

## PICK UP COMPANY

# Dance on a Theme Of San Francisco

By Marilyn Tucker  
Chronicle Staff Critic

In his "United States" dances, David Gordon has come up with a marketing director's dream, a series of dance pieces celebrating the particular qualities of people and place in specific geographical areas. "United States," which is to be a full-evening sum of its parts, will be presented in its entirety at the Brooklyn Academy of Music in December.

Meantime, Gordon already has the flags flying over two sections of the country, both favorite stopping places of his high-spirited Pick Up Company.

First came "Minnesota" last year, and now it's San Francisco's turn with Gordon's witty and impish "Sang and Sang," premiered Wednesday on the opening night of the 10-day run of the Pick Up Com-

pany at Theatre Artaud. "Minnesota" is also on the program, along with "The Seasons," the latter having had major surgery since the Pick Up Company last presented it in Berkeley.

Gordon has brought along a strong company of nine dancers counting himself, although he appears in only one dance, "The Seasons," in which he performs in the fashion of Ashton's "Les Patineurs" a remarkable wintry skating duet with his wife, the notable dancer Valda Setterfield.

Setterfield, a dancer with the Merce Cunningham Company for many years, is the central visual focus for Gordon's dances. Her lithe presence radiates the puckishly amusing lyricism ingrained in Gordon's dances. Setterfield's voice, so British and perfectly compact, is the one we hear in one talking dance, the same voice that speaks



David Gordon's dancers perform 'Sang and Sang,' based on S.F. ballads, at Theatre Artaud

the prelude in "Murder," constructed for Mikhail Baryshnikov.

"Sang and Sang" takes its title from the miming the dancers must do when directly facing the audience as the sound track spews out one San Francisco ballad after another, from Carmen McRae's "I'm Always Drunk in San Francisco," to Jeanette MacDonald's plea of "San Francisco, Open Your Golden Gate," to Judy Garland, assorted

others, and ending with Tony Bennett's "I Left My Heart in San Francisco" as Dean Moss does a few solitary turns around the stage.

It's hard to imagine that MacDonald could have enjoyed such immense popularity possessing such a dreadfully thin voice, and Setterfield, dressed in bright pink organ-dy flowers and ruffles, makes the parody devastating. Every time Chuck Hammer's sound score points in the direction of MacDon-

ald's voice, Setterfield does wonderfully silly things with her body, supported in outlandish and melodramatic poses by the faithful Heidi Michel.

Within the San Francisco song quotes comes the third movement of Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 17, transcribed for synthesizer and performed by Norman Landsberg. This is Gordon's purported connecting link with "Minnesota," which uses the first two movements. Outlandish as it seems in principle, the use of Mozart works out in practice.

Gordon's appealing dancers make "Sang and Sang" a fetching piece, one that wears its heart on its sleeve. There's a lot of fun in this dance, a lot of affection and joy as well.

"Minnesota," on the other hand, seems to come from someone's dream, an essence of place remembered. Setterfield's voice-over narration of various texts makes the point that when it comes to art, country and city folks are definitely from different places. This becomes quite moving when,

## Ariel's Concert Locale

The contemporary vocal ensemble Ariel will present a concert of music by Luciano Berio, Nigel Osborne, Anthony Paine and Mtyas Seiber at 8:30 tonight at the Vorpall Gallery, 393 Grove Street.

## 'Blue Line' Premiere

"The Thin Blue Line," film maker Errol Morris' examination of a real crime, retold by its participants and suggesting that a man convicted for murder is in fact innocent, will receive its world premiere at 7 o'clock tonight at the AMC Kabuki Theaters in San Francisco. It will be repeated tomorrow at Wheeler Auditorium, UC Berkeley. An article in Sunday's Datebook omitted the Kabuki screening.

at the start of the second movement, she talks of being introduced to the "guiltless pleasure of the dance," at the same time the Pick Up dancers move into the lighted space behind a shimmering curtain, as if in a dream.

Setterfield is the one we see at the beginning and the close of "Minnesota," her body echoing the natural rhythm and movement that is so fetching in children. Her childlike artifice frames a dance in which the phrases link together in a chain of comment about the relationships and interaction of various-sized groups. The essential humanity of "Minnesota" is what comes to mind in watching the partnering, lifts and lines where games, sportsmanship, fun, friendship and comradeship are important elements.

For his own reasons, Gordon revised "The Seasons" to accommodate the studio space of Theatre Artaud. It had worked fine as a proscenium stage piece at Zellerbach Playhouse, but its impact is even stronger here. For one thing, there is the introduction of a new duet, a beautiful one, presumably for young lovers in the attention that Chuck Finlon and Karen Graham Quinn gave it at the start of the winter section.

When Gordon and Setterfield, who have been married for more than 30 years and whose relationship has always been important in Gordon's dances, made their entrance to begin their slow rounds about the floor, the effect was stunning. It was as if one were being faced with a metaphor for life.

The Pick Up Company continues nightly through Sunday, and the Wednesday through Sunday schedule continues next week as well.

## BAY AREA MOVIE GUIDE

TITLES AND SHOWTIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE. Please Call Theaters. Listed Showtimes — For Today Only! UNLESS Otherwise Indicated.

### ALAMEDA COUNTY

**ACT ONE/TWO** Berkeley, 548-7200  
Center at Shattuck

Bargain Matinee Shows starting before 3:30 pm  
□ **UNBEARABLE LIGHTNESS OF BEING** (R) 6:00, 9:20  
□ **AU REVOIR LES ENFANTS** (NO RATING) 6:45, 8:50

**ALBANY 1-2** 1115 Solano Ave, Albany 524-5858  
Bargain Matinee Shows starting before 3:30 pm  
□ **FRANTIC** (R) 7:10, 9:30  
□ **HAIRSPRAY** (PG) 7:00 & 9:00

**BERKELEY** Shattuck at Haste, 848-4300  
□ **MOONSTRUCK** (PG) 7:30, 9:40  
Bargain Matinee Shows before 3:30 pm

**CALIFORNIA 3** Berkeley, 848-0620  
Kittredge at Shattuck  
Bargain Matinee Shows starting before 3:30 pm  
□ **LITTLE NIKITA** (PG) 7:30, 9:45  
□ **SCHOOL DAZE** (R) 7:10, 9:30  
□ **OFF LIMITS** (R) 7:00, 9:20

**CENTURY 4** Nimitz Fwy., Oak., 562-9990  
\*\*\*Bargain price shows starting before 5:45 p.m.\*\*\*  
□ **POLICE ACADEMY V** (PG) 5:35, 7:30, 9:30  
□ **D.O.A.** (R) 5:55, 8:00, 10:10  
□ **MASQUERADE** (R) 5:15, 7:16, 9:20  
□ **SCHOOL DAZE** (R) 5:20, 7:45, 10:15

**CINEDOME 8 EAST** 790-0866  
Highway 17/MOWRY, FREMONT  
Barg. price shows starting before 5:45 p.m.\*\*\*

**RIALTO 4** Gilman nr. 7th, Berkeley 526-6669

TWO ACADEMY NOM'S, Incl. BEST DIRECTOR  
□ 30th Week! MY LIFE AS A DOG 6:30, 8:30, 10:30  
□ **MANON OF THE SPRING** 6:45, 9:15  
□ **JEAN DE FLORETTE** 7:15, 9:45  
□ **SAMMY AND ROSIE GET LAID** 7:00, 9:30

**ROCKRIDGE SHOWCASE 5** 658-2285  
Oakland, Broadway at 51st

DISCOUNT FIRST SHOW DAILY  
1. □ **FRANTIC** 4:30, 6:45, 9:00  
2. □ **OFF LIMITS** 4:30, 6:45, 9:00

**ROCKRIDGE SHOWCASE WEST** 658-2285  
(Block south Whitmore bet. 45th & Broadway)  
3. □ **POLICE ACADEMY V** 5:00, 7:00, 9:00  
4. □ **D.O.A.** 5:00, 7:00, 9:00  
5. □ **SHOOT TO KILL** 4:30, 6:45, 9:00

**SOUTHLAND CINEMAS** 783-2691  
Hayward, Nimitz at Winton

Bargain price Mon-Fri all shows before 6 pm  
□ **D.O.A.** (R) 12:45, 3, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45  
□ **FRANTIC** (R) 12:00, 2:20, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00  
□ **SHY PEOPLE** (R) 12:15 only  
□ **FATAL ATTRACTION** (R) 2:45, 5:15, 7:40, 10:00  
□ **OFF LIMITS** (R) 12:30, 2:35, 4:45, 7:00, 9:30  
□ **THREE MEN & A BABY** (PG) 12, 2:30, 5:00, 7:45, 10  
□ Midnight Movies: **ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW**  
**HEAVY METAL/INCIDENT AT CHANNEL "Q"**

**SOUTHSHORE CINEMAS** 521-4200  
Alameda-S. Shore Shopping Center  
□ **GOOD MORNING, VIETNAM** 5:00, 7:30, 9:45  
□ **FRANTIC** 5:30, 7:40, 9:45

**UA BERKELEY CINEMAS** 843-1467  
2274 Shattuck Av., Berkeley  
□ **DOWNSTAIRS: DOMINICK & EUGENE** (PG13)  
1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:50, 10:10

**PARK THEATRE** Lafayette 283-7897

Final Weeks!  
FIVE ACADEMY NOM'S, Incl. BEST PICTURE  
Golden Globe Award—BEST PICTURE OF 1987  
□ **HOPE AND GLORY** 7:00, 9:30

**REGENCY CINEMAS** 676-4070  
550 Contra Costa Blvd. Pleasant Hill

Bargain Matinees Daily til 5:30 pm  
Tuesday Family Bargain Day  
□ **LITTLE NIKITA** (PG) 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30 Stereo  
□ **OFF LIMITS** (R) 12:15, 2:30, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30  
□ **MASQUERADE** (R) 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15  
□ **POLICE ACADEMY V** (PG) 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00  
□ **ACTION JACKSON** (R) 1:45, 5:30, 9:10  
MOVING (R) 3:40, 7:20

**SUNVALLEY CINEMAS** 687-7660  
Lower Mall, Concord

□ **HAIRSPRAY** 1:15, 3:15, 5:00, 7:10, 9:20  
□ **SHOOT TO KILL** (R) 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:40  
Sat/Sun/Hols. barg. matinees 1st two shows only

### MARIN COUNTY

**CINEMA** Corte Madera 924-6505

□ **MOONSTRUCK** (PG) 7:15, 9:30  
Bargain matinee shows starting before 3:30pm

**CINEMA 2** 101/Hamilton, Novato 883-5400

□ **IRONWEED** (R) Dolby Stereo 7:30  
and **THE DEAD** (PG) 6:00, 9:50

### SANTA CLARA COUNTY

**AMC OLD MILL 6** Mountain View 948-1116  
Central Expressway at San Antonio

CALL THEATER FOR FEATURES & SHOWTIMES

**AQUARIUS** 430 Emerson, P.A. 327-3240

□ **AU REVOIR LES ENFANTS** 7:15, 9:35  
□ **DOMINICK AND EUGENE** 7:30, 9:45

**CENTURY CINEMA 10** Mtn. View 960-0970  
Former Moffett Dr. loc.—Stierlin Rd. at Fwy 101

\*\*\*Bargain price shows starting before 5:45 p.m.\*\*\*  
□ **D.O.A.** (R) 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30  
□ **VICE VERSA** (PG) 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15  
□ **MASQUERADE** (R) 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30  
□ **SWITCHING CHANNELS** (R) 12:20, 2:45, 5, 7:15, 9:30  
□ **FRANTIC** (R) 12:30, 3:00, 5:20, 7:50, 10:15  
□ **SHOOT TO KILL** (R) 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:00, 10:15  
□ **MOONSTRUCK** (PG) 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45  
□ **GOOD MORNING, VIETNAM** (R) 12:15, 2:45, 5:30, 8, 10:20  
□ **BROADCAST NEWS** (R) 12, 2:30, 5:10, 7:45, 10:30  
□ **THE LAST EMPEROR** (PG13) 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 10:15

**PALO ALTO SQ. I&II** 493-1160  
3000 El Camino Real, Palo Alto

□ **UNBEARABLE LIGHTNESS OF BEING** (R) 6:00, 9:10  
□ **FIVE CORNERS** (R) 7:15, 9:30  
Barg. matinee shows starting before 3:30pm

**VARSITY** 323-6411  
456 University Ave, Palo Alto

□ **HAIRSPRAY** 7:15, 9:15

### DRIVE-IN

### ALAMEDA COUNTY

### THE LOCKHORNS/Bill Hoest

D. PULLMAN  
MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR