Diavolo Troupe Brings Acrobatic Art to Cal Poly Theatre

Known for creating visual and movement metaphors for the challenge of relationships, the absurdities of life, and the struggle to maintain humanity in the shadow of a technological world, the contemporary group Diavolo will perform at the Cal Poly Theatre on Monday and Tuesday, April 8 and 9, 2002 at 8 p.m.

Cal Poly Arts presents Diavolo, a company of artists who are all dancers, gymnasts, actors, and athletes. Under the guidance of founder and artistic director Jacques Heim, Diavolo members collaboratively develop work on oversized surrealistic sets and structures. Everyday items -- doors, chairs, stairways -- provide the backdrop for dramatic, risk-taking movement, which includes bodies leaping, flying, twirling, and spinning.

The San Diego Union Tribune called an evening with Diavolo "...unforgettable. A dazzling performance!" and the Los Angeles Times called the group "The dance bridge to the 21st Century."

The performance repertoire will include pieces entitled "Tete en L'Air" and "Trajectoire."

Diavolo was founded in 1992 and in 1993, the young company was nominated for two Lester Horton awards in Los Angeles. In 1995, Diavolo made its European debut at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival where they were named "Best of the Fest" by the London Independent and Critic's Choice by The Guardian. Also in 1995, the company received three Lester Horton awards for the work "Tete en L'Air." Since then, the company has been nominated several times for numerous awards and received four more awards at the 2001 Lester Horton Awards ceremony.

The current 2001/2002 season marks Diavolo's third national tour. In addition to its touring dates, the company recently created a live-performance event for Disney's California Adventure Theme Park.
There will be a question/answer talkback session directly following each performance.

Tickets are $24 and $28, with student discounts available, and may be purchased at Performing Arts Ticket Office, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays. To order by phone, call 805/SLO-ARTS (756-2787); to order by fax: (805) 756-6088.

This performance is sponsored by American Airlines/American Eagle and supported in part by a touring grant from the California Arts Council, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

For audio and video samples of Cal Poly Arts events, visit www.calpolyarts.org.

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