

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Laura Faure 207-786-6381 | [bdfpress@bates.edu](mailto:bdfpress@bates.edu)

For press releases, photos and artist information, visit:

<http://www.batesdancefestival.org/pressinfo.php>

## **AXIS Dance Company brings new work to the Bates Dance Festival**

LEWISTON, Maine -- AXIS Dance Company, one of the most acclaimed and innovative ensembles of performers with and without disabilities, presents the Maine premieres of award-winning works by choreographers David Dorfman, Alex Ketley and Joe Goode.

Performances take place at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, July 30 and 31, in Bates College's Schaeffer Theatre, 305 College St. For information about tickets, and for additional performance details, visit the festival website: [www.batesdancefestival.org/perform-listings.php](http://www.batesdancefestival.org/perform-listings.php)

Among the premieres is AXIS' most recent commission, "Light Shelter," created by the witty and skillful choreographer and longtime Bates Dance Festival regular, David Dorfman. "The quality of the dancing takes your breath away," San Francisco Chronicle reviewer Allan Ulrich wrote in his review of the work.

The score is by noted electronic composer Albert Mathias, another festival regular, who received a 2006 Bessie award for his music for the Bebe Miller company's "Landing/Place" and also crafted music for the company's performance "Necessary Place" at Bates last summer.

Founded in 1987 and under the artistic direction of founding member Judith Smith since 1997, AXIS has become a jewel of contemporary dance and disability culture -- a company that transforms a viewer's perspective on dance and the possibilities of the body. AXIS has paved the way for a powerful contemporary dance form, physically integrated dance. The company has performed in more than 60 cities nationwide, as well as in Europe and Siberia.

The list of AXIS collaborators reads like a Who's Who of contemporary dance: Bill T. Jones, Stephen Petronio, Joe Goode, Joanna Haigood, Victoria Marks, Ann Carlson, Margaret Jenkins, Sonya Delwaide, Meredith Monk, Fred Frith and Joan Jeanrenaud. AXIS has received seven Isadora Duncan Dance Awards and an additional seven nominations.

**MORE**

## **Bates College/BDF AXIS/Add 1**

Offering a kaleidoscope of events for adults and youth of all abilities, AXIS is also known for its unparalleled education/outreach program Dance Access and its youth component Dance Access/KIDS!

### **About the Bates Dance Festival**

Founded in 1982 at Bates College, the Bates Dance Festival brings together an international community of contemporary dance choreographers, performers, educators and students in a cooperative community to study, perform and create new work.

The festival serves as an annual destination for artists, students and audiences to engage in a full range of dance activities and performances that foster a creative exchange of ideas, encourage exploration of new ground and provide the opportunity to experience a wide spectrum of dance/movement disciplines.

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