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# Entertainment

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## Review: Performance

### Dancing through adversity

By Miriam Seidel  
FOR THE INQUIRER

Gutsy dancing, sharp satire, and girls and women in tough spots: All may be found at the Womanspeak Festival, presented by Woman Theatre Inc. at the Walnut Street Theatre Studio 3 (through tonight, at 825 Walnut St., 574-3550). Woman Theatre Inc., calling itself the city's only women's theater company, presented two full-to-bursting programs; the one I saw Thursday repeats tonight.

I liked the way dance and theater intermingled freely in so many works. Sue Hogan's solo piece, for instance, offered a devastatingly deadpan chronicle of one couple's journey from high-minded idealism

and sexual experimentation to suburban bliss. That Hogan was punctuating her story with such witty movement comments as chair-swimming and cheerleading leaps, put me in mind of Jules Feiffer's *Modern Dance Lady* — call it a *Dance of Boomer Disillusionment*.

Artistic director Kate E. Deeming performed one of two solo theater pieces. Deeming's *Priscilla in One* (as in "one true love") slides from childhood memory into wild fantasy, recounting successive early crushes and imagined conquests of teachers, a doctor and President Reagan.

In *Dirty Laundry*, Marcy Lovitch creates a truly frightening portrait  
See WOMANSPEAK on D12

### Women dancing through adversity

**WOMANSPEAK** from D10  
of a bad-girl teen at the end of her rope, who finally turns for comfort to a bottle of Jose Cuervo.

Choreographer Rachel Thorne Germond's dances opened and closed the program. Her *Dream Girl* contrasted two classic male and female personas, as Tasha Taylor danced first in a tux and then in a

gauzy gown suggesting Hollywood's golden age. Yet the raging force of her movement overpowered the built-in expectations of both costumes. In the final work, Taylor and Veronica Dittman oscillated between smiles and talk of beauty, and hard dancing spiced with grabbing, wrestling and kicking. Smart choreography, and a powerful finale.