



### Selected SFIAF Review Quotes 2003-09

*What do you get when you mix five dancers from five different parts of the world, five chairs, a long table and a refrigerator holding nothing but a Coke and a raw chicken? Believe it or not, a superbly engaging evening with Sasha Waltz & Guests at the San Francisco International Arts Festival. **Dance Insider***

*It was a brilliant stroke to bring back to the Bay Area for a two-night run the Berlin-based choreographer Sasha Waltz. **Voice of Dance***

*Thank you, Andrew Wood for the SF International Arts Festival, the successful negotiation of visas for all and especially for Sasha Waltz & Guests. **CultureVulture.net***

*With the swift, sharp strokes of masterful physical performance, the broad comedy of a rural folktale turns into a potent, even shocking look at the soul-wrenching inhumanity of war. **SF Chronicle***

*The popular Korean folk tale of an angel coming to earth and discovered by an aging mother and her son, as re-told by Cho-In Theatre, is a testament to the craft and discipline necessary for such a performance. Brought by the extraordinary talent of Cho-In, the folk tale speaks without words, transcending the barriers of language. **SF Examiner***

*“Angel” is a gut-wrenching anti-war manifesto, and all of it realized without the use of a single word. **Dance View Times***

*...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***

*...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. **SF Chronicle***

*At a time when it might seem impossible to launch a major arts event..... The San Francisco International Arts Festival has roared back. **San Jose Mercury News***

*The upshot was the most engrossing contemporary opera-dance-theater I have encountered in ages. **artssf.com***

*This writer was totally enthralled and down right floored by the action displayed on stage at the Artaud Theater in San Francisco last Friday night..... What I witnessed was total entertainment packaged into one big ball of "pyrotechnic-like" feats of athleticism, dance, musicianship and theater. The globetrotting French trained, Guinean nouveau cirque company, Circus Baobab made its exclusive US debut at SFIAF 2007 performing their acrobatically astounding show, “The Jumping Drums.” **From the Blog of RJ Hipster***



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

*Last year's San Francisco International Arts Festival was one of the best performing arts events of 2005.* **Theatre Bay Area Magazine**

*No previous attempt at a general arts festival in this city ever promised or accomplished so much.* **Voice of Dance**

*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.* **SF Chronicle**

*Kaash was the antepenultimate in a brief, brilliant series, the San Francisco International Arts Festival.* **Dance View Times.**

*It's a perfect conceptual fit with the theme of this year's San Francisco International Arts Festival, "The Truth in Knowing/Now: A Conversation Across the African Diaspora." And "Departure and Arrival" made a perfectly thoughtful and thought-provoking way to kick off the festival's jam-packed 11 days on Wednesday night.* **SF Chronicle**

*At times the Bay Area can seem like a cultural backwater, stagnating like a swamp. Then suddenly a hurricane sweeps through.....I feel fortunate to have seen...companies from such diverse places performing...in such different styles and yet sensing they are all grappling with the same issue of living in the world and seeking, if not answers, at least new ways of looking at the problems."* **Dance Insider**

*Striking images of pain and loss, of conflicts ancient and immediate, ethnic and political, and a passionate yearning for peace radiate from Grupo Cultural Yuyachkani of Peru's "Santiago" at Project Artaud Theater.....The rare chance to see Yuyachkani, long one of South America's leading troupes, is a gift in itself.* **SF Chronicle**

*Andrew Wood...realize[d] his dream of the San Francisco International Arts Festival. The performances by the... companies he brought to the Bay Area...were spectacular successes.* **SF Bay Guardian**

*SFIAF.....has become an indispensable showcase for collaborative work by leading Bay Area artists and their peers across all manner of geographical, cultural and disciplinary borders.* **360.com**

*Depending on whom you ask, the Bay Area art world is either a major world center for creative innovation or a self-referential backwater prone to tunnel vision. If it's possible for it to be both simultaneously, the multidisciplinary San Francisco International Arts Festival is well poised to address the dichotomy.* **SF Weekly**

*More, please, more!* **Ballet.Co.UK**