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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Two of Phoenix's Premier Contemporary Arts Ensembles  
Join Forces to Interpret Terry Riley's Minimalist Masterwork "In C."**

Phoenix - The new music ensemble Crossing 32<sup>nd</sup> Street and the dance company Scorpius Dance Theatre will join forces for an evening of live music and dance on December 13<sup>th</sup>. Blending cutting-edge sounds with organic, theatrical dance movements, the two groups will appear together for the first time at Paradise Valley Community College's Studio Theatre.

"One of the many ways that great art remains great is its ability to be transformed and still retain its power," says Crossing 32<sup>nd</sup> Street's artistic director Christopher Scinto. Riley's "In C" is the perfect example of this axiom. "In many ways the transformation has been written into the score," continues Crossing 32<sup>nd</sup> Street percussionist Brett Reed, "53 cells with an indeterminate number of repeats, unspecified instrument groupings, length between 45 minutes and an hour and a half - its' different every time we take it out of the box." This challenges Scorpius Dance Theatre's artistic director Lisa Starry to deliver a choreography that is as flexible.

"The transformation continues when you add the drama of the dance to the personal interpretation of the music," says Starry, "the score also lends itself to certain types of choreographic strategies, giving me the flexibility to explore ideas of repetition, tonal colors, and theatric effects." The transformation is completed, then, when the performance ends, Scinto adds, "Because once the piece starts it has a mind of its own, and we just follow it to its natural conclusion."

Along with Riley's work, the ensemble will present a series of short duets pairing a solo dancer with an instrumental soloist, "...an opportunity to reveal the intimate side of modern dance and music, while the Riley is about big gestures and shapes, these works are a chance to revel in the beauty of details," concludes Starry.

The two ensembles will present their work Saturday, December 13, 2003 at 7:30p.m. in the Studio Theatre, M-Building on the campus of Paradise Valley Community College, located at the SE Corner of 32<sup>nd</sup> Street & Union Hills Rd. General Admission Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at the door.

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