



The Lighter Side of Modern Dance

By Ann Haskins



Part dance, part theater and refreshingly light-hearted, casebolt and smith's *O(h)* is a welcome alternative to the dark-hued worlds of melancholia, depression and manipulative violence in which so many modern dance companies and their choreographers languish. As casebolt and smith, the L.A.-based duo of Liz Casebolt and Joel Smith follow e.e.cummings' lead eschewing capital letters, but arrive home armed with a fistful of fine reviews from the premiere of *O(h)* at New York's Joyce Theater to various festivals. In *O(h)*, they segue easily from dance to commentary to song in an hour-long excursion brimming with humor including a send up of Tina Turner's intro to "Proud Mary" and a primer on modern dance gesture that wryly debunks modern dance taking itself too seriously. Just in case, the last 10 minutes is a delirious summary of what the audience saw during the first 50 minutes of the show. For a preview go to www.caseboltandsmith.com. For the show, go to

the Actors Company Theatre, 916a N. Formosa, W.Hlywd.; Fri.-Sat., 8 p.m., Sun, 5 p.m.; Jan. 13-Feb. 19; \$30, \$22 seniors & students. (800) 838-3006 or www.caseboltandsmith.com.

Price: \$30, \$22 seniors & students