

express

A PUBLICATION OF *The Washington Post*

OCTOBER 21, 2004

Bounding Into Fall

From tutus to bare feet, there's a dance style for everyone

DANCE | Now that the fall arts season is upon us, there's enough dance to go around for everyone.

The Washington Ballet opens its season at the Kennedy Center's Eisenhower Theater with one of the most lyrical and well-loved white warhorses from the Romantic Era.

"Giselle" is a favorite among ambitious ballerinas, since this swooningly sad love story offers juicy opportunities for the female lead. The titular sprightly Scottish girl gets to be, in turn: girlishly in love with the rotter Albrecht; naively broken-hearted (see under "rotter Albrecht"); utterly, hair-flinging crazy; mystically redeemed.

Guest artist Rasta Thomas, a longtime favorite D.C. dancer, revis-

its the stage for this production.

Meanwhile, LevyDance is taking its own good turn — leaping, spinning and twisting in from the Bay Area, where founder/choreographer Benjamin Levy is something of a legend for finding ways to make his small group of dancers do what looks like the impossible.

The works are full of color, emotion, striking composition and impressive athleticism, and Levy has exquisite — and refreshingly eccentric — taste in music.

The company will be premiering the new works at Dance Place this weekend. (*express*)

— *Kennedy Center, 2700 F St. NW; Fri.-Sat., 8 p.m. (Thu.-Sat.), 2:30 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), \$29-\$84; 202-467-4600. (Foggy Bottom-GWU)*

— *Dance Place, 3225 8th St. NE; Sat. & Sun., Oct. 23-24, 8 p.m. (Sat.), 7 p.m. (Sun.), \$18, \$14 members, students and seniors; 202-269-1600. (Brookland-CUA/Union Station)*



TRENGTH IN NUMBERS: LevyDance is known for its surprising configurations.

ELIZABETH SPINALE/LEVYDANCE