

Dance Ambassadors

Cydney Wilkes and Mike Barber have been notably prolific with their art lately.

The choreographers/dancers have been involved in so many projects during the past couple of years that it's hard to imagine how they juggled their other roles as massage therapist and public school teacher, respectively.

In the past few months alone, Barber produced two editions of his ongoing performance series, Ten Tiny Dances. Wilkes joined Barber in creating work for the 16th edition of Ten Tiny Dances, which took place in August at the South Waterfront. However, when the 17th edition rolled around as part of September's Time-Based Art Festival, the lesbian choreographer was engrossed in contributing to the City Dance project, which was also part of TBA.

In addition to working on their individual projects, Barber and Wilkes have poured a great deal of time and energy into collaborating with each other. It was only two years ago that the duo collaborated on a full-evening dance performance called A Cer-

tain Facilitation of Impasse, born out of a joint dance residency at Djerassi, in California.

Less than a year later, Barber and Wilkes were in Scotland learning a solo named "The Runner" from Deborah Hay, an experimental choreographer with roots in the 1960s postmodern dance movement. Last December, Wilkes and Barber each performed their own adaptation of "The Runner" here in Portland. Then, for two weeks in July, they were sequestered in Marfa, Texas, working with Hay on a duet they had commissioned from the renowned choreographer.

Barber and Wilkes will perform Hay's duet, called "Found Music," during their program *Music in the Middle: An Evening of Duets*. Performances



Cydney Wilkes and Mike Barber are bringing experimental choreographer Deborah Hay's work to Portland.

es take place Oct. 31 to Nov. 2 at Conduit, 918 S.W. Yamhill St. Admission is \$15 through Brown Paper Tickets.

According to Wilkes and Barber, a commissioned duet like "Found Music" is somewhat of a creative departure for Hay, who has been primarily focusing on her own solo work since the late 1990s.

"It's a new form for her, so it's a really unique and special thing," says Barber, who is gay. "We're really excited about sharing it here in Portland."

In addition to "Found Music," Barber and Wilkes have each choreographed a duet for the program. Both dances (Wilkes' "Cul De Sac" and Barber's "Bomb") incorporate the music of composer and longtime collaborator Heather Perkins.

—Rebecca Ragain

ity options for lesbians and gay men, including donor insemination, in vitro fertilization, egg donation and gestational surrogacy. It will also discuss ways to enhance fertility through both conventional and naturopathic techniques and will explore the psychological and legal issues unique to queer parenting. (7-9 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

Powell's Books presents **Mia Kirshner** reading from *I Live Here*, in which *The L Word* star's journals are brought vividly to life in collaboration with graphic novelists, providing an intimate journey to humanitarian crises in four corners of the world: Chechnya, Burma, Mexico and Malawi. (7:30 pm. 1005 W Burnside St.)

WED • OCT. 29

French pop star **Yelle** performs with **Passion Pit** at Berbat's. (9 pm. 231 SW Ankeny St. \$18 at the door, \$15 in advance from TicketsWest.)

THU • OCT. 30

Manifest presents **Last Thursday Costumed Art Walk** kicking off with a potluck, performance art, street theater, music, break dancing and fire dancing. (5:30-8 pm. \$5-\$15 donation. RSVP to 503-223-8822 or www.manifestpdx.org/calendar.)

The Men's Wellness Center presents an informational night about **Celebrating the Body Erotic**, an upcoming workshop that will teach men how to use breath and movement to more fully receive touch. (7-9 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

To all the ghouls, goblins, witches, vampires and scary Republicans: Mother's Velvet Lounge presents **Scabaret Scaryoke** featuring a costume contest plus lots of treats and tricks! (8 pm-midnight. 212 SW Stark St.)

Miss Mylar Black hosts the **Drag Race Costume Contest** featuring cash and prizes at Scandals. (9 pm. 1125 SW Stark St.)

Portland Spirit Cruises presents torch singer **Storm Large's Halloween Cruise** featuring prizes and surprises. (9 pm-midnight. Board at Salmon Street Springs Fountain. \$20 plus \$8 light buffet from www.portlandspirit.com.)

FRI • OCT. 31

Rosetown Ramblers, Portland's gay and lesbian square dance club, presents **Scares 'n Squares...We're Baaack!!!**—a weekend of dancing, fun and friendship—through Nov. 2. (For a complete schedule visit www.rosetownramblers.com.)

Portland Arts & Lectures presents humorist **David Sedaris** at Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. (7:30 pm. 1037 SW Broadway. \$30-\$60 from Ticketmaster.)

Out Dancing's monthly **Dance Social** is every last Friday at Ankeny Street Studio. Lesson and refreshments included. (8:15 pm. Southeast Ninth Avenue and Ankeny Street. \$8.)

The eighth annual **Portland Erotic Ball** at Crystal Ballroom features Pepe & the Bottle Blondes, Broken Soviet, March Fourth Marching Band, Rose City Sirens, fetish demonstrations by Lady Alycyn and Portland's biggest costume contest with \$5,000 in cash and prizes! (9 pm. 1332 W Burnside St. \$35 at the door, \$30 in advance from box office or Ticketmaster.)

The Egyptian Club presents **Halloween Hootenanny** featuring a costume contest. (9 pm. 3701 SE Division St. \$5.)

C.C. Slaughters presents the **Guys in Disguise Halloween Party** featuring music by DJ Robb and hosts Alex Hollywood and Bolivia Carmichaels as Barack Obama and Sarah Palin! (9 pm. 219 NW Davis St.)

Gay-owned Crush throws a **Halloween Party**. (9 pm. 1400 SE Morrison St.)

Scandals presents **Halloween 08: Heroes & Villains** featuring a cash costume contest, music by DJ Crumbz and hosts Miss Mylar Black and the Trailer Sisters! (10 pm. 1125 SW Stark St.)

SAT • NOV. 1

Barracuda throws another **Hot Flash Dance Party** for seasoned lesbians 36 and older featuring music from the '70s to today, a great dance bar and wall-to-wall sexy, gorgeous women! (5-9 pm. 9 NW Second Ave. \$8.)



Berbat's presents **Super Queer Lusty Fun Xtravaganza** featuring drag kings and queens, burlesque performers, singers, variety acts, sexy vendors and more! Proceeds benefit Portland Women's Crisis Line. (9 pm. 231 SW Ankeny St. \$15 at the door, \$10 in advance from TicketWeb.)

Rotture presents the monthly dyke party **Girl4Girl** with a live performance by God-des & She! (9 pm. 315 SE Third Ave. \$8 before 10 pm, \$10 after.)

SUN • NOV. 2

Brent Seeley and his partner, Jeff Halsey, host **Board Games** every first Sunday in Northwest Portland. Play old-time gems (Life, Monopoly) or new classics (Settlers of Catan, Puerto Rico) or bring your favorite! (10:30 am-5 pm. RSVP to brunt1234@gmail.com.)

MON • NOV. 3

The second annual **Siren Nation Women's Music and Arts Festival** continues through Nov. 9. (For a complete schedule visit www.sirennation.com.)

TUE • NOV. 4

Q Center presents **Game Night**, a great social evening of informal board game competition. Choose from many options, or feel free to bring your own favorite and teach the group. (7-9 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

WED • NOV. 5

A youth librarian reads engaging stories and leads songs and movement activities for children up to 5 years old during the monthly **Storytime with Maria** at Q Center. (10-11 am. 69 SE Taylor St.)

Q Theory, a monthly book group that will read mind-expanding books by the leading thinkers of the past few decades, discusses Michel Foucault's *The History of Sexuality* Vol. 3. (7-9 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

THU • NOV. 6

Reflect, write and share from your heart in an open, nonjudgmental space during **Men's Soul Talk**, a weekly writing group presented by Manifest. (6:30-8 pm. \$5-\$15 donation. RSVP to 503-223-8822 or www.manifestpdx.org/calendar.)

The Crown Room hosts **Query**, a double relaunch party for Dr. Sketchy's and Sluts & Squares. (9:30 pm. 205 NW Fourth Ave. Free until 11 pm, \$3 after.)

FRI • NOV. 7

The Oregon Convention Center presents **Wordstock 2008** featuring queer scribes Gary Zebrun (*Only the Lonely*), Alison Bechdel (*The Essential Dykes to Watch Out For*), Marc Acito (*Attack of the Theater People*), Judith Barrington (*Lifesaving: A Memoir*) and Beren deMotier (*The Brides of March: Memoir of a Same-Sex Marriage*) through Nov. 9. (For a complete schedule visit www.wordstockfestival.com.)

Out Dancing's **intermediate country two-step** class starts tonight and continues every Friday in November at Ankeny Street Studio. **Beginning waltz** class follows. (6:15-7:15 pm two-step [\$40 for month], 7:15-8:15 pm waltz [\$32 for month]. 975 SE Sandy Blvd. 503-236-5129. www.outdancing.info.)

SAT • NOV. 8

Celebrate good times! Embers presents **L4L PDX** for lesbians 35 and older every second Saturday. Dance to '50s, '60s, '70s and '80s music in a nonsmoking environment. (5-9 pm. 110 NW Broadway. \$5.)



Darklady's Harvest Fest of Hedonism Late Season Polyween welcomes sexy pilgrims, perverts, ghouls, ghosties and long-legged beasts for music performances, costume prizes, S/M play and more! Bring a pet or human care product for Esther's Pantry to receive a \$5 discount. (7 pm-2 am. \$25 kinky, \$50 vanilla. RSVP to darklady@darklady.com.)

Sacha Sacket performs at Alberta Street Pub. (9:30 pm. 1036 NE Alberta St.)

SUN • NOV. 9

Look deeply at what kind of job you'd really love during the **Men's Passionate Work Retreat** presented by Manifest. (2-6 pm. \$30-\$70 donation. RSVP to 503-223-8822 or www.manifestpdx.org/calendar.)

Rose Empress XLVII Alycia Day presents the ninth annual **Sash Bash** featuring dinner and a show at Darcelle XV Showplace. Proceeds benefit Our House of Portland. (5:30 pm. 208 NW Third Ave. \$25 from 503-644-6814.)



Women seeking women: JustOutPersonals.com presents a monthly single women's **Bunco** night at Q Center! (6-8 pm. 69 SE Taylor St. \$5 plus canned food donation for Esther's Pantry.)

Holocene presents **Pop Tart** for bois, dykes, ladies and the like every second Sunday. (7 pm-1 am. 1001 SE Morrison St. \$5.)

Summer Heights High, an Aussie comedy series featuring creator/writer Chris Lilley playing all three lead roles, including a high-strung gay drama teacher and a haughty female exchange student, debuts on HBO. (10:30 pm.)

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