Uri Sands  Choreography for the Gods

Uri Sands may be Charlotte’s sexiest man (according to Creative Loafing Charlotte), but in Minneapolis, he’s a dance deity. Last summer the choreographer debuted a new project, Space T.U. Embrace, in which he powered through a solo with an athletic blend of African, ballet, modern, symbolic, and ritualistic moves, before being joined by 15 multiracial dancers in a performance of generosity, grace, and primal power. A former dancer with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and Minnesota Dance Theatre, Sands commutes between his gig as principal dancer with North Carolina Dance Theater and his home in St. Paul, where he lives with his dance collaborator and wife, Toni Pierce-Sands (also a former Ailey dancer), and their son. Space T.U. Embrace is the pilot project of the couple’s still unnamed company, and their dancers, practicing a diversity of styles from ballet to bharata natyam, exemplify the cultural richness of the Twin Cities dance community. In June, the company embraces Minneapolis audiences, once again, with new work and selections from Space at the Southern Theater. www.southerntheater.org "Camille LeFevre