

Nominee: Paul Moore
Category: Performing Arts

I nominate Paul Moore for the Performing Arts Award. Paul is a giant of the stage. There's really no other way to describe it. He performs as part of the Human Nature Dance Theatre company, and his performances stand out for their tense energy and depth of emotion. No one I have seen on stage in Flagstaff is able to portray such complex emotions, thoughts and characteristics with just a simple facial expression, as Paul has done many times. When he is on stage, he is larger than life. He owns the stage.

In the recent production, "One Was the Other", by HNDDT in December, Paul portrayed one-half of the life of a relationship. As the stage was set between two people joining into a relationship, Paul's character was the groom in a wedding scene. His face somehow encompassed joy, overwhelm, fear, confusion, and excitement - all at once and with equal measures.

Later in that same production, Paul brought the entire audiences to its knees. A scene portrayed Paul as a man in emotional turmoil, as his partner (played by Jayne Lee) tried to cheer him up or distract him with her various costume changes, new clothes and props. Lee's efforts were to no avail, as Paul was so engrossed in his own suffering that it was clear nothing could bring him out of it but himself. Paul's utter on-stage self-destruction was physically intense, deeply emotional, overwhelmingly sad and hard to watch. The physicality of this performance is hard to describe in such a narrative. I can tell you it was so heartbreaking that it brought tears to my eyes. I can also say that I don't know of any other performer who could have played that scene as powerfully as Paul did.

Although I have seen Paul perform in many other productions over the years, I am nominating him for the Performing Arts award on the basis of his 2011 performance in "One Was the Other." It's a spell bounding performance that I believe is worthy of recognition all on it's own.

Video and Interview about "One Was the Other"
<http://vimeo.com/31382842>

About "Animal Etiquette" by HNDDT w/Paul Moore
http://web.me.com/leejayne/Human_Nature_Dance_Theatre/Reviews.html