

# A Perfect Launch

By Kate Gilderdale • Stouffville Free Press

By turns witty and profound, visually stunning and heart-wrenching, Motus O's October premiere of *Perspectives* was an outstanding choice to launch the professional dance series at the Lebovic Centre for Arts and Entertainment - Nineteen on the Park.

In the almost two decades since its inception, the Stouffville dance collective has lost none of its trademark physical energy, innovative choreography and sheer athleticism. While the performers tackled challenging topics, including the subjugation of women, ecology and the reality of living with Parkinson's, their belief in hope and redemption shone through.

Particularly poignant was *Me, Myself and I*, in which guest artist Judy Hazlett, who was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease 30 years ago, was one of four dancers portraying her own life from childhood to the present. Her grace and poise brought a standing ovation from the audience.

*Continuum* was a beautiful meditation on the passing of the generational torch from mother to daughter, while *Saira* offered a stark reminder of the horrors women face in patriarchal societies where they are regarded as chattels rather than human beings.

Humour was a recurring motif. James Croker deftly portrayed the tough life of a tree in *Tree Trilogy*, while *Tutu Trapped* provided a hilarious take on a tutu-clad contestant on *So You Think You Can Dance*, Stouffville, who is hijacked by two dancers with a seriously punk attitude and an aversion to sweetness and light.

Fabulous costumes and the excellent integration of video and music made this a night to remember.



Laura Day, Sarah Felschow, Cynthia Croker and Melissa Spence in *Metaphor on the Floor*.



Jack Langenhuizen flips James Croker in *Boyz Toyz*.

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## DCAT Chorus To Perform In Stouffville



On Nov. 29 at 7:30 p.m. Stouffville United Church will host the DCAT Chorus as part of its Sunday United Music series.

The chorus was founded in 1994 by alumni of several southern Ontario drum corps, who wanted to create an opportunity for people who loved music and singing to get together and have fun. With deep roots in the traditions of outdoor pageantry that characterize the its drum corps history, the chorus's objective is to entertain audiences with a unique Broadway-style theatrical flair.

Since its inception, the DCAT Chorus has grown from a small group of untrained singers into a highly professional ensemble of more than 40 members. It has performed in many Canadian and American venues, including Toronto's Roy Thompson Hall and the South Street Seaport in New York City.

Everyone is welcome to attend the concert, which takes place at Stouffville United Church, 34 Church Street, a wheelchair accessible building. For more information call 905-640-1163.

## UCW Christmas Breakfast And Fashion Show

This year, Stouffville United Church Women's Christmas breakfast will feature a fashion show of upscale resale and vintage clothing and accessories from Chic Thrills Boutique. The event is open to women of all ages, including teens, and takes place Dec. 5 at the United Church, 34 Church Street in the lower auditorium. Breakfast starts at 9 a.m.

A free will offering and donations of feminine hygiene and self-care products, or non-perishable food items, will be collected in support of Yellow Brick House. For reservations send an email to info@stouffvilleuc.ca or call 905-640-1157.

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