



Media Quotes

At a time when it might seem impossible to launch a major arts event, director Andrew Wood has done it. The 2005 San Francisco International Arts Festival has roared back.....rounding up artists from countries such as South Korea, China, Russia and Germany, as well as the Bay Area.

San Jose Mercury News

*Wonderfully funny, deceptively evocative and endlessly, creatively surprising, the Akhe Group's "White Cabin" opened Thursday.....as a sublime gift to the entire Bay Area. If half the offerings in this year's San Francisco International Arts Festival are as beguilingly inventive as this Russian import, the second such festival will be a resounding success.....And it represents an enormous potential boon.....beyond the sheer pleasure it brings, in terms of the significant benefits of breaking through the shell of our provincial isolation and offering chances for artistic cross-fertilization. **San Francisco Chronicle***

*It's funny, in every sense of the word, how well an expertly crafted comic setup can translate into almost any language or performance tradition, especially when it's expertly performed. Funny and expert are not the only terms that spring to mind when watching Japan's treasured Mansaku no Kai company perform "The Kyogen of Errors." Beguiling, impressive, fascinating and thoroughly entertaining apply equally well.....Grateful should describe those who caught the company's two performances....."Errors," an American premiere.....was another gem in the festival's multifaceted crown of three weeks of local and international theater, music and dance.....Shows such as this.....don't come to the Bay Area often enough. Which is why we need the festival to become a regular feature of our cultural landscape. **San Francisco Chronicle***

*It would appear that producer Andrew Wood has brought to...town a level of artistic inquiry and sophistication that one hopes will provoke discussion, controversy and the awareness necessary for creative growth. **Voice of Dance***

*When the bespangled, high-heeled women of the Royal New Zealand Ballet clickity-clacked their way on to the stage.....you realized how pressing is the need for the San Francisco International Arts Festival.....Here was an international caliber company in its Bay Area debut (and only U.S. engagement this season) bringing something different and, in one case, extraordinary to the local scene. What else, you may ask, is a performing arts festival for? **Voice of Dance***

*The San Francisco International Arts Festival.....may be one of the best bets for global theatre this summer. **American Theatre***