

Vor zwei Jahren gründete der britische Tänzer, Schauspieler und Choreograph Robert Poole in Frankfurt seine Kompanie "Moving Words", mit deren Stück "One to Four" er bei der Tanzplattform '96 vertreten ist. Robert Poole erhielt seine Ausbildung an der Royal Ballet School in London und tanzte bei verschiedenen internationalen Kompanien wie dem Het Nationale Ballet, dem Ballet Rambert und dem Scapino Ballett. Während seiner tänzerischen Laufbahn arbeitete er unter anderem mit Carolyn Carlson, Christopher Bruce, Glen Tetley, Robert North und Amanda Miller. Zuletzt war er drei Jahre Tänzer bei William Forsythe am Frankfurter Ballett, bevor er sich für einige Zeit ganz vom Tanz zurückzog. Poole's choreographic development was influenced by the work of Christopher Bruce: the humor and folkloric evident in much of Bruce's choreography is also visible in some of Poole's works, although Forsythe's experimental, innovative style has been equally influential. In many of his pieces, Robert Poole works with language, especially his own poems and texts, which he often distorts or presents as fragments, translating their meanings and rhythms into movement. Texts, words and syllables become shards of sound engaged in an intimate, subtle relationship with the choreography. Dance has benefitted from language, and vice versa. Poole is also inspired by music, especially Robert Fripp's compositions and interpretations of other composer's works which run the gamut from experimental interpretations of Bach to poetic, discriminating jazz/rock compositions. Robert Poole's choreography exhibits a dynamic, energetic style with many angular, winding movements. He draws upon these elements to create his own movement language, an idiom that combines text, dance and theater. The loneliness of the individual in society is a central theme in his work. Anonymity, helplessness, and the yearning for warmth are motifs that appear and reappear in his dances. In his works, people reveal themselves for a moment, only to withdraw again, desperate for protection from the threatening world "outside." Propelled by a sense of inner unease, they struggle to overcome the self-imposed hindrances of their own limited awareness. The search for a total context, for spiritual identity, is the central theme that inspires Poole to create his texts and choreography. Despite their seriousness, humor is never lacking from his works. Brief moments of self-irony continually crop up, offsetting and contextualizing whatever else may have transpired on stage. Robert Poole and Moving Words have been based in Berlin since early 1995. Poole's projects, which include solo pieces as well as company works, are entirely self-financed: Poole and his work receive no public funding. The piece "One to Four" is Poole's third piece for Moving Words and the first in which he entirely eschews the use of language. Elliot Caplan plans to produce a film version of "One to Four" in the summer of 1996. Moving Word's next premiere is scheduled for Berlin in late May when the company will present "Songs of Love and Hate in the City."

■ Claudia Assmann



British dancer, actor and choreographer Robert Poole founded his Moving Words company two years ago in Frankfurt. The group will present a piece called „One to Four“ at Dance Platform '96. Poole was trained in London at the Royal Ballet School, and has danced internationally with a number of companies including Het Nationale Ballet, Ballet Rambert and Scapino Ballet. During the course of his career as a dancer, Poole has worked with Carolyn Carlson, Christopher Bruce, Glen Tetley, Robert North, Amanda Miller and many others. Poole spent three years in William Forsythe's Frankfurt Ballet, then withdrew briefly from dance altogether. Poole's choreographic evolution has been strongly influenced by the work of Christopher Bruce: the humor and folkloric evident in much of Bruce's choreography is also visible in some of Poole's works, although Forsythe's experimental, innovative style has been equally influential. In many of his pieces, Robert Poole works with language, especially his own poems and texts, which he often distorts or presents as fragments, translating their meanings and rhythms into movement. Texts, words and syllables become shards of sound engaged in an intimate, subtle relationship with the choreography. Dance has benefitted from language, and vice versa. Poole is also inspired by music, especially Robert Fripp's compositions and interpretations of other composer's works which run the gamut from experimental interpretations of Bach to poetic, discriminating jazz/rock compositions. Robert Poole's choreography exhibits a dynamic, energetic style with many angular, winding movements. He draws upon these elements to create his own movement language, an idiom that combines text, dance and theater. The loneliness of the individual in society is a central theme in his work. Anonymity, helplessness, and the yearning for warmth are motifs that appear and reappear in his dances. In

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