

# DANCEst. NEWS

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**DANCE ST. LOUIS AND THE TOUHILL  
IN COOPERATION WITH THE ST. LOUIS COLLEGE OF PHARMACY PRESENT  
MOMIX in *Botanica*  
AT TOUHILL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, SEPTEMBER 13, 2011**

ST. LOUIS, July 18, 2011.....In a one-night-only encore performance, the impossibly nimble dancer-illusionists of MOMIX present *Botanica*, their latest full-evening fantasy spectacle, at the Touhill Performing Arts Center at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 13.

With a parade of hypnotic images that flow across the stage in scene after dazzling scene, *Botanica* celebrates the glory and mystery of Nature. MOMIX creator and Pilobolus co-founder Moses Pendleton creates a trip through a magical garden by combining fantastical props and costumes, ingenious lighting effects, sensuous choreography, and fabulous acrobatic feats. The MOMIX performers concoct a magical theatrical experience as they open Dance St. Louis' 2011-2012 season. "We are thrilled to be able to present an encore of such a magical and imaginative show to our audiences who clamored to see it back in April," says Michael Uthoff, artistic & executive director of Dance St. Louis.

Tickets go on sale August 15. All seats are \$35 and are available at the Dance St. Louis box office at 3547 Olive St. in the Centene Center for Arts and Education in Grand Center, by calling 314-534-6622, or by visiting [dancestlouis.org](http://dancestlouis.org). Dance St. Louis and the Touhill present MOMIX in *Botanica* in cooperation with the St. Louis College of Pharmacy.

The many short scenes that make up *Botanica* follow the course of a day, the rhythm of the seasons, and even the evolution of the world. Creatures both real and mythical materialize on stage, created by feathers and fabrics, black light and strobes, roller skates and wind machines, and props and puppets by Michael Curry, the Tony Award-winning designer of *The Lion King*. Dancers become frolicking sunflowers, flying birds, rippling clouds, winter storms, the rays of the sun and more. The soundtrack ranges from Vivaldi to birdsongs to Hindu chants. "It's the IMAX version of dance theater...with imagery that will leave your eyeballs hanging out," says the *New Jersey Star-Ledger*. The show is "earthy and otherworldly at once—a magnificent vision of the everyday miracles around us," says the *Schenectady Times Union*.

"The essence of dance is bringing a little lightness to the world," says Pendleton. "If people walk away from the pieces at MOMIX with a little less gravity in their step, it's a success."

Pendleton was born and reared on a dairy farm in Northern Vermont. The cows of his childhood are honored in MOMIX's name, which he took from a feed supplement. While still a student at Dartmouth College in 1971, Pendleton co-founded Pilobolus, which went on to win international acclaim for its innovative blend of acrobatics and modern dance. He started MOMIX, based in Washington, Connecticut, in 1981. MOMIX's work includes stage performances, film, TV, and special projects, most recently national commercials for Hanes underwear and the Target ad that premiered on the 2010 Golden Globe Awards.

Ameren is the 2011-2012 season presenting sponsor. Dance St. Louis is supported by the Arts and Education Council, Missouri Arts Council, Regional Arts Commission, Mid-America Arts Alliance, National Endowment for the Arts, and New England Foundation for the Arts. American Airlines is the official airline. – 30 –