

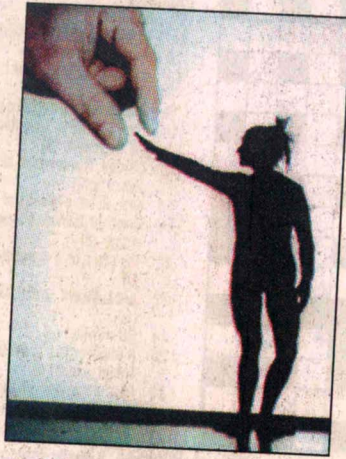
# Vivacity 3

AMRITA TALWAR

They live by the theory of *danse libre*, meaning freedom of movement. And their dance, they claim, plays with time and space. From the avenues of Beziers in South France to the streets of New Delhi comes the Compagnie Mullera dance troupe. In association with the French Embassy, Alliance Francaise and Danceworx, they present *mini@tures*, a ballet in contemporary dance. The choreography has been designed in the form of very short films juxtaposed with live dance sequences. Visuals play a very important role here. The audience can see a gigantic hand touching a tiny

## THROUGH TIME AND SPACE

figure. Or a small figure whispering into an oversized ear. And it's all technology. "A person performs on stage with someone in a different time realm. We searched on the net for music videos but came up with zilch. Working round the clock, back in 1997, we finally made a breakthrough and were able to create a tool for our performance," says choreographer Didier Mulleras. Though she refuses to disclose what the tool is. Mulleras believes *mini@tures* is like a trip from the real to the virtual, from multimedia to the stage, where dance plays with new technologies. "It is a fusion of new dance, electronic music, video art and web design," she adds. "In the beginning, there were



problems coordinating dance sequences with the multimedia images. But we have come a long way in these seven years," says a proud Nicholas Grimal, mul-

timedia and technical coordinator. Born in 1988, the Mulleras dance company gained national ranking in France in 2002. Since then, it has been receiving financial help from the French Cultural Ministry. "This recognition has definitely helped us carve a niche in the enormous art circle of France. But problems like lack of funds and support in kind persist. World tours might help," says Mulleras. Which is exactly what they are doing. This is the fourth time Compagnie Mullera is performing in Asia, their tour covering five countries including Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia and Vietnam, apart from India. Don't miss their performance today at Siri Fort Auditorium. Time: 7 pm.