

# Performance



Sean Dorsey, Jamie Armstrong-Pouncey, and Prado Gomez get Fresh.

REVEREND MICHEL

## Fresh Meat's Queer Feast

### Gender-blending performances

BY MICHAEL LEAVERTON

Few productions can mix tranny glam-rock, modern dance, and a barbershop quartet and still hold an audience, but **Fresh Meat**

**2005: The 4th Annual Transgender & Queer Performance Festival** is as much about blending genres as genders. Although the wildly popular yearly show has lost its “cabaret extravaganza” moniker (in favor of the more grown-up “Performance Festival”), it’s still true to the goal of creating opportunities for transgender and queer artists. As Fresh Meat founder and Artistic Director Sean Dorsey puts it: “We have often been relegated or restricted to bars and cafes. But we

are dancers, professional theater artists, trapeze artists — we need high-quality spaces just as much as the ballet or the symphony.” Success in this endeavor translates to three nights of controlled chaos in slick digs with a dizzying lineup of performances, from aerialist feats to homo hip hop and straight, er, traditional theater, each with its own take on gender.

As always, the show mixes high and low art with established and emerging acts — Dorsey, an esteemed modern-dance choreographer, will satiate the culturally inclined with his premiere of *6 Hours*, a dance-theater duet with Mair Culbreth about tranny love on the road; those looking for grittier fare will find it in the glammed-up tranny rock of the Viragos and in the spoken-word piece *Randori* by Ryka Aoki de la Cruz, a fierce-tongued goth trans dyke from L.A. who holds a third-degree black belt in Kodokan Judo. The show starts Thursday at 8 p.m. (and continues through Saturday) at ODC Theater, 3153 17th St. (at Shotwell), S.F. Admission is \$15; call 863-9834 or visit [www.freshmeatproductions.org](http://www.freshmeatproductions.org).

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