Professional Choreographer Brian Brooks Brings the Motion to Lee Hall
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By Ross Bentley

The Brian Brooks Moving Company came to Oswego last week for a special dance class and workshop taught by one of the premiere professionals in the dance industry, and it took place right here in Lee Hall.

Brooks, a professional Choreographer and Artistic Director based out of New York City, taught a Master Class and a Dance Composition Workshop on February 26th in the Lee Hall Dance Studio.

Students were given the opportunity to work closely with Brooks who has had his dances presented throughout North America, Europe, and Asia. Brooks has also won various awards including most recently an award from the National Dance Project supporting the development and performance tour, of Brooks’ latest creation, “Big City” (2012).

Brook’s first class in Lee focused more on the perception of dance, while the night session was intended to teach technique.

The Brian Brooks Moving company also put on a special performance of “Big City”, as well as three of Brook’s other creations, “Descent” (2011), “Motor” (2010), and “I’m Going to Explode” (2007) in Waterman Theatre, on February 27th as a part of his national tour which began last year.

Along with teaching his two classes for college students in Lee, Brooks also performed a demonstration and lecture at Oswego High School prior to his performance in Waterman Theatre.

Brooks, known for his use of space and motion in his performances gave the students who attended his classes an intimate look at his creative process when constructing his dances, and what it takes physically and emotionally to create and perform a full length dance performance.

Brooks’ appearance was part of an ongoing effort by SUNY Oswego’s Artswego, the SUNY Oswego School of Education and Oswego City Schools that that helps students draw connections between verbal language and visual expressions such as dance.

Sources: “Brian Brooks brings imaginative dance language to campus, community.”