



SIGHTLINES

1988-89 Season

October, 1988

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Together Again for the First Time



... The new Dance Alloy company is here! It's a brand new season with our winning dance team (clockwise from center) Patti Plascak, Ryan Gober, returning dancer Scott Timm, Artistic Director Elsa Limbach, returning dancer Ginny Adams, Doug "Mik" Miklos, and Alloy apprentice Paul Hays. We're geared up to fast forward into our new season of dance excitement in 1988/89 just for you at the Eddy Theatre in Shadyside and, for the first time, at the Mount Lebanon High School Little Theatre in the South Hills. Come join us as we leap into our best season ever!



Scott Timm

Upstage Left

IRASSHAIMASE!

The white-gloved, uniformed women stationed at the main entrance of Tokyo department stores almost shout out their greetings of welcome. And so I, too, would like to shout my greetings to the readers of *Sightlines*.

Irasshaimase. The word itself gives no clue to its meaning, but the warm smiles and deep bow that accompany it transcend any language barriers in making the shopper feel valued and special.

All of that in a smile and bow. As a dancer, I am fascinated with this non-verbal communication. How can a simple movement say so much? How much meaning can be crammed into a single gesture? It is exactly these sorts of questions that make our work as choreographers and dancers so challenging, and yet so satisfying.

But whether it's a shouted greeting, a gentle caress, or a line of poetry, it's all communication of some sort. And that notion of communication has always been a major part of my life. Although the medium has changed a few times, this urge to share information and ideas had led me in a variety of directions.

From newsboy to high school newspaper editor, from journalism major to dance major, it has all been about communication.

As a dancer, the challenge to communicate physically is daunting. Perhaps that's a reason every dancer everywhere takes a dance class every day. Only through practice does the instrument grow more responsive. (And only through practice as a viewer do your own perceptions grow stronger.)

A trip to Japan this summer showed me a different side of this communication problem. Although I had studied some Japanese before I went, I was devastated upon my arrival. Never before had I felt so mute and illiterate. Never before had I felt so tall and conspicuous. After a few days, feeling more comfortable, I was able to begin to enjoy the challenge of communicating in this fascinating nation.

And I intend to enjoy this experience of communicating with you in *Sightlines*. Because it really is a two-way street, I'd love to hear from you about what you think. I plan to take you behind-the-scenes with the Alloy, and will be happy to answer any questions. Drop me a line.

Or better yet, stop in to visit. Let's communicate.

Irasshaimase.

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