

## ***Motion Theatre* Dance Company**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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### **MotionTheatre Dance Company Celebrates 33 years! Of Movement Arts & Physical Theater!**

Center Stage Theater,  
751 Paseo Nuevo Mall, Santa Barbara  
April 8, 9 at 8 pm and  
Sunday Matinee: April 10<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm  
BOX OFFICE (805) 963-0408

Tickets: \$50 Patrons, \$15 General,  
\$10 SBDA Members, Teens, Students and Seniors.  
Free to Children, 12 and under, at the Sunday Matinee.

(Human Interest Story for Local, Nonprofit Spotlight, or Arts & Entertainment Section)

**The MotionTheatre Dance Company** Celebrates 33 YEARS of Innovative Movement Arts and Physical Theater presenting their 2011 season on Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 8 pm, Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 8 pm, and Sunday April 10<sup>th</sup> Matinee at 2pm (free to children) at Center Stage Theater, 751 Paseo Nuevo Mall, Santa Barbara, CA. Tickets are: Patrons \$50, General \$15, \$10 SBDA Members, Teens, Students and Seniors. FREE to Children (12 and under Sunday Matinee Only). The company will be presenting two ground-breaking movement art works from her repertoire written, directed and choreographed by Maria Rendina Frantz, artistic director of the MotionTheatre dance company.

“KING LEAR:Visions and Divisions”, premiered in NYC in 1987, at Columbia University, is an original contemporary dance/play version of Shakespeare’s King Lear. Actors: Maia Mook, Matthew Taviani, Anthony Kortick and Stuart Ornstein will be performing with dancers: Abigail Linton, Kendra Fong and Jenelle Porfido Rodriguez. “KING LEAR Visions and Divisions” is a highly colorful, imaginative adaptation of the pre-renaissance play with court dances, sibling rivalry, staff fighting and tragic ending. When the female narrator doubles as the “The Fool” the play juxtaposes one man’s father – daughter relationship and his battle with cancer to Bard’s King Lear. Choreographed to music composed by the New York’s renaissance orchestra “Istanpitta”, this work is educational & artful.

Also on the program is "MYSTERIES OF LIGHT", a condensed version of the full length dance/play, premiered in Santa Barbara in 2003, based on the life of Jesus and his miracles. This inventive play celebrates Christ consciousness and the healing aspects beginning with the Baptism of Christ to his Ascension. The female narrator and a non - denominational group of performing artists of many faiths (not associated with a church) tell the story through dance, text, motion, sound and various musical selections. This Easter play focuses on the miracles and the fascinating life of Jesus, Master teacher, healer and peacemaker. Aden Hailu, Carol Saucedo, Allen Stewart-Oaten, Tino Viramontes, Maia Mook, Matthew Tavianini, Stuart Ornstein, Abigail Linton, Kendra Fong, Jenelle Porfido Rodriguez and Maria Rendina Frantz will be performing.

Maria Rendina Frantz created her first original full length dance/play "This Chicken is Real Chicken" at the Merce Cunningham Theater in NYC in 1983 during the Post-Modern era inspired by Dance June Lewis & Company's "A Soldier's Tale". As a choreographer, dancer and actress Ms. Rendina produced a musical (without the singing) and was reviewed by Dance Magazine. Subsequently, 'MOTIONTHEATRE' became the experimental process she used to create the work. Later she established "MOVEMENT ARTS of Santa Fe" in 1995 with composer, musician and conductor Oliver Prezant.

MotionTheatre dance company is a local 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization dedicated to the creation and presentation of high quality dance / theatre works, classes, and outreach programs for all ages. This dynamic mix of dancers and actors bring stories to life by weaving, poetry, sound, visuals, theater, and choreography together in performance with educational themes. MTDC presents contemporary concert dance and historical works by modern dance masters. For information call (805) 455-1955, email [info@motiontheatre.com](mailto:info@motiontheatre.com), or visit our website at [www.motiontheatre.com](http://www.motiontheatre.com).