

Larry Keigwin + Company

# Made in Santa Barbara

By ERIN J. SMITH / CASA

**W**ITH A KNACK FOR TAKING EVERYDAY MOVEMENTS and dancifying them in amusing ways, choreographer Larry Keigwin holds a living mirror up to our lives, so that life itself becomes a dance. A past SUMMERDANCE participant, Keigwin returned to Santa Barbara with Keigwin + Company for DANCEworks 2010. The month-long, creative residency inspired two brand new pieces, which were showcased recently on April 23rd and 24th at the Lobero.

The program opened on a breezy note with *Air*, which took dancers dressed as airplane pilots and stewardesses on a ride *Up, Up and Away*, followed by *Wind*, set to a pulsing, rhythmic score by Philip Glass. *Triptych* took an edgier turn with dancers dressed in provocative, hard-core costumes, showing Keigwin's exploratory range and increasingly more complicated step patterns. Following intermission, Keigwin kicked it into high gear and viewers were treated to a preview of his newest work, *Exit*, with original music composed and performed by Chris Lancaster. Set against the naked back wall of the Lobero, boys in skinny jeans and girls in pink and black party dresses danced an amplified, angsty



Photo by David Bazemore

*Bolero Santa Barbara* by Keigwin

narrative while Lancaster rocked out on an electrified cello.

Finally, utilizing the talents of over 50 local, non-dancers, Keigwin brought the familiar characters of the Santa Barbara scene to the stage in *Bolero Santa Barbara*. Using the beach as a natural starting point, the dancers utilized beach towels, hula hoops, and beach balls in a West Coast echo to Keigwin's *Bolero NYC*, complete with a dance party that spilled off the stage and got the audience dancing – in true Santa Barbaran style.

If you missed the performance, ask your friends and neighbors about the show. Chances are, one of them was in it! For more on Larry Keigwin + Company, visit [www.larrykeigwin.com](http://www.larrykeigwin.com).