

MOVING OUTDOORS

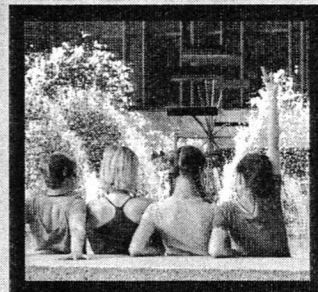
2^E PORTE À GAUCHE COLLECTIVE SHOWS OFF NEW MOVES

BY PHILIP SZPORER

"Bringing it to the people" is the mantra for the 2e Porte à Gauche collective, says member Johanna Bienaise. Made up of a gutsy group of young choreographers and performers (Amélie Bédard-Gagnon, Marie Béland, Bienaise, Frédéric Gravel and Katya Montaignac), they are keen to expose contemporary dance to the masses.

To that end, they'll present an outdoor event, *The Art* (pronounced "dehors") II, on the Place des Arts esplanade next week. Challenging the audience's relation to dance is the task at hand, and the group is hoping to redefine the traditional relationship between audience and dancer. The interdisciplinary nature of many of the group's contemporary dance offerings lends itself to site-specificity. "We're responding to questions on [form], and creating opportunities for the milieu," says Bienaise. Case in point: the group's recent performance event, which took place in a rented flat in the Plateau. Audience members reserved tickets in advance and then passed through the apartment at will, observing, knocking back a cool beverage, and later hanging out with the artists.

Art is about opening up possibilities and asking questions. *The Art II* promises to alter not only how the audience experiences dance, but question how the viewing transforms the nature of the discipline. The upcoming three-day show will feature 12 different choreographers in a daily four-hour marathon, and has the individual dances shift locations within the perimeter of the PdA esplanade in a continuous rotation. The lineup includes work by Béland, Gravel, Emmanuel Jouthe, Caroline Laurin-Beaucage, Jean-Sébastien Lourdais, Andrew Tay and others. Without arts council funding, all the artists are donating.



THE ART II: GET OUT THERE!

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At Place des Arts's esplanade, Sept. 12-14, 3-7 p.m.

hour

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