

LinksHall

Chicago's Center for Independent Dance
and Performance Arts

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Hi-res digital images and artists bios available on request

Links Hall Presents Under Construction:

Socio-Analytical Perspectives on Gender Culture Through Dance, August 20 – 22, 2010

Chicago, IL – Phillip Elson, a Semi-Finalist in *The Award Show! Chicago 2010* and *Poonie's Cabaret* performer **Sammy Spriggs** bring us an evening of cultural insight and dance works commenting and responding to gender related issues in American culture with Under Construction: Socio-Analytical Perspectives on Gender Culture Through Dance, August 20 -22, 2010. *Is movement inherently feminine when it is performed by a female body? What is masculine movement and is it defined by the manner in which a man gets from one place to the next; dances?* Under Construction Dance Project seeks to redefine gender perceptions by setting masculine movements on a woman's body and vice versa, forcing us to reconsider our preconceived notions of how men and women move. **Under Construction: Socio-Analytical Perspectives on Gender Culture Through Dance** runs August 20 -22, 201. Performances are Friday & Saturday at 8 pm/ Sunday at 7pm. Tickets are \$10 General

www.LinksHall.org For more information call 773.281.0824, or purchase tickets online at www.LinksHall.org.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Big Boys Don't Cry

Choreography by Philip Elson

InForming Figure

Choreography by Philip Elson

The WOMP is Always Gayer on the Other Side

Choreography by Philip Elson and Samantha Spriggs

Active Passivity

Choreographic Direction by Samantha Spriggs

They Say A Closed Mouth Don't Get Paid

Choreographic Direction by Samantha Spriggs

~Artist Bios Follow~

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Under Construction Dance Project is a collaborative cultural examination of sex and gender roles in society. Through a combination of highly physical movement abstraction, subtle gesture and social commentary, Philip Elson and Samantha Spriggs each work to deconstruct and redefine cultural ideas around gender.

PHILIP ELSON is originally from Fort Worth, Texas. Currently pursuing a BFA in Dance from The Dance Center of Columbia College, Philip is entering his third season with The Seldoms. He has performed with companies such as Khecari Dance Theater, Laboratory Dancers, Muscle Memory Dance Theatre, and Collin County Ballet Theatre. He also has taught and performed at the International Festival Contemporary Dance Isadora in Krasnoyarsk, Russia. Philip has choreographed for The Seldoms and has shown work at the American College Dance Festival. His choreography has also been showcased in Chicago as part of The Open Space Project as well as in New York City, Dallas, and Houston. Recently Philip began exploring Dance for Camera and showed two dance films at the 2010 Chicago Fringe Artist Networking Night.

SAMANTHA SPRIGGS, a native of Atlanta, Georgia, fell in love with dance at a young age and began her dance training at Callanwolde Fine Arts Center. Spriggs attended Case Western Reserve University in the Fall of 2006 and, in the spring of 2007, moved back to Atlanta to perform with Room to Move Dance, an Atlanta modern dance company. In the Fall of 2007, Spriggs transferred to Columbia College Chicago to pursue dance more actively and plans to complete a BFA in Dancemaking in December of 2010. During her time in Chicago, Spriggs has performed in many works at the Dance Center, organized programming for Dance Center students, and has choreographed works for the Dance center's Student Performance Night and Choreographic Project concerts. Spriggs was honored in March when her choreographic work, *Comprehensive Comprehension*, was adjudicated and chosen for performance in the Gala at the American College Dance Festival. Her work has also been included in programming by The Open Space Project and Poonie's Cabaret. Spriggs' other theatrical experience includes stage management, lighting design and technical assistance, which she has provided to several independent Chicago artists and organizations, including Peter Carpenter, Rachel Damon and Synapse Arts Collective, the Laboratory Dancers, Links Hall, Nadia Oussenko, Christina Sedlmaier, Julie Ballard/Overlap Lighting and Molly Shanahan/MadShak.

~DETAILS FOLLOW~

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August 20 - 22, 2010

Under Construction:

Socio-Analytical Perspectives on Gender Culture Through Dance

Presented by **Under Construction Dance Project**

Featuring **Phillp Elson & Sammie Spriggs**

Accompanied by 12 emerging Dance Artists

An evening of dance works commenting and responding to gender related issues in American culture. What do the gender characteristics look like when they bleed together? What defines manly or womanly movement?

Friday, Saturday & Sunday / **August 20 – 22** / 8pm

TICKETS \$10/ \$7 STUDENTS

For tickets and more information call **773.281.0824** or visit **www.LinkshHall.org**.

Links Hall is located at 3435 N. Sheffield Avenue, Second Floor, Chicago, IL 60657—convenient to the BROWN, PURPLE & RED line stop at Belmont and RED line Addison stop in Chicago's Lakeview neighborhood. For more information call **773.281.0824** or visit **www.linkshall.org**

Links Hall is Chicago's Center for Independent Dance and Performing Arts.

Links Hall encourages artistic innovation and public engagement by maintaining a facility and providing flexible programming for the research, development and presentation of new work in the performing arts.

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