

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 9, 2009

Vancouver, BC



Alvin Erasga Tolentino
Artistic Director

ADAMEVE/Man-Woman
World Premiere

Can dance liberate the body without imposing the meaning of gender?

Co.ERASGA's ***ADAMEVE/Man-Woman*** encounters and challenges the social and archetypal place of man and woman. It began with Alvin Tolentino choreographing a 20-minute commission work for the 20th anniversary of the *Dancing on the Edge Festival*. Now ***ADAMEVE/Man-Woman*** has evolved into a full-length creation for this Firehall Arts Centre presentation being performed December 9 – 12 at 8 p.m. at the Firehall Arts Centre in Vancouver.



Alison Denham and Billy Marchenski
Photo credit: Chris Randle

Tolentino's new work continues his intriguing play of identity and gender. The choreography presents the body as passive and aggressive, yin and yang, masculine and feminine. Consider traits that are defined, re-defined, inherited and inhibited in the male and female figure in our history and current time. The work features two of Vancouver's most charismatic performers, Alison Denham and Billy Marchenski, who explore the mystery of human memory as it imprints symbols on one's mind and body and carries identity over time.

"A serious tour de force, Tolentino, stretches our understanding of what dance can be."
The Vancouver Sun

"Adept at creating unusual captivating movement ...he is one not to be missed."
The Georgia Straight

Tolentino's unique and imaginative choreographic voice is captured in the dance. Strange, tender, fascinating, and startling, his physical language exudes boldness of simplicity, complexity, and sublime minimalism. **ADAMEVE/Man-Woman** is assertive, personal and universal.

Ticket Prices \$16 - \$28

Call Firehall Box Office 604 689-0926 or www.firehallartscentre.ca
EARLY BIRD SPECIAL: \$16 SAVE \$8 – Offer valid until November 27

Alvin Erasga Tolentino: Choreographer and Dancer

As one of Canada's leading Asian Canadian contemporary dance artists, Alvin Erasga Tolentino is a choreographer, dancer, teacher and visual artist. He continues to bring a fresh voice to both national and international audiences. His exploration of identity and hybridity continues to juxtapose in his work to reveal the private and public territory, challenging the issues within the traditional and contemporary cross-cultural dialogue.

His presence in Canada's West Coast spans two decades: interpreting the work of Vancouver's leading dance companies while establishing his own prolific creative voice and body of work. He founded Co.ERASGA in 2000 and next year marks its 10th anniversary season. Tolentino's creative voice expands nationally and internationally collaborating and in partnership with diverse communities and artists. His work has graced venues and cities in the Philippines, France, Italy, Belgium, Japan, Croatia, Venezuela, Singapore, Switzerland and the Dominican Republic.

Co.ERASGA Dance is a non-profit arts society that supports and contributes to the development and enhancement of dance worldwide. Our approach is to empower the visions of working dance artists as we share with others through education, collaboration, partnership and touring to other communities. Since its inception in 2001, Co.ERASGA visited over 45 different and diverse cities and communities outside Vancouver to share the art of dance. The company continues to seek new and challenging projects that provide opportunities and cross-cultural issues in today's society.

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