

Performing Arts Division presents 'Evening of Dance' concert

2/01/07

Alfred University Performing Arts Division presents an "Evening of Dance" on Thursday-Saturday Feb. 15-17 in the CD Smith Theatre. Show times will be 8 p.m., with an additional 2 p.m. matinee on Saturday, Feb.17. The concert will feature new works by students, faculty members and the Marlin and Ginger Miller Resident Guest Artist John Griffin. Student work will include dances by Mercedes Albrecht, Sarah Hall Weaver, Elizabeth Muise and Dawn Knight. AU Dance faculty members D. Chase Angier and Robert Bingham will present "Forward," the third duet in a series of thematically linked dances they have created and performed together. Angier will also present an evocative new quartet, performed by Saki Kitahara, Laura Nelson, Elizabeth Muise and Danielle Smith. A large ensemble cast of students will perform in an exciting new work entitled "Angels," choreographed by John Griffin. This dance theater piece, which addresses issues of adolescence and coming of age, will be created with students during Griffin's weeklong residency at AU, an opportunity made possible by the Marlin and Ginger Miller Dance Residency Program. Griffin has received Choreographic Fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Ohio Arts Council and the Greater Columbus Arts Council for his creative work that includes five full-evening pieces, a commission from Rhythm in Shoes and a co-production with the Contemporary American Theatre Company in Columbus. He has danced with Les Grands Ballets Canadiens in Montreal, Agnes DeMille's Heritage Dance Theatre, "Brigadoon" in New York City and he toured internationally with the Wuppertal Dance Theatre directed by Pina Bausch. His movement commentary to Schoenberg's "Pierrot Lunnaire" was shown on WOSU.TV and he co-directed "Igor & Svetlana" with Victoria Uris, which was premiered at the Dance On Camera Festival at Lincoln Center. Griffin received a bachelor's degree in dance from the Julliard School of Music and a master's degree in dance from Ohio State University, where he is a professor in the Department of Dance. He teaches composition, techniques of ballet and social dance and Labanotation (system for recording and analyzing human movement). He has directed works of Antony Tudor, Agnes DeMille, Charles Weidman and Anna Sokolow from Labanotation scores.