



## Germany

Nicole Plett is arts editor at *U.S. 1 Newspaper* and has written for *The New York Times*, *Photo Review*, *Publishers Weekly*, and other publications.

**N**ever underestimate Mikhail Baryshnikov's

courage or curiosity. *The Show* (*Achilles Heels*), a new commis-

sion from Richard Move, the 30-something cross-dressing New York cabaret maverick, has given the White Oak Dance Project a powerful, iconoclastic theater piece that's made to measure for the twenty-first century.

Previewed at Princeton's McCarter Theater in June, *The Show* is a hyperactive danced melodrama, a bastard offspring of the modern dance paradigm that defies its matrix with a heady dose

of lip-synched dialogue. The action centers on Baryshnikov as a latter-day Achilles, military hero and dallying demi-god, trying to outwit his fate. Beginning with his powerful gesture-laden opening solo, Baryshnikov connects with Move's movement vernacular like a hacker perfecting identity theft. The work takes us from Hollywood hyperbole and reality TV to video-game warfare and the macho military leader's weakness for glamorous gold bustiers and high heels. Sonja Kostich exquisitely portrays, on pointe, the isolated hostage Helen of Troy; Miguel Anaya is the playful love interest Patroclus, and Rosalynde LeBlanc plays the Goddess Athena, game show host.

Move's artistic collaborators, composer Arto Lindsay, singer Deborah Harry, and artist Nicole Eisenman give the work its weight. Two Blondie ballads bookend the action, and Eisenman's punchy backdrops make us feel we've entered the Villa of Mysteries. White Oak premieres *The Show* (*Achilles Heels*) on its European tour, with performances September 26-29, at PACT Zollverein, Essen, Germany (49-201/30 25 23; www.pact-zollverein.de).

Mikhail Baryshnikov commissioned a work by cabaret artist Richard Move for the White Oak Dance Project. It premieres in Essen, Germany, on September 26.

## Wisconsin

Eau Claire

**Sept 29**, James Sewell Ballet, Gantner Music Hall, Univ of Wisconsin, 715/836-4419

Fish Creek

**Sept 28**, River North Chicago Dance Company, Door Community Auditorium, 920/868-2728

Madison

**Sept 19-21**, Jin-Wen Yu Dance, Madison Civic Center, 211 State St, 608/266-9055, 608/261-9975, www.madcivic.org

**Oct 11**, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Oscar Meyer Theatre, Madison Civic Center

**Nov 8-9**, SMARTDANCE/Maureen Janson and Dancers, Madison Civic Center

Milwaukee

**Sept 26-29**, Milwaukee Ballet, Marcus Center, 929 N Water St, 414/273-7206

**Oct 25**, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Pabst Theater, 144 E Wells, 414/286-3665

**Nov 7-9**, Ko-Thi Dance Company, Pabst Theater Whitewater

**Sept 24**, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Irvine L. Young Auditorium, Univ of Wisconsin, 920 W Main, 262/472-2222

## Australia

Brisbane

**Sept 25-29**, Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo, Lyric Theatre, Queensland Performing Arts Complex, South Bank, 07 3846 5266/136 246

**Oct 16-19**, Australian Ballet, Queensland Performing Arts Centre, Grey & Melbourne Sts, 07 3840-7183

Darwin

**Oct 17-19**, Australian Ballet, Darwin Entertainment Centre, 93 Mitchell St, 08 8980-3333, 08 8980-3399

Gold Coast

**Oct 23-24**, Australian Ballet, Gold Coast Arts Centre, +617 5581-6500, +617 5581-6592

Melbourne

**Sept 9, Sept 17-28**, Australian Ballet, State Theatre, Victorian Arts Centre, 100 St Kilda Rd, 1300 136 166

**Oct 2-6**, Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo, Victorian Arts Centre Newcastle

**Oct 4-7**, Australian Ballet, Civic Theatre, 375 Hunter St, 02 4929-1561

Perth

**Oct 2-8, 11-12**, Australian Ballet, His Majesty's Theatre, 825 Hay St, +089 4841133, +089 4810710

**Oct 16-20**, Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo, Burswood Theatre, Burwood Resort Casino, 08 9484 1133