

# Dancers to bring 'vision' to Koger



PHOTO SPECIAL TO THE GAMECOCK

The USC Dance Company will present "Visions of Dance" at the Koger Center for the Arts.

BY CARRIE PHILLIPS  
THE GAMECOCK

The Koger Center for the Arts will be graced tonight with lithe bodies, passionate movements and bounding leaps as it holds the USC Dance Company's spring concert, "Visions of Dance."

It will be the first time that student choreography has been allowed in the concert. Misty Borst, a fourth-year biology student in the Honors College, will contribute two pieces. Both pieces are part of her senior thesis for the Honors College.

"Attempting Suicide" is a lyrical piece that challenges traditional perspectives of suicide.

"Typically, it seems there is some level of discomfort in discussing suicide," Borst said. "Part of the point of 'Accepting Suicide' is to bring the topic to light and show there is no need for discomfort in discussing it."

Borst has also choreographed a hip-hop piece called "In the

Beginning" to music by the Beastie Boys.

"While I feel honored to have my choreography share the stage with professionals, there is a level of intimidation about it," she said.

Susan Anderson, the company's artistic director, said: "It's an honor for her to be doing this. We are very proud of Misty."

Anderson has choreographed a piece for the evening. "Tango" is a duet to the music of Astor Piazzolla, and was recently performed with the South Carolina Philharmonic Orchestra. Anderson described the piece as provocative, energetic and technically difficult. "It's three and a half minutes of sheer energy," she said. Cliff Fogle and Gabrielle O'Neal will perform the piece.

The show will also feature the world premier of "Close to Him," a ballet piece choreographed by Stanislav Issaev, chair of the dance department at the Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities in Greenville.

Issaev has been awarded many international awards for his skills as a dancer. He toured with the Moscow Classical Ballet as principal dancer, and he was also principal dancer with the Atlanta Ballet.

The show will highlight several of the company's talented dancers. Cooper Rust will perform "The Dying Swan," a solo piece that acclaimed Russian ballerina Anna Pavlova first performed in 1905. "It's about the fragility of life; it's rather moving," Anderson said. "Every ballerina wants to dance this piece."

Issaev has also choreographed a piece from "Phantom: The Ballet," in which Wendy Rickenbaker will dance the role of Christine.

Kris Cangelosi, USC dance faculty member, has choreographed two pieces for tonight's performance. "Water, Land, Spirit" is about the beauty that surrounds us in everyday life. "La Porte du Fond" is a jazz number that fuses African, jazz and modern move-

ment, and it has been selected to compete in the Jazz Dance Competition at the U.S. Congress. The company will travel to Chicago to attend the competition.

The concert will feature choreography by Peter Pappas, formerly of the Royal Ballet; guest choreographer Tressa Gorman Creighton, former director of dance at the State University of New York at Binghamton; and Kristine Bishop, a dancer with the Columbia Classical Ballet.

The USC Dance Company is very active in the community. The company will perform April 15 at the Columbia Music Association. The company also travels to Charleston to perform at the Spoleto Festival.

"Visions of Dance" will begin at 8 p.m. at the Koger Center for the Arts. Tickets are \$8 for the public and \$12 for students.

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