

BLOODYVOX



PHOTO
BY JINGZI
PHOTOGRAPHY

'Little Miss
Tough It'

Portland dance company BodyVox performs Halloween-themed 'BloodyVox' at Liberty Theatre

By **HEATHER DOUGLAS**
FOR COAST WEEKEND

On Friday the 13th of October, BodyVox, a Portland-based dance company, will bring their frightfully fun performance “BloodyVox” to Astoria’s historic Liberty Theatre.

A story told in body movement, “BloodyVox” nods to Halloween as well as local ghost legends. The “Cirque du Soleil”-esque performance features old standbys — like ghosts, goblins and vampires — and pop culture staples: “The Shining,” Alfred Hitchcock, even Abbott and Costello.

The show is “rather cinemagraphic with setting, character and story,” said Jamey Hampton, who co-founded BodyVox with his wife and dance partner, Ashley Roland. “Each dance we present is its own little movie.”

Unlike many traditional shows, “BloodyVox” pairs classical horror like Mary Shelley’s “Frankenstein,” with satire like Mel Brook’s “Young Frankenstein.”

“The work is very approachable and not confusing or alienating,” Hampton said. “Even the sad pieces are lovely.”

Hampton and Roland, who conceptualized and choreographed the show in honor

of their favorite holiday, tried to avoid the obvious Halloween trappings.

“There is a real variety of emotions, but most of it is purely fun,” Hampton said. “We intentionally stay away from horror and gore; it’s been overdone with haunted houses.”

“BloodyVox” is creepy, yes, but also festive. The Liberty lobby will be decorated, and guests are encouraged to come in costume.

“We’re known for being haunted here (at the Liberty). ‘BloodyVox’ will be paying homage to our Astoria ghosts,” Jennifer Crockett, the theater’s executive director,

IF YOU GO

What: “BloodyVox” by BodyVox

When: 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 13; doors open for wine/beer reception at 6 p.m.

Where: The Liberty Theatre (1203 Commercial St., Astoria)

Reserve seating: \$20 to \$35 Minors \$5 in Section C only. Groups of 10 or more save 10 percent in Section A