An imaginative flow of dance in ‘Cross Currents’

The first season of dance for 2009 at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts features a compelling collection of new works by international and national choreographers. Cross Currents opens on Saturday 2 May for a short season of six performances only in the Geoff Gibbs Theatre.

Headlining the Cross Currents program is the premiere of a new contemporary work, ‘A Listening World’, by Sydney-based choreographer Tim Harbour.

Harbour, a former dancer and choreographer with the Australian Ballet, found inspiration for his piece in Gavin Bryars’ suite of musical compositions called 'A Listening Room'. From this starting point, Harbour layers an exploration of the act of listening onto themes of innocence and self-awareness. By using stillness and quiet, Harbour aims to infuse his piece with a mesmeric quality of calm focus.

Cross Currents also features a classical ballet piece, ‘Landrêtemps’, choreographed by Andries Weidemann to Camille Saint-Saëns’ Piano Concerto No. 1 in D major.

The South-African born Weidemann, who recently moved to Perth to take up the position of dance lecturer at WAAPA, has performed principal roles in all the major classical ballets with the South African Ballet Theatre (SABT) and with many European companies including the Royal Danish Ballet. In 2001, Weidemann founded the SABT School, becoming actively involved in teaching ballet to children from disadvantaged backgrounds. The School eventually grew to include a satellite training centre in Johannesburg and in 2008 became known as The School of Classical Ballet, South Africa.

The Cross Currents program will also showcase new contemporary dance works by local choreographers Sue Peacock and Aimee Smith.

Peacock’s career highlights include eight years with the Australian Dance Theatre, her work as founding member and Artistic Program Manager of STRUT, and being awarded Best Female Dancer in the 2005 AusDance WA Dance Awards. Currently a lecturer at WAAPA, Peacock’s choreography for the Cross Currents season is a pure movement ensemble piece for 15 dancers. 'The Tipping Point' explores how the momentum of an idea proposed by one or more of the dancers may push the work from one section to the next.

Cross Currents, with four new dance works by highly-respected choreographers performed by WAAPA’s 2nd and 3rd Year dance students, promises a rich and varied evening of dance.

Performance Information: Cross Currents
Saturday 2 May – Friday 8 May at 7.30pm.
The Geoff Gibbs Theatre, WAAPA, Edith Cowan University, 2 Bradford St, Mt Lawley.
Tickets are $22 full/$17 concession. Bookings through WAAPA Box Office on 9370 6636.
SPECIAL OFFER: $10 tickets for all Primary and High School students

For further information or to discuss interview opportunities, please contact:
Media Release

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