



# JOE ROGAN

FRIDAY  
APRIL 8th - 8PM  
ARLINGTON THEATRE  
BUY TICKETS AT LIVENATION.COM

January 31, 2016

CREATE AN ACCOUNT LOG IN CONTENTS CLASSIFIEDS ARCHIVE INFO | ADVERTISING | CONTACT US

# Independent

 WHO. WHAT. NOW. 52° WEATHER »

Google Custom Search SEARCH

JOHN SCOFIELD  
JOE LOVANO QUARTET  
FEBRUARY 25

HOME NEWS A&E OPINION EVENTS LIVING FOOD SPORTS CLASSIFIEDS OBITS REAL ESTATE COMPLETE OUR SURVEY & BE ENTERED TO WIN AN IPAD [CLICK HERE](#)

Click For All Medical & Spa Services 805-687-0212

>> Dance >> Reviews



This is Alyssa Thompson and Amadu Paul Turray in a piece called "Sensed." Choreographed by Amanda Hart. Dancers are part of Hart Pulse Dance Company from Los Angeles.

## A Review of SonneBlauma's Final Show

S.B.-Based Company Morphing to "ArtBark"

Saturday, February 11, 2012  
by ELIZABETH SCHWYZER (CONTACT)

Even when the time is ripe for change, it takes courage to embrace it. But Santa Barbara's SonneBlauma Danscz Theatre is nothing if not brave. Last Tuesday, the company celebrated its 15th and final year by bringing together artists from Slovenia, Los Angeles, and Santa Barbara for a shared bill of cutting-edge contemporary dance and physical theater. The program heralded new directions for artistic directors Misa and Stephen Kelly, whose company will henceforward go by a new name — ArtBark — and whose mission is expanding to embrace more experimental and cross-genre collaborations with artists around the world.

For this program, SonneBlauma shared the stage with Los Angeles-based dance companies Rubans Rouge and Hart Pulse, independent artist Christina Suarez, and emerging S.B.-based companies Block & Block and Nebula Dance Lab. From the upbeat, indie surf-rock tunes of opening band Dante Elephante through to the casual invitation from the directors to "bark if you want to see more," a spirit of playfulness and possibility surrounded the evening.

Suarez's solo merged movement and spoken word for a frank and funny investigation of the joys and burdens of motherhood. She popped and locked to hip-hop, gave answers to unspoken questions, and lay on her back to narrate the film of her life as she imagined it. Rubans Rouge director Noelle Andressen-Kale explored sexual desire and emotional anguish in her works "Creation" and "Gethsemane," while mother/daughter team Melissa and Sarah Block captured the mixture of affection, competition, and conflict inherent in such a bond.

The newly launched Nebula Dance Lab presented Emily Wheeler's lyrical, brooding quintet "Swan Song," while Amanda Hart, director of L.A.'s Hart Pulse Dance Company, shared her passionate duet "Sensed" and also spoke to the audience about fostering future exchanges between S.B. and L.A. dance artists. That's a primary aim for the Kellys, whose works for this program pointed to their increasing commitment to collaboration. During the past month, they've been working intensively with Slovenian artist Mojca Majcen, who gave a riveting performance of both Misa Kelly's richly layered solos, "A Bao A Qu" and "Moki's Wedding." Majcen's the kind of dancer you can't stop watching: Her exquisite technique is matched by a spellbinding presence. Whether she's slapping the floor or firing off an above-the-head jeté, she's in complete command. It's only when other dancers join her onstage that you realize she's hardly more than five feet tall.

Misa Kelly's sibling-rivalry-inspired "Grit" (complete with flower-festooned swimming caps) and Stephen Kelly's understated comic trio "Flying and Falling" rounded out the program. No matter what ArtBark gets up to next, it's bound to be brave, expansive, and, above all, fun.

### Article Tools

- Print friendly
- E-mail story
- Tip Us Off
- Comments (0 Comments)
- Share Article

INDEPENDENT.COM  
CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP!

### BEST BETS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31

TUE, FEB 2 @ 10:30 AM  
 The Princess and Pirates Puppet  
Various Libraries

TUE, FEB 2 @ 4:00 PM  
 The Princess and Pirates Puppet  
Various Libraries

WED, FEB 3 @ 10:30 AM  
 The Princess and Pirates Puppet  
Various Libraries

NEXT EVENTS >

ADD EVENTS FULL CALENDAR

event calendar sponsored by:

PRINT SPECIALS TOP EMAILS

FLIP THRU THIS WEEK'S ISSUE

evolutions Botox. Dvsoort. Independent Netw... 113K

### Most Commented Stories

- Trump Leads the Pack | 57 Comments
- Resounding Impacts of Two Santa Barbara Murders | 26 Comments
- Phony Climate Claims | 560 Comments
- Psyllid Spray Program Commences | 10 Comments

### Where to hike?

Visit here first: Day Hikes in Ray Ford's Outdoors section

Spend a little more time outdoors.

Spas and custom built wooden hot tubs since 1974.  
www.gordonandgrant.com

Independent Netw... 113K Monthly People quantcast Jan 30, 2016

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A NEW DENTIST?  
CALL TODAY! 800-259-3344