



INSIDE

The Feld Ballet Company from New York will visit the Hult Center

10

THIS WEEK

'The Conduct of Life' will open at 8 p.m. May 1 in the Arena Theatre

ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE
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Dance DRAMA

By Elisabeth Forsythe

Freelance Reporter

Provocative and exciting, the Hult Center's newest resident dance company brings raw talent and modern dance to Eugene.

P Marc Siegel and Pamela Lehan-Siegel, the artistic directors and founders of the Dance Theatre of Oregon (DTO), are both experienced, professional performers. They came to Eugene following careers in New York City and formed the company in 1992.

This 11 member dance company includes five University students, who feel at home with Siegel, who was born and raised in Eugene. While a student at the University in the early '80s, Siegel also danced professionally. "I thought the best way to learn the most was to dance with the local companies," said Siegel, who recruited some of the students in the company.

The multi-talented Siegel and Lehan-Siegel have worked as guest artists with the Eugene Opera, the Eugene Festival of Musical Theatre, the Eugene Ballet and the University dance department. Besides dancing, Siegel is a musician, and Lehan-Siegel sings and acts. They incorporate these talents into their performances.

The group's mission and case

Turn to DTO, Page 10

The Hult's newest resident dance company brings modern dance to Eugene



Members of the Dance Theatre of Oregon rehearse for their upcoming performance next month. Photos by Joe Bunik.



Kiss to return to stage with make-up, fire, explicit lyrics

ON THE SCENE



Kiss

Have you ever seen a grown man vomit blood and pretend to like it? Have you ever seen four multi-millionaires dress up in silly costumes and hobble around on ten inch platform shoes?

Well now you can, because the original members of Kiss are going to do a reunion tour in the lurid, comic book regalia of one of the biggest rock bands of the 70's. After fourteen years, the "costumed crusaders" announced their return to the glory days of yesteryear at a press conference last week aboard the USS Intrepid in New York City harbor.

That's right, Peter "The Cat" Criss,

Paul "The Lover" Stanley, "Space" Ace Frehley, and Gene "The Demon" Simmons are back in pure over-the-top fashion.

Seriously though, remember the '70s? Alice Cooper, Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars, *Saturday Night Fever* — it was the era that followed the '60s movement. Young people were liberated from the social norms of prior generations and experimenting radical new trends and fashions. Kiss epitomized all of that.

I first got Kiss-ed at a friend's birthday party in fifth grade. We all went in his big brother's room and

smoked cigarettes and listened to Kiss *Alive*. It was the most radical thing I had ever done.

Kiss took the rock and roll format, which was at that time oriented to the tastes of young adults, and made it something young teenagers could understand. It would be a couple of years before I could understand what Black Sabbath was talking about in "Children of the Grave", but Kiss was like The Fantastic Four and I could read them like a comic book.

"Don't pull the plug on me, keep it in and keep me high!" That is one example of Kiss lyrical prowess.

How about, "You're such a jewel

in the rough, I want to show you my stuff."

Kiss onstage was like a day at Disneyland, only with a good buzz. The aforementioned blood-puking tactic was just part of an assault on your senses that consisted of fire breathing, smoking guitars, massive pyrotechnic displays and extreme volume.

"We feel just as silly now as we did 17 years ago," said Simmons, who among other things will be flying across stage in a bat suit this summer. Shrewd, arrogant, and audacious as ever, Kiss is back on the road, and I for one will be there.