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Dance Reviews



The Hanging Man (Jonathan Slaff photo)

The Hanging Man from Prague
Ctibor Turba, a Czech mime and director, and his
company from Prague, Alfred in the Courtyard
(Alfred ve dvore), recently brought their latest
production, The Hanging Man, to New York's
Kitchen. But this mime theater troupe was not a
bunch of sentimentalists in whiteface weeping over
imaginary flowers. These mimes hang in the air
suspended from ropes, the men clad only in shorts, as
often as not upside down, amid a grim, industrial
atmosphere that irresistibly put one in mind of an
abattoir. Yet the company continually astonished with
feats of considerable strength, not to mention artistry.
By Henry Baumgartner.