FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 3, 2003

WHAT: Pilobolus

WHEN: Wednesday, November 5, 2003 at 7:30pm

WHERE: Fine Arts Center Concert Hall
University of Massachusetts Amherst

Call 1-800-999-UMAS or 545-2511 for tickets or go on-line to www.fineartscenter.com/tickets

(Limited Number of Seats Available for Ever Popular and Provocative Pilobolus)

Acclaimed for its stunning inventiveness, drama and humor, Pilobolus has been winning over critics and audiences for almost 30 years with its provocative, weightless, mind-boggling acts of physical dexterity. It's an unabashedly sexy combination of dance, gymnastics and performance art that will be appearing at the Fine Arts Center Concert Hall for one night only, Wednesday, November 5 at 7:30pm. A special component to the evening's program is live accompaniment performed by the St Lawrence String Quartet.

Besides being a phototropic zygomycete - a sun-loving fungus that grows in barnyards and pastures - Pilobolus, the arts organism, is a major American dance company of international influence. It originally germinated in the fertile soil of a Dartmouth College dance class in 1971. What emerged was a collaborative choreographic process and a unique weight-sharing approach to partnering that gave

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the young company a non-traditional but powerful new set of skills with which to make dances. The group was immediately acclaimed for its startling mix of humor and invention and Pilobolus soon became a completely self-sufficient organization, its members choreographing, dancing, managing, and publicizing their own programs.

Pilobolus has not, however, forsaken its original impetus and remains a deeply committed collaborative effort with four artistic directors and six dancers contributing to one of the most popular and varied repertoires in the field. More than three decades of making dances now stand as a testament to the company's position as an artistic collective of remarkable fruitfulness and longevity.

The company has been an annual feature of the American Dance Festival, a veteran of two seasons on Broadway and currently presents a month of performances at the Joyce Theatre in New York City every year. Pilobolus has played to full houses from London's Sadler's Wells and Rome's Teatro Olimpico to Copenhagen's Tivoli Gardens and Paris' Theatre de la Ville.

Having walked on stage together over 1500 times in the last twelve years the St. Lawrence String Quartet has established itself among the leading ensembles of its generation. Members of the quartet include Geoff Nuttall, Violin, Barry Shiffman, Violin Lesley Robertson, Viola and Christopher Costanza, Cello.

Under an exclusive recording contract with EMI/Angel the Quartet received a Grammy nomination this season for their acclaimed recording *Yiddishbbuk* featuring music of Argentinean composer Osvaldo Golijov.

Limited tickets for Pilobolus are available at $40, $30, $15; 17 and under $10. Five College Students $15, $10, $7. For tickets and information, call the Fine Arts Center Box office at 413-545-2511 or 1-800-999-UMAS, or go online to [www.fineartscenter.com/centerseries](http://www.fineartscenter.com/centerseries). Pilobus is sponsored by WFCR 88.5 FM and WGBY-TV57.

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