

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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TRAVESTY DANCE GROUP/HOUSTON presents



FRAMING DANCE!

PHOTOS: BUDDY STEVES

***TRAVESTY DANCE GROUP kicks things up a notch
answering age-old question in dance:
“But what (the heck) does it mean?”***

Ever wonder about the meaning of dance? Especially, *modern* dance? On November 3, 2007, Travesty Dance Group meets your questions head on through an exciting new interactive performance titled “Framing Dance.” As part of their on-going 10th anniversary celebration, TDG leaps into the turbulent waters of interpretation, imagination, and the aesthetic experience. Using a narrative framework as the springboard, TDG and the audience will consider content through story telling under the guidance of Director Karen Stokes. The audience will engage with the dancers and choreographer through out the performance by hands-on participation (volunteers will be recruited on the spot) and an open dialogue.

To kick off the evening, the seven-member dance company premieres “A Snapshot Cinderella” along with two “Snapshot Cinderella” variations. The fairy tale is re-visited to demonstrate abstraction in dance by starting with a familiar and beloved story. Each

variation changes the story through simple choreographic tools. "The Snapshot Cinderella" takes the audience on an accessible journey into abstraction.

To further exploring narrative and abstract themes, TDG will perform crowd-pleasing repertory works "Shall We?," "Bayou," and "Green." "Shall We?," a humorous look at a couple on the verge of getting married, is the oldest selection of the evening, having premiered in the company debut show in 1997. "Bayou," a charming nostalgic look at Buffalo Bayou in the early 1900's, is drawn from the popular evening length show HOMETOWN, last seen here in 2006. "Green," the newest and most abstract dance theater piece of the evening premiered last February. "Green" investigates the vigor, humor, and sassy nature of the color green. Finally, the audience will also get a sneak preview of a new work in progress by Stokes. The sneak preview gives the audience a chance to look inside the creative process of dance making.

As the host & creator of "Framing Dance," Karen Stokes has built her reputation between two worlds: the world of education (she is the Director of Dance at the University of Houston) and dance performance (she is an active choreographer and co-founder of Travesty Dance Group). "Framing Dance" allows Stokes to crisscross between the two worlds of thinking about dance and doing dance. Using the frameworks she has created in education combined with her own original choreography, Stokes explores the role of audience participation through interpretation and imagination.

"FRAMING DANCE" promises to be a rich diverse evening of interactive and exploratory dance theater. Tickets are affordably priced at \$5.00 for students, \$10.00 for adults. The performance is one night only: November 3, 2007.

Location: Zilkha Hall in the Hobby Center for Performing Arts, 800 Bagby St.

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Box office: (713) 315-2525

For further information about the company: www.travestydancegroup.org



*"FRAMING DANCE" is sponsored by
Uniquely Houston's "Discovery Series"*

