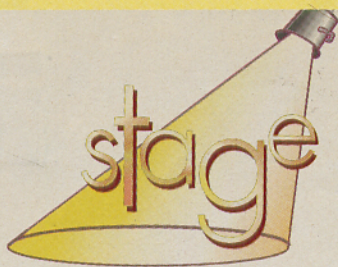


# READ ALL ABOUT IT IN NEW YORK'S ONLY GUIDE WITH STYLISH

# DANCE REE REE

SUMMER 1995 \$3.50



Pull up a couch at HERE.

## SUMMER STAGE

BY TOM MURRIN

**O**.K., it's summer and you'd like to flop down on the couch, crack a cool one and watch a sharp mix of new stuff while feeling like you're still at home, right? Then get yourself over to HERE for the Sixth Annual American Living Room Series.

Curators Kristin Marting and Tim Maner of Tiny Mythic Theatre Company originated the series in the summer of '89 specifically for fledgling theater creators to try out their wings in the off-season. Marting says, "We don't curate by theme, we just try to get a dynamic evening of work. If you come to see your friend in a dance piece, you'll see a naturalistic drama and a deconstructive piece as well."

Successful graduates from the summer series include Elevator Repair Service, the Dada-and-then-some troupe who debuted *Marx Brothers on Horseback Salad* in '91; Instant Girl, the three-woman comedy dance team that recently played Town Hall; and Premium Bob, the witty and kinetic two-man "deconstructivist stand-up" talk and movement act.

This summer's bill promises equal delights. Claude Wampler, who opens the performance series with Premium Bob's David Latham on July 7, has more than ruffles and strap-ons up her creative sleeve. In "Siamese Tease," a piece based on TV's



NEIL BECKERMAN

### Charming snake Claude Wampler

*Baywatch*, Wampler wears ruffled panties and shoes that light up to do a little girl's dance but, upon discovering a giant erection under her ruffles, she does the dance again "with the new information." In another piece, wearing a costume of dirt, lint and dust bunnies while moving to the music of "The Stripper," Wampler does a pas de deux with a vacuum cleaner hose that goes from coy and cute to violent and hideous, climaxing when she turns on the Hoover, sucks off her costume and exits naked.

In *Ken and Barbie Do the Nasty at Larry's Leather Bar*, a couple tries to find a solution to their "sex-life problems" by talking to each other through everybody's favorite dolls. Director Andrea Darriau stages the one-act as if the audience was watching the making of a film: first a scene

over Ken's shoulder, then over Barbie's, then a 2-shot and so on. For *Howl*, Gary Schwartz has put the Allen Ginsberg poem into a corporate setting: the word processing center of an investment bank, with the text made manifest by computers and fax machines, and actors playing bankers. It's a contemporary take on "the best minds of my generation destroyed by madness."

Another solo artist to look for is playwright/performer Joslynn Lockett in *Chronicles of a Comic Mulatta: An Oreo/Choreo Poem*. Lockett's first play, *Rupture*, from last year's series, won an L.A. production from the HBO New Writers Project and will be staged at New York's City College in the fall.

*Live Sex on Stage*, directed by Dina Emerson and Will Pomerantz, is an exploration of Frank Wedekind's play, *Spring Awakening*, which was banned in Germany 100 years ago for showing that "youth, sex and nihilism rule." *Heroin/e (Keep Us Quiet)*, by Carson Kreitzer (whose first play was *Valerie Shoots Andy*), is about two women: one is the suicidal sister of Freud's famous patient, the Wolf Man; the other is the California woman currently in prison for shooting the man who molested her son.

*The American Living Room at HERE, 145 Sixth Ave., 647-0202. July 1-Aug. 27, Thurs.-Sun., 8 p.m., \$10. ★*