



## Leigh Witchel

### DANCE REVIEW

ELISA MONTE DANCE The Joyce, 175 Eighth Ave.; 212-242-0800. Through Sunday.

It was old hands on deck Tuesday night when Elisa Monte Dance opened its 30th anniversary season with retired guest dancers performing some of Monte's greatest hits.

"Vanishing Languages" shows the company as it is today: young. It's an ambitious piece featuring Kevin James' original score played live by strings and percussion, but it also features recordings of people speaking in indigenous tongues.

Before a glowing backdrop of letters and symbols, eight dancers in brightly colored unitards make intricate knotting or carving gestures, as if they're doing ancient handcrafts.