



Choreographer Brandon 'Peace' Albright and dancers from Illstyle & Peace Productions.

Hip-Hop Uncaged

Illstyle & Peace expands boundaries of dance

Philadelphia's celebrated hip-hop dance company Illstyle & Peace Productions is making its West Coast debut thanks to Portland's White Bird's Uncaged dance series. The group performs at 8 p.m. Thursday, March 21 through Saturday, March 23 at Lincoln Hall, Portland State University.

Founded by choreographer Brandon Albright, Illstyle & Peace Productions fuses hip hop with other dance forms to create a high-energy, no-holds-barred

performance that led Roslyn Sulcas of The New York Times to declare, "the ensemble displayed some of the most dazzling breaking techniques I've ever seen, while Mr. Albright's choreography possessed a sly humor and an adept sense of spatial composition."

Albright will bring to Portland a company of 12 gifted male dancers, originally street performers, whom he trained to become accomplished dancers with dazzling technique. Illstyle & Peace Productions is one of four dance companies (along with Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Doug Varone and Dancers and Spectrum Dance Theater) selected to represent the United States in this year's Dance Motion USA touring program.

Their new program will be the same one that they will perform on the Dance Motion State Department tour.

Entitled IMpossible IZZpossible, the evening will feature the cast performing

work springing from old school hip-hop but moving in new directions.

Working from an eclectic mix of dance and performance disciplines including tap, ballet, house dancing, DJing and Beatboxing, the all-male company is impressive in its tight ensemble movement as well as in its solo sections.

Tickets are \$30 for adults and \$20 for student and seniors. Visit whitebird.org or call the PSU Box Office at 503-725-3307.