

Hand2Mouth's Work-In-Progress at Fertile Ground Festival



Photo by Kelli Pennington

Portland, OR - Join Hand2Mouth for the very first look at their new ensemble show four months into the creation process. A performance in four movements, *Something's Got Ahold Of My Heart* creates an onstage space where the tumultuous feelings of love hang thick in the air and six performers lay their bodies down and fight to keep their love alive. Drawing from iconic singing duos of the '70s, how-to guides, live concert footage, interviews and found text, *Something's Got Ahold Of My Heart* wrestles with our desire to craft the perfect declaration of love, and the tension between the ideal and the reality of long-term commitment.

These workshop showings will be a great chance for audiences to get a glimpse into the Hand2Mouth creation process and begin to follow the journey of *Something's Got Ahold Of My Heart* from its raw seed to its finished production in the fall of 2012. These showings will be low-tech and will give the ensemble an opportunity to try out new ideas every night. Hand2Mouth will also be conducting post-show discussions after each show to get audience feedback. After the festival the company will go back to rehearsal to prepare the show for its next phase with showings at both Portland2012: a contemporary art biennial at Disjecta in March/April and On the Boards' Northwest New Works Festival in June.

Something's Got Ahold Of My Heart features choreography by Allie Hankins (Seattle) and music by Hand2Mouth and Ash Black Buffalo. Described by The Seattle Times as having "the kind of fearlessness and energy that the American theater needs, and should encourage," Hand2Mouth develops new work for the stage and tours it regionally and nationally. At last year's Fertile Ground, they premiered *My Mind Is Like An Open Meadow*, which went on to win five Drammy Awards, including outstanding production.

WHEN: January 27-29 at 7pm
WHERE: The mOuth at Zoomtopia, 810 SE Belmont Ave
COST: \$8 General Admission (free with festival pass)
INFO/TIX: www.hand2mouththeatre.org

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Hand2Mouth is a theatre ensemble committed to creating original work.

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