

Christopher Caines, a one-man theatrical band, choreographs, dances, sings, stage-manages, and, under a pseudonym, designs the productions for his troupe and recruits superb musicians (the versatile mezzo soprano Alexandra Montano, pianist Marija Ilic, and string players Louise Schulman, Mara Milkis, Anca Nicolau, and Myron Lutzke). His "Chamber Dances," new and recent work for Rika Burnham, Rachel Cohen, Sally Hess, Sabra Perry, Sally Schuiling, Christopher Woodrell, and himself (Construction Company, June), draw on his solid Cecchetti ballet training and his grasp of the nuances of European history. He's a maximalist: In a tiny space deeper than it is wide, with no wings or curtains, he offers expansive, expressive movement, much of it for his lithe dancers' arms. His dramatic and musical extravaganzas, as redolent of human passion and tragedy as the poetry of Wilfred Owen and A.E. Housman, cry out for, say, the New Victory. —Elizabeth Zimmer

**DANCE**