

“Uncovered: The Diary Project” Dance Show

Published: February 5, 2009

By Rink

FTM activist/pioneer Lou Sullivan’s life was celebrated and illustrated with dance at the sold out Jan. 29 opening of Fresh Meat and the Queer Cultural Center’s “Uncovered: The Diary Project” at Dance Mission Theater. Choreographed and written by Sean Dorsey, the audience was drawn into the magic dance movements and quiet moments of dancers Nol Simonse, Juan De La Rosa, Brian Fisher, and Dorsey, who is also Fresh Meat Production’s award-winning artistic director.

Dorsey researched FTM pioneer Lou Sullivan’s journals at the SF Main Library. He used the journal’s descriptive power for rhythmic voice-overs that invoked Sullivan’s life in the dance movements. Dorsey choreographed strong but gentle movements for the dancers, especially with twosomes, and the tableau scenes were stunning and highly theatrical. There was even a surprise unveiling. A usual, there was a backlash by some men (you know how they can be) because the nude publicity photographs were not matched by stage nudity.

But in all it was one scene of breathtaking beauty after another with fine lighting (special mention goes to Clyde Sheets’ lighting design) and music. A standing ovation closed the show. Knowing warm and friendly Lou Sullivan as I did, I think he would have been overjoyed to know that this dance art would be presented in his name.



Dancers Nol Simonse and Sean Dorsey