



CONTEMPRADANCE THEATRE

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NEWS RELEASE

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CONTEMPRADANCE THEATRE *"Rocks the Stage"* Premiering new dance works at the Painted Bride Art Center in Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA, PA—APRIL 15 & 16 2005

ContempraDance Theatre presents a diverse evening of eclectic and innovative modern jazz dance works by artistic director and choreographer, Gail Vartanian and guest choreographers John Corsa, (formerly of Momix Dance Company), and hip hop artist, Cesa Zuniga. The Company will be performing live with Philadelphia's Hard Rock sensation, **Divine Loraine** with choreography by Gail Vartanian. The piece is titled, **"We used to Watch the Night,"** with mesmerizing, original music composed by Divine Loraine specifically for ContempraDance Theatre. This piece takes you through a journey of the world of the unknown beginning with the playful, calm and beautiful world as we see it and then through the stormy times of turmoil, realization, acceptance and relief. It's a compelling work with seven dancers moving vigorously through space. Other new dance works include

"Whispering Echoes" a provocative duet danced to the percussion sounds of Brent Lewis and choreographed by Gail Vartanian. **"A Fresh Pair,"** by hip hop choreographer, Cesa Zuniga, is about trying to get rid of something you don't want. **"Michellita,"** choreographed by John Corsa, explores Latin culture and music. Additional dance works from the company's existing repertoire and choreographed by Gail Vartanian include **"NightDreams,"** a mysterious expression of one's thoughts and movements during sleep, **"Crash Course,"** a wild and crazy transformation of the idiosyncrasies of city movement, **"Excerpt from "Beyond Words"** a comical interpretation of a painting by Patricia Shaps of the Ming Dynasty era and **"Variations of Blues,"** a sensual and playful depiction of the world of blues.

Performance is at the Painted Bride Art Center, 230 Vine St. Philadelphia, PA. Evening performances are Friday and Saturday, 8:00 pm, April 15 & 16, 2005.

ContempraDance Theatre seeks to bring a cutting-edge artistic dance element to the area. A professional non-profit dance company, ContempraDance Theatre is fresh, interpretive, and unique with a variety of original dance works from classical to vernacular to the avant-garde. The Company originated in Palm Beach, Florida in 1991 and consists of 15 professional dancers. Since moving to the Delaware Valley in 1997, ContempraDance Theatre has performed with outstanding reviews at many venues including The Florida Dance Festival in Tampa, The Delaware Dance Festival in Newark, Philadelphia's 2000 Feet World Dance Celebration, the Mandell Theater and the Painted Bride Art Center in Philadelphia. The Company has brought the hilarious holiday dance spoofs, **"Philly Nutt Crak-Up"** and **"Twas the Nite the SugaPlum Crak-ed"** to audiences throughout the Philadelphia area.

"Breathtakingly Flawless," "Powerful and Bold," "Vartanian's brilliant choreography shines," "A vibrant addition to the area's dance scene," Palm Beach Post, Suburban Wayne Times.

Tickets to the ContempraDance Theatre performance are **\$25** for adults and **\$20** children and students. Special pricing is available for groups of twenty or more for all shows. For more info call **610.225.3007**. Tickets can be reserved by calling the Painted Bride at **215.925.9914** or ordered online at www.paintedbride.org. Visa and MasterCard are accepted.

ContempraDance Theatre is supported by community leaders and businesses committed to the arts in the Delaware Valley. For more information visit our Company website: www.contempradancetheatre.org or email us at info@contempradance.com