

Molly Shanahan/Mad Shak and Links Hall Present

My Name is a Blackbird World Premere

April 12-29, 2007, Thursdays-Sundays, 8pm
The Building Stage, 412 N. Carpenter in Chicago
\$15 General Admission

* Purchase tickets at www.madshak.com or call 773.743.8014

Visit www.madshak.com/projects_blackbird.html for audio samples, video clips, and images from *Blackbird's* creative process.

My Name is a Blackbird is inspired by mutation, transformation and superheroes. *Blackbird's* two-year creative process propelled Shanahan into new movement terrain where contrasting states bloom into startling coexistence. Beauty/decay, joy/anguish, and memory/projection merge in kinesthetic dream states where Shanahan, the single dancer, articulates her body's mythology within the intimate language of spontaneous creation. The atmosphere is suspenseful and poetic, with images suggesting decay, new life, and the residue of what is left behind.

Collaborators

Molly Shanahan, *Choreographer*
Andrew Bird, *Composer*
Mark Booth, *Composer*
David Pavkovic, *Composer*
Leslie Buxbaum Danzig, *Dramaturg*
Heidi Dakter, *Costume Design*
Nadia Oussenko, *Video*
Josh Weckesser, *Lighting Design*

"Shanahan has been digging in to choreographic exploration with her modern-dance company Mad Shak for more than a dozen years—she's used everything from video feeds to intricate lighting design to heighten her work's intensity. But she's never mined a richer vein of creativity than with *Blackbird*, where she's stepping away from intellectually-driven ways of putting a dance together and delving into nonlinear realms of body-based expressiveness."

—Asimina Chremos, *TimeOutChicago*
Cover story "20 People to Watch in 2007"

My Name is a Blackbird Satellite Events

About Dance with Molly Shanahan and Leslie Buxbaum Danzig

Thursday, March 8, 2007, 6:00pm, FREE
The Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington, Dance Studio

Hosted by Chicago Dance Writer Lucia Mauro

Wearable Archetypes with Heidi Dakter

Saturday, March 31, 2007, 1:00-2:30pm, FREE
Berger Park Cultural Center, 6205 N. Sheridan Road
Light refreshments will be served.

Join Heidi Dakter and Molly Shanahan as they reveal their innovative collaboration and the garments, sketches, objects, and workshop experiments created for *My Name is a Blackbird's* costume closet. For more information about this event visit www.madshak.com or call 773.743.8014.

Captain Bbird with Mark Booth

Saturday, April 28, 2007, 7pm, FREE
The Building Stage, 412 N. Carpenter Street
Light refreshments will be served.

Blackbird collaborator and composer Mark Booth talks about constructions of sound, superheroes and (almost) silence. This event precedes an 8pm performance of *My Name is a Blackbird*. For more information about this event and to purchase tickets for *My Name is a Blackbird* visit www.madshak.com or phone 773.743.8014.

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Photo by Nadia Oussenko



Purchase tickets online at www.madshak.com or call 773.743.8014.



6205 N. Sheridan Rd
Chicago
Illinois 60660
USA



My Name is a Blackbird is a co-presentation of Molly Shanahan/Mad Shak and Links Hall. *Blackbird* is made possible through the support of Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation and the Chicago Dancemakers Forum, a choreographer's development project led by the Museum of Contemporary Art, The Dance Center of Columbia College Chicago, Links Hall and an independent choreographer. The original scores created for *My Name is a Blackbird* are commissioned as part of a national series of works from Meet the Composer's Commissioning Music/USA program, which is made possible by generous support from the Ford Foundation, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Francis Goebel Trust, the Helen F. Whitaker Fund, Target, and the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation.

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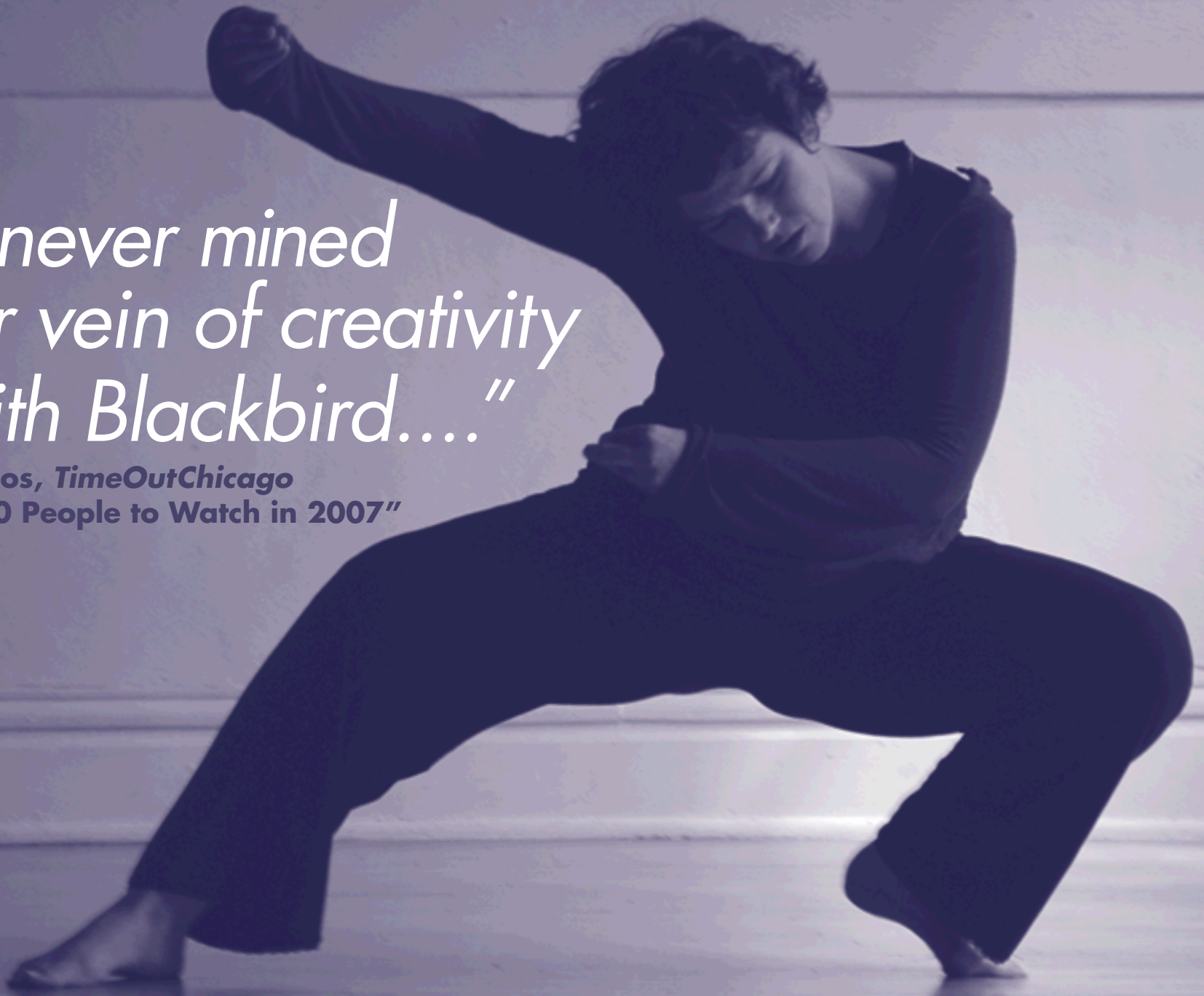
My Name is a Blackbird

April 12–29, 2007

at The Building Stage

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than with Blackbird...."*

**–Asimina Chremos, *TimeOutChicago*
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Molly Shanahan Mad Shak
movement innovation collaboration