

Kinetic comedy show captivates kids



JENNY CHAVEZ / Clackamas Print
Do Jump! Performer does balancing act and swift movement to the new work "Wait less" before a fall house.

Do Jump! does gym

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A&E Editor

Kids seem to have an innate sense of physical comedy, and this was evident in the Saturday performance of *Do Jump!* held at Randall Hall Gymnasium.

Although about one-fourth of the audience consisted of children of various ages, there wasn't any of the fidgeting and whining that sometimes occurs when they get bored. Instead, they were wrapped up in the low-tech performance designed to take place in a college gymnasium. Whether gasping at handstands performed on precariously balanced chairs or laughing as tables moved themselves onto the stage for the next set, they were

thoroughly entertained. Because of this, parents were able to let go and enjoy the show.

Do Jump!, which bills itself as theater-in-motion, has been performing since 1977. Choreographer Robin Lane created the first performance when he was in high school some thirty years ago. In 1984, the company founded a school for children and adults to learn its unique performance style. It is the resident company at Portland's Echo Theatre and has traveled across Canada and the United States. Last year, the company performed in New York. Their stated philosophy, "that people should strive for excellence, work to create community, and celebrate the uniqueness of each individual," is evident in all their work.

The performance in Randall Hall was especially significant because they were able to share their first showing of a work exploring weight and weightlessness called "Wait Less" which was commissioned by Clackamas Community College.

Although performed without the lighting, stage and sound embellishments that will accompany the number when it is presented to the public, it was beautiful in raw form as three pairs of trapeze artists used their partners to counter-balance themselves.

Do Jump! was fun and good family entertainment, which is sometimes difficult to find. At one point in the show, the ringmaster entered the stage with a gigantic hula-hoop, spinning it like a top. As the audience watches the spin go from rapid twirling to a slow-motion topple, they begin to get the idea that the spinning hoop is the action. No one is going to run out and jump through it or tap dance around it. We were just going to watch the hoop spin and then slowly loose energy.

At the point when the hoop is entering its final performance, a voice rings out from two rows behind me, "Dat thing has a snake in it to make it act that way Daddy."

Sometimes it takes a kid to point out the obvious.



Aries: Extravagance and overindulgence will result if you are feeling sorry for yourself. Be prepared to deal with police officers. It's a good week to surprise a close friend with news or a small gift. Your magic clothing item of the week: Striped socks.

Taurus: It's time to let go of that rigid pattern in your life and do something spontaneous. Go some place you have never been before or try to wear something you have never worn before. Your magic clothing item of the week: Speedo's.

Gemini: What comes around goes around. Be nice to your friends and co-workers even if you are having a bad day. Take more vitamins and you will feel better. Your magic clothing item of the week: Hula skirt.

Cancer: You are tempted to spread a rumor which could ruin your good reputation. A friend is waiting for an answer. Answer! Don't lend or borrow money if possible. Your magic clothing item of the week: Suspenders.

Leo: One-sided infatuations are evident. Don't let other people set you back. Speak openly to your friends and avoid having any kind of secrets. Your magic clothing item of the week: Cowboy boots.

Virgo: Plan a quiet evening for two as often as possible this week. Words of love will be to your advantage. It's a good time to create a new dish! Your magic clothing item of the week: Apron.

Libra: People keep on calling you and you feel like an operator. Just think of it this way - you are very

popular this week. Something is wrong with the shower. Check it out! Your magic clothing item of the week: Ski pens.

Scorpio: There are certain things that have to be done. Don't get behind with your work. Maybe you need to buy some new utensils. Your magic clothing item of the week: Tie.

Sagittarius: There will be a good opportunity to make some money. You have a tendency to make the right decisions this week. Make it clear that you are the boss. Your magic clothing item of the week: Warm sweater.

Capricorn: Someone you know has a big crush on you. Be friendly and express yourself in a polite way. Your fridge is way too empty! Your magic clothing item of the week: Boxer shorts.

Aquarius: Situations might get blown out of proportion but at least you will be in a romantic mood. The sauna is a good place to hang out. Your magic clothing item of the week: Bathing suit.

Pisces: Social events will provide you with excitement. There is a slight possibility that your emotions will be a little unstable but you can handle this easily. Your magic clothing item of the week: Belt.

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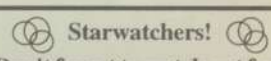


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