

LIZ LERMAN  
dance exchange

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Contact: Emily Macel  
301.270.6700 ext. 13  
emilym@danceexchange.org

**Thomas Dwyer's Story Told in Bruce Frankel's  
*What Should I Do With the Rest of My Life?***

Takoma Park, MD, March 15, 2010— Liz Lerman Dance Exchange company member Thomas Dwyer is featured in *What Should I Do With the Rest of My Life?* by Bruce Frankel. The book, published March 4, is a collection of true stories about “late bloomers” who have embraced new callings and overthrown the usual expectations of age. Dwyer, 76, began a dance career with Liz Lerman Dance Exchange after retiring from an Intelligence position with the U.S. Department of Defense in June 1988.

The essay on Dwyer recounts his decision to become a dancer in his mid 50s, when most of his peers were retiring. His daughter says in this excerpt from the book: “When my father first announced that he was going to perform modern dance, it was a strange and almost unfathomable thing. It was like someone saying, ‘I think I will take a Sunday drive to the moon.’”

As a performer, Dwyer has been a key member of the Dance Exchange's intergenerational troupe for two decades. He has used his athleticism and imposing stage presence to create unique roles in such works as Liz Lerman's *Shehechianu*, *Nocturnes*, *Hallelujah and Ferocious Beauty: Genome*, and Cassie Meador's *Drift*. Liz Lerman Dance Exchange's intergenerational company includes dancers ranging in age from their 20's to their 70's.

The book, also features profiles of a psychotherapist turned filmmaker; a former consultant who began a microfinance program in Africa; a longtime contact-lens grinder who has chiseled twelve hundred stone heads on a property now known as the "Easter Island of the Hudson" and more. *What Should I Do With the Rest of My Life?* is published by Avery, a division of Penguin Books. Frankel is an award winning writer, reporter, and poet. He has held positions at *People* magazine, *USA Today*, and Gannett Westchester Newspapers.

For more excerpts from the book, and additional information on the author, go to [www.brucefrankel.net](http://www.brucefrankel.net) and [www.penguin.com](http://www.penguin.com).

**About Liz Lerman Dance Exchange**

Liz Lerman founded Liz Lerman Dance Exchange in 1976. Its unique brand of dance/theatre breaks boundaries between stage and audience, theater and community, movement and language, tradition and the unexplored. Through explosive dancing, personal stories, humor, and a company of performers whose ages span six decades, Liz Lerman Dance Exchange stretches the expressive range of contemporary dance. Its work consists of formal concerts, interactive performances, specialized community residencies, and professional training in the art of community-based dance. An artist-driven organization, Liz Lerman Dance Exchange employs a collaborative approach to dance making, administration, and implementation. Representing the multiple artistic voices of Liz Lerman Dance Exchange, current choreographic projects include explorations of coal mining, genetic research, radical prayer, human rights, particle physics and geology.

For more information, please visit [www.danceexchange.org](http://www.danceexchange.org).