

Where + When

The Month's Best Shows and Events

January

2009



Tangled Up in Blue

Five Pieces, Five Choreographers

CityDance Ensemble is featuring five pieces by five choreographers on January 16 and 17 at the Lansburgh Theatre (450 Seventh St., NW). Artistic director Paul Gordon Emerson asked company members "to show what being entangled meant to them—in a duet or solo, physically with each other or by fabric," and the evening is called "Entangled." The subject of choreographer Ludovic Jolivet's "Roger and Lucie" is a lonely janitor who dances with a mop. Kate Weare's "Scorched" means touched but not burned. Larry Keigwin describes his dance, "Mattress Suite," as his "bed-and-bored suite." Shown here are Jerome Johnson and Liz Gahl performing the program's title dance. For tickets (\$15 to \$55), call 202-547-1122 or visit harmancenter.org.

museums

BY SUSAN DAVIDSON

DUMBARTON OAKS

"French Paintings at Dumbarton Oaks (1850-1910): Collecting the Unexpected" is delightful. Because Dumbarton Oaks founders Mildred and Robert Woods Bliss are best known for their superb collections of Byzantine and pre-Columbian art, it's a surprise to learn that they also owned 19th- and early-20th-century French art—not just paintings but sketches of what the artists planned to paint, including such seemingly unlikely subjects as a landscape by Renoir and a nonpointillist portrait by Seurat. The exhibit, which closes February 28, also includes works by Daumier, Degas, Rouault, and Vuillard. Open Tuesday through Sunday 2 to 5; free. 1703 32nd St., NW; 202-339-6401; doaks.org.

FOLGER SHAKESPEARE LIBRARY

"Breaking News: Renaissance Journalism and the Birth of the Newspaper," the 350-year history of news coverage on paper, is fun. The citizens of 17th-century England reveled in news about natural disasters such as an eyewitness account of the eruption of Mount Etna in 1669—and they weren't too high-minded for gossip. Closes January 31. 201 E. Capitol St., SE; 202-544-7077; folger.edu.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WOMEN IN THE ARTS

"Role Models: Feminine Identity in Contemporary American Photography" shows women doing what women do—working, playing, having lovers, raising children, wearing frilly dresses or no dresses at all. Included are photographs by Tina Barney, Nan Goldin, Sally Mann, Catherine Opie, Cindy Sherman, and Carrie Mae Weems. Closes January 25; \$10 for adults, \$8 for students and those over age 59. 1250 New York Ave., NW; 202-783-5000; nmwa.org.

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART EAST BUILDING

The frescoes, glass, and sculpture in "Pompeii and the Roman Villa: Art and Culture Around the Bay of Naples" are of the finest quality, largely due to having been buried for centuries under volcanic ash from Mount Vesuvius. Through March 22. The works in "George de Forest Brush: The Indian Paintings" are widely praised for their technique and for the knowledge of Native Americans the artist gained while living among the Arapahoe, Shoshone, and Crow