

For Immediate Release: October 29, 2003

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CZECH DANCE ENSEMBLE DÉJÀ DONNÉ PERFORMS EDGY WORK ABOUT OBSESSION

“This dance piece is a battle complete with vice, egoism, and aggression.”—*Dance Zone*

Czech dance ensemble **Déjà Donné** will perform the jagged, fast-paced, and charged ***In Bella Copia* November 13–16** in the Wexner Center Performance Space. Currently touring internationally, *In Bella Copia* is a sharply etched portrait of fantasies gone awry. Dancers swing wildly between pleasure and aggression, depicting characters stripped of their façades and grappling with agitated and extreme impulses. Déjà Donné’s approach reflects the harsher sociopolitical realities of Eastern Europe with a gritty mix of violence and desire. Wrote the *New York Times*, “[*In Bella Copia*] packs a visceral and psychological wallop.” And the *Village Voice* said, “Watching *In Bella Copia*, you are laughing and aching at the same time...Each character undergoes a drastic transformation that leaves the audience reeling, but with the possibility for exhilaration too.” The dance is set to music by Italian composer Bruno de Franceschi.

This show is recommended for mature audiences.

ABOUT DÉJÀ DONNÉ

Codirectors Lenka Flory from the Czech Republic and Simone Sandroni from Italy first met as dancers with Ultima Vez, Belgian renegade Wim Vandekeybus’s troupe, which performed at the Wexner Center in 1991. Inspired by his boundary-blurring, vividly imagistic work, they formed their own multinational group of dancers and artists (Déjà Donné) from all over Europe in 1996 in Prague. Déjà Donné is renowned for its exhilarating and explosive style, and for making work with strong social and political content.

More information: www.dejadonne.com.

RESIDENCY ACTIVITIES

While at the Wexner Center, members of Déjà Donn  will conduct a technique master class for Ohio State students in the Department of Dance. This session will concentrate on the evolution of dance theater concepts in the company's work, as well as the creation of specific movement vocabulary.

EVENT SUPPORT

In Bella Copia is presented by the Wexner Center with support from Huntington Bank.

This presentation of Déjà Donn  is part of *Central Station*, a project of Danspace Project and Dance Theater Workshop in New York City focusing on East/Central European artists, made possible with major support from the Trust for Mutual Understanding.

Major support for the Wexner Center's 2003–04 performing arts season is provided by 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.

CALENDAR INFORMATION: DÉJÀ DONNÉ'S IN BELLA COPIA

Description: Czech dance ensemble Déjà Donn  performs edgy dance piece *In Bella Copia* at the Wexner Center.

Dates and times: Thursday–Saturday, November 13–15 at 8 pm, and Sunday, November 16 at 3 pm

Location: Wexner Center Performance Space, 1871 N. High St.

Tickets: \$16 general public, \$13 Wexner Center members, \$10 Ohio State students

Ticket outlet: Wexner Center Ticket Office, 614 292-3535 or Ticketmaster, 614 431-3600.

Public information: 614 292-3535 and www.wexarts.org. Also, www.dejadonne.com.

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Digital images available upon request.

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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