original directors. The company will continue under Micki Taylor-Pinney. "Dangling" is at the Tsai Per-

formance Center at Boston University on Sept. 19 and 20. 617-353-8725; www.dancecollective.org.

Jose Mateo's Ballet Theatre in "Undercurrents." Comfortably ensconced in the Cambridge digs where it has a 41year lease, the company starts its 18th season with a program of three works, all by Mateo, a choreographer known for a lyrical, fluid style - and for daring to use some of the finest music in the classical repertory. "The Last Circus," set to Stravinsky's Concerto for Piano & Wind Instruments, and "Courtly Lovers," set to

Haydn's Surprise Symphony, are revivals. There's a still-unnamed premiere as well. to music by Schumann. "Undercurrents" plays at The Sanctuary Theatre in Cambridge Oct. 3-26. 617-354-7467.

Noche Flamenca. What is it about Boston and flamenco? One of the world's most famously uptight cities goes nuts when it comes to the earthy Spanish dance form. In recent seasons World Music has brought in a number of superb troupes, all to rapturous responses. It continues with Noche Flamenca; the 10year-old, Madrid-based creation of Martin Santangelo, which offers the Boston premiere of a new work. World Music presents the company at the Cutler Majestic Theatre at Emerson College, Oct. 2-4. 617-876-4275; www.worldmusic.org.

Caitlin Corbett Dance Company.

For 19 years Corbett has been producing quirky choreography in the Boston area, incorporating nondancers into her works and setting them to "scores" that include just noise. She continues her collaboration with sound artist and filmmaker Ann Steuernagel in two premieres, "Cowboy, Red" and "No Rain," on Dec. 13 and 14 at Tower Auditorium at Massachusetts College of Art. 617-931-2787; home.earth link.net/~cait333/page3.html.

PHOTO/MARTY SOHL

Pollyanna Ribeiro and Yury Yanowsky in "Don Quixote," which Boston Ballet performs Oct. 16-19 and Oct. 30-Nov. 2.

IN STEP

by Vicki Sanders

Dangling by a Thread

Revivals, surprise appearances and premieres (including Micki Taylor-Pinney's Forest to Trees and Dawn Kramer's Walk 30th-anniversary concert. Tsai Performance Center at Boston University, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-8725). http://dancecollective.org. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University East. Sept. 19 and 20. \$15-\$30.

Noche Flamenca

World Music presents one of Spain's leading troupes, bringing the raw power of flamenco to the stage. Cutler Majestic Theatre at Emerson College, 219 Tremont St., music.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Oct. 2-4. \$25-\$45.

Undercurrents

style seating make the Sanctuary Theatre finest dance companies and the stanin Harvard Square a ballet venue unlike dard-bearer of the classical form. Durany other in town. It's a rush to be so ing its Boston visit, it will present three close to the dancers that you can practically touch them. Such is the setting for the Jose Mateo Ballet Theatre's program for bringing greater naturalism to the in which the company explores "a new form. The company performs Schélevel of abstraction" with Courtly Lovers, a revival of The Last Circus and a premiere of a new work by Mateo. Sanctuary Theatre, 400 Harvard St., Cambridge (617-354-7467). www.ballettheatre.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. Oct. 3-26. \$28.

Dance Showcase

A virtual smorgasbord of Boston talent, this annual choreographic rumble is a great way to see a variety of dance styles for 21 dancers. Set in a bombed-out in a single program. It features Boston church in Poland during World War II, the University faculty and alumni, including ballet celebrates the human spirit's capacfive who now dance professionally. Sar- ity to transcend adversity. On a program gent Dance Studio/Theatre, I University Road, Boston (617-353-1597). www.bu. edu. MBTA: Green B Line to Boston University East. Oct. 4 and 5. \$15.

In Telling, Tell Apart

Malinda Allen presents her critically acclaimed work based on poet Marlene Nourbese Philip's poem "Meditations on the Declensions of Beauty by the Girl with the Flying Cheekbones." If that title isn't enough to get you to the new Firefly at the Regent series, nothing is. Regent Theatre, 7 Medford St., Arlington (617-592-5980). www.fireflyatnight.com. MBTA: 77 bus from Harvard Square, 80 bus from Lechmere. Oct. 16, 8 pm. \$16.

Boston Ballet

future. Don Quixote, Oct. 16–19 and Oct. Longwood Medical Area. Dec. 13–14. \$15.

30-Nov. 2. George Balanchine's Stars and Stripes and Mozartiana and David Dawson's The Grey Area, Oct. 23-26. Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447in Progress) mark Dance Collective's 7400). www. bostonballet.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. \$38-\$95.

Facing Mekka

Rennie Harris, the king of hip-hop choreography, combines 17 dancers, three vocalists, three DJs, live percussion and collage projections in Facing Mekka. This new work traces the African lineage of hip-hop, fusing break, freestyle club, Aboriginal, ceremonial African and Brazilian capoeira dance. Cutler Majestic Theatre at Emerson College, 219 Tremont Boston (617-876-4275). www.world St., Boston (617-876-4275). www.world music.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Oct. 17-19. \$25-\$45.

Kirov Ballet

The intimate surroundings and cabaret- Quite simply, Kirov is one of the world's works by the legendary Russian choreographer Michel Fokine, who was noted hérazade, Chopiniana and Firebird. Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 13-16. \$45-\$90.

Missa Brevis, plus Two Premieres

The José Limón-trained Jennifer Scanlon revives her mentor's 1958 classic, Missa Brevis, a rarely performed majestic work with premieres by former Boston Ballet dancer Laszlo Berdo and modern dancers Diane Arvanites-Noya and Tommy Neblett. The Boston Conservatory Theatre, 31 Hemenway St., Boston (617-912-9222). www. bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Nov. 13-16. \$5-\$16.

Caitlin Corbett Dance Company

The choreographer known for her quirky explorations of form and structure presents two premieres. Cowboy, Red is a quartet set to a backdrop of old films; the "visual score" choreographs the movement in the way that a musical score would in a traditional ballet. No Rain propels nine women in space to the wildly romantic music of a Mexican string ensem-Classical and neoclassical dance meet in a ble. Tower Auditorium, Massachusetts season that celebrates the 40-year-old College of Art, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston company's past and offers a glimpse of its (617-931-2787). MBTA: E Green Line to

SEPTEMBER 10 - 23, 2003 THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN 31

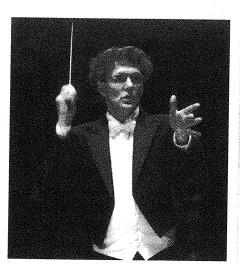
Boston Baroque

"Twyla J. Robinson offered the most complete package of the afternoon, from her elegant appearance to her cool, artful, seamless voice." The New York Times

Join three-time Grammy Nominee Boston Baroque for the Boston premiere of Handel's most popular opera. *Alcina* tells the story of an erotic sorceress who draws men to her island, seduces them, then turns them into rocks, trees, and wild beasts. The real magic of this opera lies in Handel's music—sensuous, heartrending, and gorgeous. Featuring Twyla Robinson, winner of the 2002 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, Stephen Salters, John Tessier, Margaret Lattimore, Christine Abraham, Lauren Skuce, and conducted by Martin Pearlman. Reserved seating.

New England Conservatory's Jordan Hali

30 Gainsborough Street, Boston



Event #ALC55			
Full Pric	e \$37 ArtsMail	Price \$22.7	
Friday Saturday	October 17	7:30 pa 7:30 pa	
	October 18		

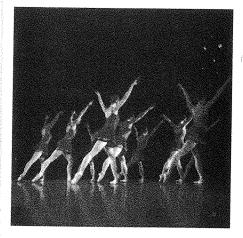
José Matéo's Ballet Theatre

"Ballet and cocktails—why didn't we think of that? Because we don't have the visionary brilliance of José Matéo." Stuff @ Night

"Ambitious works which are beautifully evocative in mood and tone."

Dance Magazine

Experience ballet like never before! José Matéo's Ballet Theatre presents *Undercurrents*, a concert of four ballets choreographed by Artistic Director José Matéo with cabaret-style seating, close-up view of the dancers, and cocktails during the show.



Undercurrents features The Last Circus, set to music by Stravinsky, and Courtly Lovers to music by Haydn, plus two premieres. Mr. Matéo was recently featured in Dance Magazine's "Ones to Watch," an annual listing of cutting-edge newsmakers on the national dance scene. Reserved cocktail table seating.

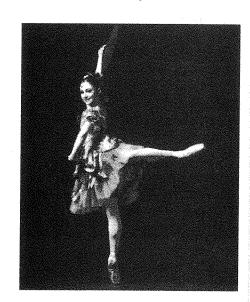
The Sanctuary Theatre
400 Harvard Street, Cambridge

L,	Event #UND55				
Ē.	Full Price	\$28 ArtsMail Price	\$18		
	Thursday	October 9	7:30	PM	
	Friday	October 3, 10	8	PM	
	Saturday	October 4, 11	81	PM	
	Sunday	October 5, 12	41	PM	

Boston Ballet

Experience a night of exuberant music and expressive dancing in the production that put Boston Ballet on the map, Rudolf Nureyev's legendary *Don Quixote*. Nureyev's choreography, filled with bravura dancing and Spanish verve, makes this *Don Quixote* a tour-de-force dance event you cannot miss. Funded in part by a grant from the Rudolf Nureyev Dance Foundation. Reserved seating. Your seats will be in the orchestra. Price includes a \$1 restoration fee.

Wang Theatre 270 Tremont Street, Boston



Boston Ballet

Explore Balanchine's extraordinary range in two contrasting pieces: *Stars and Stripes*, created in 1958 and set to the stirring music of John Philip Sousa, and the beautiful, reverent *Mozartiana*, one of the choreographer's last works, featuring the music of Tchaikovsky.

This celebration of the 100th anniversary of George Balanchine's birth is complemented by David Dawson's *The Grey Area*, a stunning contemporary ballet that explores the area between life and death. Reserved seating. Your seats will be in the orchestra. Price includes a \$1 restoration fee.

Wang Theatre 270 Tremont Street, Boston

BOSTON BALLET

7	Event #DOQ55			
	Full Price	e \$60 ArtsMai	l Price \$34.7	
	Thursday	October 16	7 PM	
	Friday	October 17	8 рм	
	Saturday	October 18	2 and 8 PM	
	Sunday	October 19	2 PM	

