

# THE NEW YORKER

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*"Screaming Shrubbery," by Third Rail Dance, at the Merce Cunningham Studio.*

## **"SCREAMING SHRUBBERY"**

Third Rail Dance's pastiche of murder and jazz is like a round of Clue deconstructed by acerbic drama students. A French maid lasciviously twirls a feather duster, midgets hide under a baroness's cape, a shrubbery comes to life, and a pale heroine performs a duet with an axe. A spastic butler narrates the action, and dancers speak lines and sing original songs by Russ Kaplan. (Merce Cunningham Studio, 55 Bethune St. For more information, call 718-871-3932. Jan. 7 at 9, Jan. 8 at 8 and 10, and Jan. 9 at 8.)