



# International flavour to festival double bill

Leap 2010 continues its festival programme with two new pieces courtesy of the National Dance Company Wales.

New Works, an innovative double bill from Itzik Galili and Andonis Foniadakis and featuring ten international dancers, comes to the Playhouse Theatre in Liverpool on Friday and Saturday.

Ann Sholem, the artistic director of National Dance

**Thrilling:** Veil Of Stars, part of National Dance Company Wales's New Works double bill

## Dance New Works

Company Wales, says dance fans can expect a real treat.

'It's great that we have Itzik coming back to work with us as he has become a firm favourite wherever we tour,' she adds.

'Peeled has been loved by audiences as far afield as Bilbao and Brecon, Milan and Mold.

'I'm sure the new work will be as captivating and exhilarating – something to really look forward to. We took Andonis's dance Veil Of Stars on our autumn tour and it amazed and thrilled audiences and critics alike.'

Veil Of Stars is Foniadakis's debut work with the Welsh company. Characteristically bold and imaginative, it showcases his hallmark technical virtuosity and fluidity.

He was born in Crete where he received his first dance lessons. He continued his studies at the State School of Dance in Athens and at Rudra in Lausanne, under the direction of Maurice Bejart. Tel Aviv-born Galili made his

debut as a choreographer in 1990 and is now based in the Netherlands.

The new commission uses composer Steve Reich's Six Marimbas and a new score commissioned from Percossa – the group responsible for creating the music for Peeled, which entertained Playhouse audiences in 2008 as part of Merseyside Dance Initiative's Capital Nights European Dance Festival.

Galili's work is characterised by a combination of extremes.

On the one hand, the performances are abstract, acrobatic and spectacular; on the other, they are associative, intimate and poetic.

This latest work will power the company's ten dancers through a fast-paced, physically exhilarating half-hour performance.

National Dance Company Wales started life as Diversions, but was renamed last year after celebrating its 25th anniversary.

Catherine Jones

Fri and Sat, Playhouse Theatre, Williamson Square, Liverpool, 7.30pm, £10 to £15. Tel: 0151 709 4776. [www.everymanplayhouse.com](http://www.everymanplayhouse.com)

THE METRO 16/3/10