

APRIL 1995

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## ICA LIVE ARTS

### PLUGGED

An occasional series pointing to what is possible when the live act meets digital technology

6 - 8 April 20.00hrs

Tickets £7 (£5 members and concessions)

#### BLAST THEORY

##### STAMPEDE

With soundtrack by Statik

As the Criminal Justice Act enters our lives, Blast Theory look at the lines between personal politics and public action and ask what it is about crowds that gets us so worked up. Shifting from mind control techniques to

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Tiananmen Square, from sexual confessions to Terminator, *STAMPEDE* is a highly-charged combination of raw physical energy, digital technology and intense audience interaction. Blast Theory have fast developed a reputation for confronting tough issues through the live integration of performance, video and cutting edge technologies.

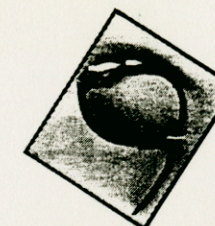
After performance discussion, 7 April - see Education.

Technophobia ticket holders can see Blast Theory on any night for only £5 (£3 concessions and any members) - see Talks.

LIVE ARTS

# Scan

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## Stampede

The Nuffield  
Theatre

The description of the usual Nuffield production I'd been given was "either really bad or really brilliant". Well, "Stampede" fitted more into a "really bizarre" category. Of course, somebody who prefers their plays fun or conventional may be more likely to say "really b"ll"ks"...

To be fair, this isn't the sort of production you go to "enjoy" more to "experience". The promenade set up, with deliberately distracting video screens and the disconcerting way that you never know where the action is going to move to next (and whether you'll end up in the middle of it!), was not the most comfortable of experiences. However, it was effective in creating the atmosphere of tension desired for this "1984 meets

punk" style exploration of how human society verges constantly on chaotic disorder (loveys!).

With no apparent storyline, sometimes you feel as if you're missing the point of some of the rather obscure symbolism, and a lot of it you don't really understand until you think about it afterwards. Actually unless you think Chekhov is a "nice, light read", there's a lot you probably won't ever understand, but the music's good, it's certainly different and exciting, plus, as it's "alternative" you feel dead arty afterwards!

Anna Wise

