

IMTA featured in dance presentation

Barb Rayner

SAINT JOHN

Motus O Dance Theatre will perform a piece about Integrated Multi Trophic Aquaculture (IMTA) when it gives a presentation at the Imperial Theatre in Saint John next month.

IMTA is the practice of growing several species in a single aquaculture site. Currently, in New Brunswick, it incorporates the growing of mussels and seaweed (kelp) near salmon sites which recreates the food chain and mimics natural ecosystems.

The dancers will perform one of their creations "Perspectives" Oct. 14 which includes the inspirational piece "IMTA" where six dancers morph into kelp, blue mussels and salmon then dance, swirl and interlace in a crescendo towards a harmonious co-cultivation in which each thrives better than if they were on their own.

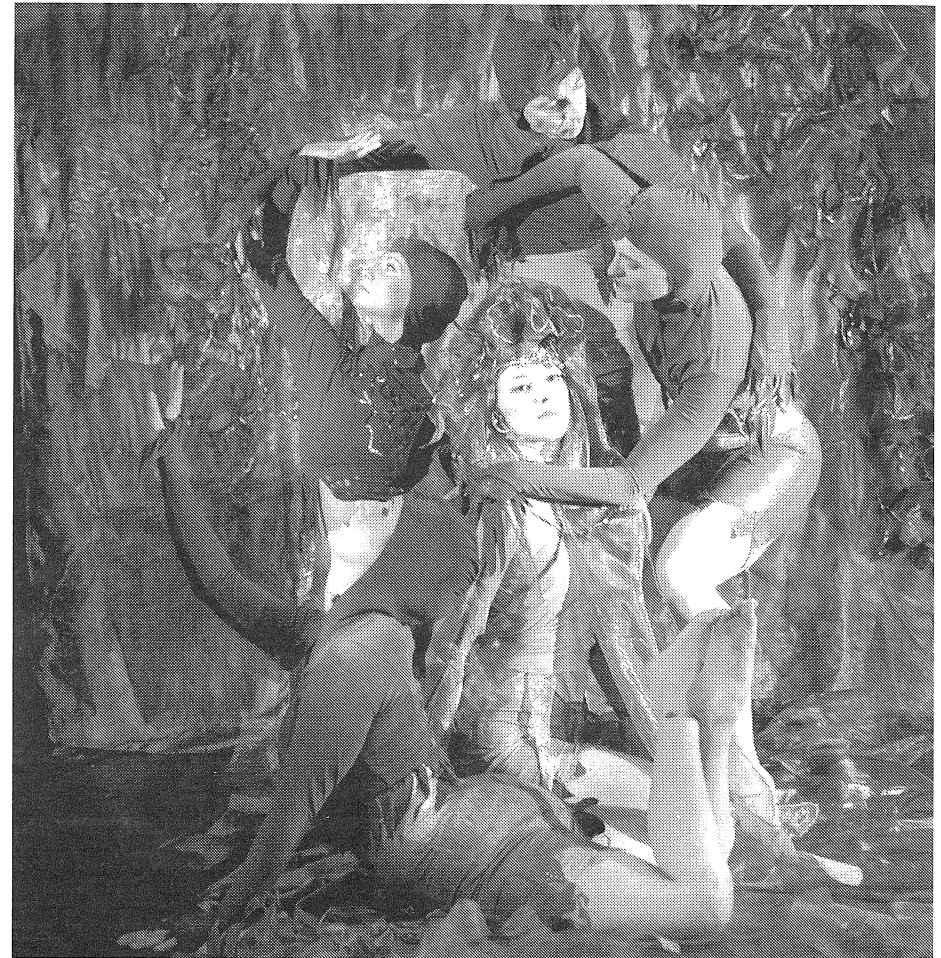
Motus O Dance Theatre has performed several times at the Imperial and, over the years, the three co-artistic directors - Cynthia Crocker, James Crocker and Jack Langenhuisen - have become good friends with the family of Dr. Thierry Chopin, scientific director of the Canadian Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture Network (CIMTAN).

During a visit to the Chopin's in 2007 while touring Atlantic Canada they were in the process of developing a new show that would address, through the art of dance, issues facing present day society.

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Chopin suggested they create a piece on IMTA and that's how it was integrated as a piece in a new production which became "Perspectives" - a fusion of dance, video, music and lighting illuminating an array of social and dimensional perspectives through comedy and pathos.

He said that collaborating with talented artists to translate a relatively complex concept such as IMTA for the dance stage and the general public has been most rewarding on many levels and added a new dimension to the understanding of how planet water functions.



James Crocker image

Motus O Dance Theatre perform a piece inspired by IMTA (Integrated Multi Trophic Aquaculture).