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Mar 4 2008 by Karen Price, Western Mail

HUMOUR, passion, great music and raw physicality are being combined in the new production by Vincent Dance Theatre.

The company is currently touring the UK and this month it will bring Act One – its first double bill, featuring solo performances by two of its key performers – to the intimate Weston Studio within the Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff.

Test Run (performed by Janusz Orlik) and Look At Me Now, Mummy (performed by Aurora Lubos) are contrasting pieces.

Stripped back and without elaborate staging, Act One is a chance for audiences to see Vincent Dance Theatre up close and personal.

Test Run is a powerful solo performance by Orlik that overwhelms the senses in a blistering display of dance combined with the exquisitely crafted, multi-layered soundtrack performed live by violinists Patrycja Kujawska and Matt Howden.

Originating in a gentle, intimate solo, Janusz's movements are shaped by the physical and musical interventions of the two musicians who share the space with him to become a complex, highly structured trio – a game in which the dancer and musicians battle to keep control of the stage.

Look At Me Now, Mummy is an intimate, funny and moving portrait of a woman lost in her imagination in which Lubos contemplates motherhood and the trials of domesticity. She paints an often hilarious and moving portrait of one woman's desire to be a domestic goddess, without the script necessary to play the part.

Orlik was born in Poland and trained at the Ballet School in Warsaw. He was a founding member of x-IDA Dance Company and met Charlotte Vincent of Vincent Dance Theatre in 2001.

Lubos is also Polish and has worked extensively with Dance Theatre of Gdansk. For Vincent Dance Theatre, she has performed in Caravan of Lies, made and toured Drop Dead Gorgeous, Let The Mountains Lead You To Love, Punch Drunk, Broken Chords and Fairy Tale.

The tour of Act One is funded by Arts Council England.

Vincent Dance Theatre will visit the Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff on Monday at 8pm. The box office number is 0870 040 2000. For full details, visit the website at www.vincentdt.com

Karen Price

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