

# Three styles of dance converge in PRISM

By Jim Hanna  
Staff Reporter

The intensely personal nature of any art form often precludes the successful integration of differing ideas. Collaboration in art often is doomed by too many egos.

"PRISM: 3 Points in Motion" hopes to buck this artistic curse when it is staged this weekend in the Temple Building's Studio Theatre.

Described as a modern dance concert, "PRISM" is a collection of works by three University of Nebraska-Lincoln dance majors and choreographers, Tracy Houser, Mark Jarecke and Donna Schieffer.

Houser and Schieffer are producing and staging "PRISM" as senior projects toward a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in dance. Jarecke, a scholarship sophomore, is using the concert as an independent study project.

"3 Points in Motion" is a reference to each of the three choreographers, all of whom are pleased with their final product considering the drastic differences in each of their

dance philosophies.

"I was very surprised," Schieffer said. "Normally when you have three people without a single artistic director, it's hard to coordinate ideas."

The coordination of their differing ideas has resulted in a variegated concert of 10 separate dance pieces. Each choreographer created their pieces independently and then placed them together into a single, hour-long dance concert.

"Meditation," the first piece in the concert, was choreographed by Jarecke and demonstrates his own unique dance philosophy.

"It has a lot to do with how people are treated by society in negative ways and how people react to that," he said.

The development of "Meditation" as well as Jarecke's other pieces, often was very abstract and experimental.

"I start with an emotional idea and as I develop it, I figure out what I'm talking about," Jarecke said. "That's how I work."

The more concrete working style

of Houser is evident in the next piece of the program, "Girl at the Party." The piece evolved from a monologue she had used in theater classes.

"The 'Girl at the Party' was one that I had done, and initially I created it for Melissa (Mapes-Raasch, who dances the piece), but it was a theater monologue I had used for about three years just as a monologue, and I always wanted to set movement to it," Houser said.

The result is a piece that combines elements of theater and dance, a goal that Houser often strives for.

"Most of my work, not all of it, but some of it, is trying to integrate theater and dance," she said.

Immediately following Houser's piece in the program is Schieffer's "Sweaters" which presents another contrast in working styles.

"I use a lot of props and with 'Sweaters,' I just took a prop and said 'what can I do with it?'" Schieffer said. "The dancers learned all the movement first so there's no music until later. It drives them nuts."

Working without music in the early stages of development is a technique Schieffer said allows her to explore her own ideas independently.

"I hate being a slave to music because I like dance that's organic and pure," she said. "For my own style to come out, I can't have music to depend on."

This musicless approach demonstrates Schieffer's personal style and contrasts with Houser's, who finds such an approach to be foreign.

"I can't believe that. I would never, never in a million years work to get all the movement and then add music," Houser said.

It is this variety in dance philosophies that the choreographers hope ultimately will add to the concert's success as well as to their own growth as artists.

"It (Schieffer's style) is not the manner I prefer to work in but it broadens me as a choreographer because it gives me something else I can draw from," Houser said.

Beyond integrating three distinct

choreography styles, the concert integrates a variety of art forms

"It is a synthesis of music, theatre and dance. It's not just dance," Houser said.

Houser, Jarecke and Schieffer dance in one another's pieces as well as in some of their own. The rest of the dance company is just as varied as the dance styles. Many are first-time dancers and are majors in such diverse fields as art, architecture, journalism, theater, dance and elementary education, Houser said.

The company of dancers includes: Lynne Fischer, Melissa Mapes-Raasch, Wendi Sue Kroll, Stephany Kudrna, Julie Stichel, Jean Duerr, Heather J. Hetrick, Illya Azaroff, Shelley K. Brackhan, Todd James and James Matthew Benson.

"PRISM: 3 Points in Motion" runs at 8 p.m. tonight, Saturday and Sunday in the Studio Theater, third floor of the Temple Building. Tickets may be purchased at the door for \$2.

The concert is produced in association with Theatrix.

## Guitarist Vaughan brings notorious show to Omaha

By John Payne  
Senior Reporter

The undisputed king of Texas blues guitar will bring his notorious live show to Omaha on Sunday night. Stevie Ray Vaughan, backed by his

### concert PREVIEW

long-time band Double Trouble, is scheduled to play at Omaha's intimate Music Hall in support of their Grammy-winning album "In Step."

Vaughan's marathon concerts are legendary, as is his tendency to bring special guests, like older brother Jimmie, on stage with him. Jimmie Vaughan began gaining recognition

in the early '70s, headlining with several of Texas's more renowned bands, often with younger brother and disciple Stevie on bass.

Stevie is the first to admit that his big brother was in fact his mentor. "It started to rub off," he said in a press release. "For a while he taught me, then I guess he just got tired of me asking so many questions."

In 1983, Stevie Ray Vaughan stepped out of his brother's shadow and into the limelight of American music with his first release "Texas Flood." That album took the industry by storm, causing many to compare his rocket-fire licks to immortals like B.B. King, Johnny Winter and most

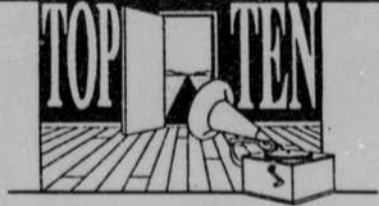
See STEVIE on 10

### KFMQ:

1. Robert Plant -- "Manic Nirvana"
2. Heart -- "Brigade"
3. Fleetwood Mac -- "Behind the Mask"
4. Midnight Oil -- "Blue Sky Mining"
5. Damn Yankees -- "Damn Yankees"
6. Faster Pussycat -- "Wake Me When It's Over"
7. "Pretty Woman" Soundtrack
8. Eric Johnson -- "Ah Via Musicom"
9. Smitherens -- "Smitherens 11"
10. Little Feat -- "Representing the Mambo"

### KRNU:

1. Peter Murphy -- "Deep"
2. Midnight Oil -- "Blue Sky Mining"
3. They Might Be Giants -- "Flood"
4. The Church -- "Gold Afternoon Fix"
5. The Cramps -- "Stay Sick"



6. Mission U.K. -- "Deliverance"
  7. Plan B -- "Discontentment"
  8. Oingo Boingo -- "Dark at the End of the Tunnel"
  9. The Wedding Present -- "Bizarro"
  10. The Beloved -- "Happiness"
- ### TWISTERS
1. Public Enemy -- "Fear of a Black Planet"
  2. Sinead O'Connor -- "I Do Not Want What I Haven't Got"
  3. Depeche Mode -- "Violator"
  4. Robert Plant -- "Manic Nirvana"
  5. M.C. Hammer -- "Please Hammer, Don't Hurt 'Em"

5. Midnight Oil -- "Blue Sky Mining"
  6. Lisa Stansfield -- "Lisa"
  7. Technotronic -- "Pump up the Jam"
  8. Faster Pussycat -- "Wake Me When It's Over"
  9. Slaughter -- "Stick it to Ya"
  10. "Pretty Woman" Soundtrack
- ### PROJECT IMPORT:
1. Ride -- "Play"
  2. Godbullies -- "Dog Show"
  3. Cows -- "Effete and Impudent Slobs"
  4. Mind Over Four -- "The Goddess"
  5. Grunting Plowman -- "I Play Jupiter"
  6. Tad -- "Salt Lick"
  7. Pale Saints -- "Comforts of Madness"
  8. Lush -- "Mad Love"
  9. Screaming Trees -- "Changes Come"
  10. Loop -- "A Gilded Eternity"

## Weekly acts range from bluesy to bizarre

By Mick Dyer  
Senior Editor

This week, look for Trip Shakespeare, Tad and Lucky Peterson, as well as some outstanding local bands.

### Alternative:

Tonight, Trip Akimbo and Trip Shakespeare will play at Duffy's, 1412 O St.

Trip Akimbo is a power-pop, college rock outfit out of Omaha.

Trip Shakespeare is a fun-loving band from Minneapolis that plays rousing let's-play-Twister-music at a rakish angle from the mainstream.

Saturday, the C Street Gypsies, Such Sweet Thunder, the Acorns and Brian Gerkenmeyer will give an Earth Day concert at the Union Plaza.

Sunday, Sawhorse and Tad will play at Duffy's.

Sawhorse is an unruly, irreverent

and often brilliant musical aberration.

Tad is an anal expulsive, musical behemoth. This guy is big and he plays big-people music. At the end of the night when you see him standing on stage in his underwear with a weird red light shining on his enormous body, you will know that you have glimpsed humanity at its lowest common denominator and that you probably won't sleep for days.

Wednesday, Victim Nation and the Morphines will play at Duffy's.

Victim Nation is a local industrial/rock band that relies heavily on samples, electronic and acoustic drums, gnarly guitars and a dense bass line to get its apocalyptic message across.

The Morphines are a fast-paced, good-time rock 'n' roll mainline from Philadelphia.

### Country:

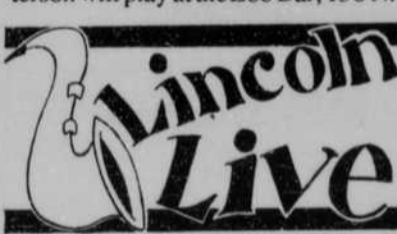
Tonight and Saturday, the Cheat-

ing Snakes will play at the Mountains, 311 S. 11th St.

### Jazz/Blues:

Tonight and Saturday, Mahogany will play at Bourbon Street, 200 N. 70th St.

Tonight and Saturday, Lucky Peterson will play at the Zoo Bar, 136 N.



14th St.

Lucky Peterson is one of the most entertaining young musicians on the blues circuit. A thin, energetic man with a great big smile, Lucky Peterson is an outstanding performer. Wear dancing shoes.

Monday, Mothers Big Band will play big band brass jazz at Bourbon Street.

Monday, The Tablerockers, featuring Annette Murrell, will play at the Zoo Bar.

Tuesday, Night Heat will play '60s-style Motown soul and R&B at the Zoo Bar.

Wednesday, the C Street Gypsies will play at Bourbon Street. The C Street Gypsies recently added a keyboard player and a saxophone player to round out its sound.

Wednesday, B and the Hot Notes will play at the Zoo Bar.

B and the Hot Notes play a smooth blend of rock, R&B, rockabilly and big band -- featuring clear clean guitars and dynamite two- and three-part vocal harmonies that blows audiences off of their chairs. Good stuff.

Thursday, Fusion Force will play jazz fusion at Julio's, 132 S. 13th St.

Thursday, Charlie Burton and the Hiccups, arguably the greatest rock 'n' roll band in Nebraska, will play at the Zoo Bar.

### Rock:

Tonight, Project S will play at Chesterfield's, Lower Level 245 N. 13th St.

Tonight, Finest Hour will play at Oscars 800 O St.

Tonight and Saturday, Pretty Boy will play at the Royal Grove, 340 W. Cornhusker Hwy.

Tonight and Saturday, the Rockin' Fossils will play at Sweep Left, 815 O St.

Tonight through Sunday, Sirius will play at the Prospector, 640 W. Van Dorn St.

Wednesday, Chapter Two will play at M.R. Ducks, and Thursday and Friday, at Chesterfield's.

## Fast-food flunky uses personal interests for act

By Robert Richardson  
Staff Reporter

Louis Johnson wasn't laughing when he lost both of his fast-food jobs in the space of a week. But when he walked into a Denver comedy club to kill time one night, things got a lot funnier and a lot more profitable.

"I saw a guy on stage playing his stomach. He had his shirt over his head and he was just wacking himself on the stomach and he was playing 'My Country 'Tis of Thee,'" he explains. "When I saw the guy doing

that, I figured, I always wanted to try this. It wasn't that I thought I could do it better than he did, 'cause I wasn't about to play my stomach."

After two weeks of writing comedy, he came back and did five minutes on stage. Three months after that, Johnson was a paid regular in clubs, and now is a nationally known comic.

Johnson will be the featured headliner at the Funny Bone Comedy Club, 808 P St., tonight through Sunday.

"In the space of six to nine months, I was on the road. I really took to it,

and I just knew I liked doing it. But it took me two years to realize that it was a business."

Johnson uses whatever interests him or his general life experiences as jokes for his act. He said that nobody told him he was funny; it's just a matter of opinion.

"I wouldn't do jokes about rock climbing because I'm not interested in it. My opinion is that nobody's funny; it's just a matter of opinion. There are people that I find funny that other people don't," he said.

Johnson said he didn't feel too

much pressure after winning Showtime's Funniest Person in America Contest. In 1986 he was declared the winner after a nationwide phone-in vote.

"Having the title of the funniest person was a little intimidating at first, but you just say to yourself, 'I know I'm not the funniest person in America,'" Johnson said.

"Basically it was the thing that helped to boost my career because I was just starting to headline back then. That helped me to get spots in the bigger and better clubs. And I got

a Showtime special out of it," he said.

Johnson said most stand-up comics don't strive solely to be the funniest person in America.

"More so these days, what most comics are striving for is just to get to know the art form a lot better, and get to know themselves," he said.

Johnson said he felt that comedy clubs were becoming more serious and that the audience wanted a little more than "crotch humor."

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