

## EXIT DANCE THEATRE DEBUTS FIVE NEW WORKS IN SPRING PERFORMANCE *THE CRUELEST MONTH*

**NEWBURYPORT, MA – February 21, 2008** – In its 21<sup>st</sup> season, Exit Dance Theatre introduces five new works in its spring performance *The Cruellest Month*, scheduled for April 11 & 12 at 8:00 p.m. at the Firehouse Center for the Arts.

Choreographers Fontaine Dollas Dubus, Nicole Duquette, Erin Foley, Sarah George, Wendy Hamel and Cheryl Fisher-Schwind explore love, loss, confinement and evolution in *The Cruellest Month*. Dancers in Exit's spring performance include Dubus, Darlene Doyle, Duquette, Foley, George, Hamel, Edward Speck and Patricia Walsh.

### **New Works:**

- Dubus' new piece, titled "Katse Kala" (sit good), takes root from the state of feminine perspective in history, or lack thereof. Music composed by Clint Mansell, recorded by Kronos Quartet, accompanies six dancers (Dubus, Duquette, Doyle, Foley, Hamel and Walsh), moving among three chairs, never quite able to commit to a sitting position.
- Fisher-Schwind's piece, "LOVE," focuses on the feeling of loving someone intensely. The piece is performed by dancers Foley, George and Speck, to music by Haydn and costumes by George.
- Hamel debuts her first piece of choreography for Exit Dance Theatre, as "Limerent Objects" exposes one man's emotional path towards love through the eyes of three very different women. He searches for contentment amidst strong feelings of lust, friendship and betrayal. The ever-changing mood in this piece is set to an instrumental bluegrass version of Ben Harper's "The Woman in You" and features dancers Doyle, George, Hamel and Speck.
- Duquette's "The Surviving Heart" explores the stages of grief that comes with losing a friend, sibling, parent, spouse or lover - the torment of being left behind, emotional separation from the living, anger over why it happened and the process of learning to let go and live again. Duquette uses music from Evanescence and features dancers Doyle, Dubus, Duquette, Foley, Hamel, Speck and Walsh.
- Simultaneously inspired by a concept, a symphony by Joe Jackson and a movement class based on Budokon training, Foley and George join together in an exploration that takes dancers Doyle, Dubus, Duquette, George, Hamel, Foley, Speck and Walsh from outer space, to the eternal tide, to the evolution of life and relationships on earth. Performed to music by Joe Jackson.

### **Tickets**

Tickets for Exit Dance Theatre's spring performance can be purchased by calling the Firehouse Center for the Arts' box office at 978.462.7336 or by visiting <http://firehouse.org/>.

### **About Exit Dance Theatre**

Exit Dance Theatre, a modern dance company based in Newburyport, MA, was founded in 1987 by Susan Atwood, Fontaine Dollas Dubus, Cheryl Fisher-Schwind, Stephen Haley and Linda Lazarro Mangini. Directed by Dubus and co-directed by Wendy Hamel, Exit's style is deeply rooted in theater techniques, improvisation and collaboration. Dancers include Dubus, Hamel, Darlene Doyle, Nicole Duquette, Erin Foley, Sarah George, Edward Speck and Tricia Walsh. Exit's residence is The Dance Place in Newburyport, MA. For more information on Exit Dance Theatre visit [www.exitdancetheatre.org](http://www.exitdancetheatre.org)