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The University of Dayton

UD DANCE ENSEMBLE
PRESENTS SPRING CONCERT

News Release

DAYTON, Ohio, March 10, 1988--The University of Dayton Dance Ensemble's spring concert will be presented Friday and Saturday, April 8-9 at 8 p.m. in the Kennedy Union's Boll Theatre on campus. The concert will feature seven dances as well as a serial performance work by faculty and student choreographers.

Jeni Engel-Conley, artistic director of the UD Dance Ensemble and a faculty member in the theatre division, will present two works. Vitruvian Scroll is a Spanish-style ballet with choreography patterned after the interlocking convolutions of the Vitruvian scroll architectural motif. The piece will be accompanied by vocalist Alice Hotopp and Itzak Perlman's violin interpretation of "Carmen Fantasy."

On Trap Day, also by Engel-Conley with music by Laurie Anderson, is described as a sociological statement about conformity, rebellion and the nature of how change is wrought in our society. The piece will be presented by Dayton Contemporary Dance Company II in "An Afternoon of Dance" on March 27 in Sinclair Community College's Blair Hall.

Narrow Escapes, with music by contemporary composer George Crumb, will be performed by soloist Denise Melnick. The dance portrays an inner journey of the mind through the "voices" of fear, anger and guilt countered by a strong, sometimes playful will to triumph.

UD graduate student Janet Slifha has set her work, Outside Intent, to the strong beat of Talking Heads' "Slippery People." By contrasting linear shapes with smoothly contracting forms, the resulting motion represents a dynamic bodily expression of the feel of the music and mirrors its continuous release of controlled

energy.

A serial performance work entitled dEATH by UD Dance Ensemble choreographer John Benscoter is an apocalyptic piece exploring the paradox of today's service-oriented society. The visual narration is drawn from contemporary sculptural references and pedestrian gesture.

UD graduate student Sharon Austin's Ode to a Dream explores a person's awareness of being involved in her own dream. Initially frightened, she soon realizes that her fear is unfounded and proceeds to enjoy the uniqueness of the experience.

Sharon Kuley, a UD senior, has choreographed a piece about a young handicapped girl who dreams of what it would be like to be "normal." In Running to Stand Still, with music by U-2, the girl realizes that she will always be struggling to overcome the difficulty of her situation.

I Did It Just the Same, by Mark Cummings, is a modern piece inspired by the music from the movie 1984. The dance is a visual abstraction of the film and emphasizes the angular movements of a militaristic society.

Reserved tickets are \$3 for the general public and \$2 for students. They may be purchased in advance at the Boll Theatre box office. For ticket information, call the box office at 229-2545. For more information about the concert, call Jeni Engel-Conley at 229-3904.