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Tere O' Connor Dance HI EVERYBODY!

April 7-10 [Wed-Sat] 8 PM \$15 April 8 [Thu] Post- performance discussion

"Tere O' Connor spins dance with a vertiginous blend of the almost psychotically personal and the spatially formal."

--Ballet Review, 1994

Choreographer Tere O'Connor blends social commentary with absurd theater in his new evening length work, *Hi Everybody!*—a continuation of his experimentation with dance, acting, and text. The work deals with a group of performers searching for the correct form in which to express the inexhaustible quantity of concerns in their lives. Like the splintered mental condition of a contemporary mind marked by too much stimuli, they shift in and out of multiple characters. Alternating between humor and tragedy, the work comments on gay marriage, family values, religion and how the all-pervasive standardization of mass-culture creates social outcasts.

Tere O'Connor's cast is comprised of long time company members Chrysa Parkinson, Greg Zuccolo, Marc Kenison and Heather Olson. Rob Besserer and Rebecca Hilton, both of whom have worked with O'Connor in the past, will complete the cast. James Baker, who is currently the assistant conductor of *The Sound Of Music* on Broadway, composed original music. This will be Baker's sixth collaboration with O'Connor. Long time collaborator Brian MacDevitt will create the lighting design for the work. Both Baker and MacDevitt have received BESSIE awards for their contributions to O'Connor's work.

Over...

About the Artist...

After two years of creating solos for himself, **Tere O'Connor** founded his own company creating over thirty dances. These include *The Organization Of Sadness* (1986), *In and Around Your House* (1987), *Heaven Up North* (1988), *Four Sister Dances* (1989), *Unlocked Memory Drawing with Humans* (1990), *Nursing The Newborn Pig* (1991), *You Baby Goes To Tender Town* (1993), *I Love You*, and *There's So Much Trouble in the World* (1994). *Notes On Shame* received its premiere at Dance Theater Workshop in 1995. In 1996, the Joyce Theater commissioned *Mother* to be performed at its *Altogether Different Series*. In 1998 Tere O' Connor performed two new works, *House* and *The World Is A Missing Girl*, for a special three-week engagement at the Dance Theater Workshop. O'Connor's work has also been produced at the Danspace Project at St. Mark's Church, Performance Space 122, The Kitchen, and as part of Dance Chance. The Company has also been a frequent guest at Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival.

O' Connor has been commissioned to choreograph many solo works for dancers around the world, including the 1990 *Person Project* for Canadian dancer Peggy Baker, and re-staged for a 1997 tour of Canada. O'Connor has also created two works for the Carte Blanche Dance Company in Bergen in Norway, three works for the Rotterdamse Dansgroep in Holland, and *Greta In The Ditch* for Mikhail Baryshnikov's White Oak Dance Project.

Tere O'Connor is a 1993 Guggenheim fellow. He has received a 1988 "Bessie" award for *Heaven Up North*. He is also the recipient of grants form the National Endowment for the Arts, New York State Council on the Arts, New York Foundation for the Arts, the Jerome Foundation, Phillip Morris Inc., the Harkness Foundation, the Joyce Mertz-Gilmore Foundation, Arts International, and the Ernie Pagnano Memorial Fund.

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The Kitchen is located at 512 West 19th Street (between 10th & 11th Avenues). To reserve press comps, please call Isabelle Deconinck at 212-255-5793 ext.14.