

wexner center
for the arts

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EXUBERANT BRAZILIAN MODERN DANCE TROUPE PERFORMS AT WEXNER CENTER IN COLUMBUS DEBUT

**“Dazzling . . . the sensuality of samba and the technical prowess of ballet . . .
with energy to burn.” —*Boston Globe***

Grupo Corpo Dance Theater, Brazil’s foremost modern dance ensemble, performs in its Columbus debut in Wexner Center’s Mershon Auditorium **Tuesday, October 29 at 8 pm**. The exuberant productions of Grupo Corpo have been enthusiastically received throughout the world. *The New York Times* praised the “high-powered troupe’s . . . spirit of uninhibited abandon,” and *The Boston Globe* raved that Grupo Corpo has “an in-your-face spirit and sense of full-out energy that is breathtaking.” Juxtaposing loose, hip-swaying Carnaval rhythms with breathtakingly rapid footwork and elegant grace, Grupo Corpo’s 22 dancers will perform the company’s latest work, *O Corpo* and its crowd-pleasing favorite *21*, both set against stunning backdrops that display the company’s strong visual flair.

THE COMPANY

Grupo Corpo was founded in 1975 by brothers Rodrigo and Paulo Pederneiras. The group’s groundbreaking work—a signature fusion of ballet, modern technique, and vibrant traditional forms—creates a definitive, uniquely Brazilian dance style. *21* features what has been described as a “sun-drenched” style of dancing that *Dance Magazine* called “the most striking, the most original fusion of dance derived from neoclassical ballet and from elements of Brazilian culture.” In *O Corpo*—which is a play on the company’s name, and also translates simply as “The Body” in Portuguese—the distinction between stage setting and lighting virtually disappears, so that the focus is on the costumes.

The show is presented by the Wexner Center in association with **BalletMet**.

news release

RESIDENCY ACTIVITIES

While at the Wexner Center, members of Grupo Corpo will conduct a master class with students in the Ohio State Department of Dance. In this session, they will also answer questions about their unique dance style that blends Afro-Brazilian dance traditions with ballet and modern dance.

EVENT SUPPORT

Major support for the Wexner Center's 2002-03 performing arts season is provided by **Bank One** and the **Doris Duke Charitable Foundation**.

Additional season support is provided by the **Ohio Arts Council** and the **Corporate Annual Fund of the Wexner Center Foundation**.

Promotional support is provided by **WBNS 10 TV** and **Classical 89.7 WOSU-FM**.

CALENDAR INFORMATION FOR GRUPO CORPO DANCE THEATER:

Description: Brazilian modern dance troupe Grupo Corpo presents its latest pieces, *O Corpo* and *21*, in Columbus debut.

Date and time: Tuesday, October 29 at 8 pm.

Running time: 100 minutes, including a 20 minute intermission

Location: Mershon Auditorium at the Wexner Center, 1871 N. High St. at 15th Avenue on the campus of The Ohio State University.

Tickets: \$29, \$23, \$17 general public; \$25, \$19, \$14 Wexner Center Members and BalletMet subscribers; \$15, \$10 OSU students; \$5 High 5 tickets available for middle and high school students at Ticketmaster outlets.

Ticket outlets: Wexner Center Ticket Office, 614/292-3535; Ticketmaster outlets 614/431-3600.

Public information: www.wexarts.org/pa/ or 614/292-3535.

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Images available upon request.

WEXNER CENTER

The Wexner Center for the Arts is The Ohio State University's multidisciplinary, international laboratory for the exploration and advancement of contemporary art. Through exhibitions, screenings, performances, artist residencies, and educational programs, the Wexner Center acts as a forum where established and emerging artists can test ideas and where diverse audiences can participate in cultural experiences that enhance understanding of the art of our time. In its programs, the Wexner Center balances a commitment to experimentation with a commitment to traditions of innovation and affirms the university's mission of education, research, and community service.

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