

## PERFORMING ARTS NOTEBOOK

## Modern dance for all ages



**BOB  
CLARK**

Contemporary dance spectacle moves into high gear in Week Three of the **High Performance Rodeo**.

From **Montreal Danse** comes an elderly woman's waking dream — a nostalgic and humorous dance theatre piece, entitled **From Julia to Emile, 1949** — which takes over the festival on Sunday and Monday, in tandem with the high-tech, or “new media,” work **Grace**, by Vancouver-based **Joe Ink** (Jan. 15-16).

Then comes **Peggy Baker Dance Projects' The Heart Moves** (Jan. 19-20), consisting of two works: the autobiographical solo, **The Disappearance of Right and Left**, created for Baker by Toronto choreographer Sarah Chase, and New York choreographer Doug Varone's 1996 duet, **In Thine Eyes**.

Baker performs in both. In the Varone piece she is partnered with former Varone company member, Larry Hahn.

“Larry and I are both in our 50s,” Baker says. “I think it's extremely interesting to see people of our age dancing because the dance world has changed a huge amount in the last 30 years.”

One of the biggest differences, she says, is in the training.

“It's gotten so good now that people don't have to quit dancing because of injuries.”

Consequently, says Baker, “The kind of work that's being done — from the point of view of subject matter, level of performance and artistry — is hitting levels we haven't seen in dance before.”

Tickets for Rodeo events: Call Ticketmaster, 299-8888.



Courtesy, One Yellow Rabbit  
Peggy Baker in **The Heart Moves**, part of the **High Performance Rodeo**.