

# Moonhorse Dance Theatre: Unravelling emotion with poetry in motion

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By **MICHAEL CRABB** Special to the Star  
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## Lone Some

Presented by Moonhorse Dance Theatre. Choreography by James Kudelka and Tedd Robinson. At the Young Centre, 55 Mill St., until Saturday.

416-866-8666 or [www.youngcentre.ca](http://www.youngcentre.ca)

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Claudia Moore and Dan Wild: concentrated artistry. (SUBMITTED PHOTO)

Unlike the jolly superficiality of Sedaka's 1962 hit, Kudelka's *Half an Hour of Our Time*, presented by the Young Centre as part of its new dance initiative, is a study in emotional pain and complexity, inspired by Francis Poulenc's operatic version of Jean Cocteau's famous one-woman play, *La voix humaine*.

In the play, the woman conducts a telephone conversation with a man – unseen and unheard – who we learn is leaving her for another. There is no telephone in Kudelka's rendering and Cocteau's invisible man materializes in the form of dancer Dan Wild; yet his interactions with the woman, Claudia Moore, seem as much to be occurring in memory as actuality.

Kudelka's enigmatic 30-minute duet is dense with incident, as if everything that has bound this couple and is now unravelling is played out before us.

There are moments of tenderness. The man's own feelings are clearly conflicted. Their eyes rarely meet. At times Wild circles Moore like a ghostly presence. Even when their bodies touch there is a sense that it's like the magnetically repellent meeting of two like poles that could instantly flip into a powerful attraction. The fact that the dance is performed in a small studio theatre and in silence intensifies its impact, forcing us to become voyeurs of this intimate portrait of messy, not fully resolved emotional separation.

Only dancers as mature – in years and artistic experience – as Moore and Wild could pull this off so effectively and without a hint of sentimentality.

The two are also paired in what turns out to be a cleverly deployed prologue to the main event, a short duo and solo called *Lone Some*, choreographed by Tedd Robinson to emotionally aching songs by Smokey Robinson and Paul McCartney.

Here Moore, 56, shows that in dance youth has no monopoly on physical expressiveness.

Tall, lithe and with limbs that can etch poetry in thin air, Moore offers an object lesson in concentrated artistry.