



Youthful exuberance on show

EACH summer people head to City Beach's Quarry Amphitheatre for the WA Ballet's showpiece annual event, Ballet at the Quarry.

This year's series has three works: *Lickety-split*, choreographed by internationally acclaimed Alejandro Cerrudo; the Natalie Weir-choreographed *Lacrimosa*; and a new piece, *Fractal Joy*, by young choreographer Timothy Harbour.

Harbour, who danced

with the Australian Ballet for 13 years and turned to choreography in 2005, has been busy with commissions for the Australian Ballet and the New York Choreographic Institute. *Fractal Joy* is his choreographic debut with WA Ballet.

"I wanted to make something with a simple sentiment that was joyous and exuberant," he said.

Not having choreographed an outdoor ballet before, there were

special atmospheric considerations guiding Harbour's choice of work.

"Mostly, lighting – I have never seen a performance there before – but I understand the lighting tends to dissipate and get lost in what is a massive space," he said.

"Inside a normal theatre, you have that darkness, with the focus on the stage. Here, you have the starry night, cliffs, trees, which is wonderful, but it's harder to

bring out a certain attention.

"And it needed to be clear movement, but dynamic and all-encompassing, as intricate details might get lost."

Harbour does not shy away from his responsibility ensure ballet remains relevant to future generations.

■ Ballet at the Quarry, part of the 2009 Perth International Arts Festival, runs until February 28.

Emilia Vranjes



Melbourne-based choreographer Timothy Harbour will unveil a new work at Perth's annual Ballet at the Quarry.