

Experimental Intimacy

By Laura Jaye Cramer, Nov. 20, 2013



Expect a blend of shrewd concepts and innovative, improvised movement in the *metrics of intimacy*, a collaboration between choreographers Christian Burns and Hope Mohr. If this sounds like some stuffy, high-art performance piece, think again. Burns' work is intelligent, accessible, and often surprisingly funny. His unique combination of impulsive performance quality and calm confidence make him and his company, burnsWORK, one of the most original dance voices in the Bay Area. He choreographs and performs the metrics of intimacy alongside Hope Mohr, artistic director of Hope Mohr Dance, whose focus on the creative process is highly experimental and consistently refreshing. Both Burns and Mohr have backgrounds in classical ballet (Burns trained at The School of American Ballet in New York City and Mohr, a San Francisco native, trained at The San Francisco Ballet School) which gives their work a certain clarity that can often be undervalued in contemporary dance. The results are choreography that's both poignant and viewer-friendly. The work is performed at The Garage, an underground venue so cozy you might end up practically sitting on someone's lap — the perfect place to observe the capabilities of the human body.