

# FEELD BALLETTECH

## *Ballet Tech Quarterly*

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### **Ballet Tech Beginners**

A record number of beginners enrolled in Ballet Tech's tuition-free classes this January. 706 students from public elementary schools citywide were bused once a week to Ballet Tech to attend morning ballet classes. The students were introduced to the basics of ballet, including dancewear, how a class is run, and the vocabulary for the steps they learn. At the end of the session parents were invited to open classes, where they were able to experience firsthand what the students learned throughout the semester.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Noguchi Spectra Poetry Slam**

Ballet Tech's eighth graders presented their art work along with a poetry reading to the seventh grade students and teachers. Their project was developed using integrated lessons from art, science, and humanities classes. At the Noguchi Spectra Poetry Slam, students displayed Noguchi lamps created in art class, presented a lesson on the light spectrum which was studied in



science class, and discussed their study of poetry in humanities class. Students then shared poetry that they had written using the techniques learned in class. Everyone was impressed by the students' beautiful creations and by their expressive poetry.

## **Season Updates**

Ballet Tech returns to the Joyce this spring with a two week season entitled *MANDANCE PROJECT*, which runs May 31<sup>st</sup> through June 11<sup>th</sup>. *MANDANCE PROJECT* will feature 11 performances by the professional dancers, and 2 Saturday matinee Kids Dance performances.

The dancers include special guest Mikhail Baryshnikov, two former Ballet Tech Company members Wu-Kang Chen and Patricia Tuthill, and five more dynamic dancers. Repertoire includes three premieres *Op. Boing* (music by Iannis Xenakis), *Sacred Steel* (Sonny Treadway), and *Ugha Bugha* (John Cage), along with eight more ballets choreographed by Eliot Feld. Kids Dance, comprised of Ballet Tech students, is rehearsing to perform in several of Eliot Feld's ballets, including *Apple Pie*, *Hello Fancy*, and *Meshugana Dance*.

**To order tickets to the season, call JoyceCharge at 212-242-0800.**

## **Open Rehearsal for MANDANCE**

Friends of Ballet Tech will be invited to attend an Open Rehearsal at the Joyce Theater during the *MANDANCE PROJECT* season. This event offers a behind-the-scenes look at how dancers and choreographers prepare for public performances.

## **So Percussion**

The critically acclaimed group, *So Percussion*, will enhance Ballet Tech's professional season by providing live music during performances. The young, vibrant group is made up of five talented percussionists; Ryan Bishop, Douglas Perkins, Adam Sliwinski, Jason Treuting, and Lawson White. *So* has already produced many new works, including David Lang's *the so-called laws of nature*, written in 2002. Hailed as one of the most exciting young groups in the country, *So* continues to make a name for themselves through various collaborations and performances. They have been featured at numerous prestigious concert halls and festivals throughout the country. The name *So* is a derivative of the Japanese verb, "to play". *So Percussion* views this as sharing the joy and spirit of music making. Ballet Tech is thrilled to be working with *So Percussion* for the 2006 spring season. We are grateful for the support of The American Music Center's Live Music For Dance program which helped make this collaboration possible.

# Upcoming Events:

## **Ballet Tech's Gala Celebration**

To celebrate the Ballet Tech School, a Gala Celebration will be held on opening night of the professional season, May 31<sup>st</sup>. Guests will enjoy a cocktail reception at the Ballet Tech studios, while observing Ballet Tech students in an open ballet class. Following the reception, guests will make their way to the Joyce Theater, where they will enjoy opening night of *MANDANCE PROJECT*. For more information on the Gala, please visit our website, or call (212) 777-7710 ext. 316.

## 2006 Open Auditions

Ballet Tech's remaining open auditions will be held at noon on the following dates: May 6, 2006; and June 17, 2006. The auditions will be held at Ballet Tech: 890 Broadway, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10003. To register for an open audition, or for more information, please call (212) 777-7710, or visit <http://www.ballettech.org/auditiondates.html>.

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