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Verb Ballets Performs Two Free Shows in Tremont

Three family favorites are performed at Lincoln Park in Tremont, Friday, August 11 and Saturday, August 12. Performances begin at 8pm. FREE.

Cleveland, Ohio – July 31, 2006 -- Verb Ballets makes its debut at Lincoln Park, in Tremont on Friday, August 11 and Saturday, August 12 at 8pm. Admission is FREE. Raindate: Sunday August 13.

Verb Ballets brings three family favorites to the near west side: a major revival of choreographer Heinz Poll's *Bolero*; *Speed Racer*, a modern version of the Icarus tale; and *Planet Soup*, the company's signature ethnic fusion ballet. Lincoln Park is located between West 14th, West 11th, Kenilworth and Starkweather, Tremont, Cleveland, Ohio 44113.

The program:

- *Bolero* [Major Revival] (Heinz Poll | Maurice Ravel | Christina Giannini) is set to the legendary Maurice Ravel score. The ballet blends Indian and modern dance styles while its drive, propulsion and intensity build with the score.
- *Speed Racer* [Repertory] (Cortez | DJOkee | Gino Ventura) family favorite of the Verb Ballet repertory. *Speed* and his intrepid girlfriend, *Trixie*, take on another challenge as they pit their courage and skill against the villains of the universe. Set to music by DJOkee.
- *Planet Soup*, [Repertory] (Cortez | Edward Sylvi) Set to contemporary world music artists, the company's signature piece unifies folk and vernacular dances from around the world in an athletic hybrid of movement styles, including Indian traditional, Irish reels and African rituals. The cross-cultural fusion also incorporates "Tinikling," the authentic Filipino folk dance in which dancers step between clapping poles. The original production of Planet Soup was created with funds from the National Endowment for the Arts, Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, Née Dance Company and Purchase College Conservatory of Dance.

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About Verb Ballets. Verb Ballets begins its fifth season under the leadership of Artistic Director Hernando Cortez and Executive Director Dr. Margaret Carlson, supported by its energetic staff and board of trustees, who have established it as Cleveland's premiere contemporary dance repertory company. Verb has been named as one of "25 to Watch in 2004" by *Dance Magazine*, the country's leading news magazine covering dance. Verb Ballets discovers, collects, interprets and stages choreography that matters to the region and to the world of dance. As a curator of expressive movement that is globally connected and nationally respected, Verb Ballets has a mandate to support and foster emerging talent, present excellence in contemporary choreographers, and revive and honor modern dance classics. Additional information may be found at www.verbballets.org.

The Company:

Marcela Alvarez, Danielle Brickman, Kallie Marie Bokal, Ashley Cohen (Intern), Erin Conway, Richard Dickinson (Guest), Katie Gnagy, Jason Ignacio, Catherine Meredith, Brian Murphy, Anna Roberts, Mark Tomasic,

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