MIT Dance Theater Ensemble presents
LIVE ACTION ANIME 2007: Madness at Mokuba
November 29, 30, December 1, 2007
CAST: Kim Baldauf (Bo) is eighteen years old, and currently a freshman at MIT. She has been an anime fan since she was eight years old. She has been making costumes for almost three years. She is currently the vice president of MIT’s Anime Club. Melissa Blanco Borelli (Mym, Associate Director/Choreographer) has a newly found appreciation for anime and its fans after this production. She enjoys playing villains, especially ones with extravagant costumes. Cruella DeVille, watch out! Kristof Erkiletian (Giant Robot) This is Kristof's first stage performance although he has previous experience as a dancer, martial artist, gymnast, and a full-time low-end computer geek. His alter ego Commander Xybot from the planet Zort has already conquered half of the known galaxy. He’s here to cure the boredom in between battles. June Liang (Chip) thinks she can do a deep voice, but not as deep or sexy as Keanu Reeves, at least 1% of whose sexiness she hopes to borrow for tonight in her first ever crossplay. She has an adoration for chain-smoking anime men in suits. Does she enjoy being tied up in that rope? She’s getting used to it. She also likes to procrastinate with sending things in. Andrew Long (Sam Rye) Since he can’t be a samurai in real life, the stage will have to do. Andrew has played such diverse roles as Thomas Putnam in The Crucible and Harry the Horse in Guys and Dolls, and is honored to be a part of such a unique production. Jules Lopolito (Quantum Foam) is a high soprano and an actress. Her first anime was Hello Kitty and PacMan. She loves Pokemon, Yu-Gi-Oh!, Bleach, Naruto, Cowboy, Bebop, TriQuon, Dragonball Z, Death Note, Tenchi Muso and Hamtaro. Maryia Lu (Schoogirl') was born in Baltimore, MD but has lived in more than 4 states. Most recently, she lived in Atlanta, GA before coming to MIT. A member of the Class of 2011, she is currently involved with this live action anime and MIT Quiz Bowl. Milo Martinez (Ota) is a senior in the Comparative Media Studies Department, is enjoying his last year of over-commitments and all nighters to no end. Expect to see him dancing and singing for the rest of the year. Ashley Micks (Flux) (’09) never danced before this, and mostly writes and directs (One-Acts and Playwrights in Performance), but she did also appear in Dramashop's The Old Law in IAP 2006. She’s enjoyed trying to draw cartoons of the characters in this show while not really knowing what they’d look like yet. She is also not actually gay. Sorry, ladies. Sandra Pastrana (Extra 2, Costume Research Assistant) is a student of Ian's who was helping with the costume research and at a fateful production meeting a few weeks ago got pulled in as an extra. Holli Marie Rachall (Young-Jay) is a Senior studying Computer Science at MIT. This is her first show at MIT, and she is thrilled to have been a part of such a strange and interesting undertaking. She is neither Korean, an illegal immigrant, nor much of a gamer, and she promises to try not to use her programming skills to brainwash the masses. She would like to thank her family and friends for supporting her through four years at the Institute and for accepting and embracing her eccentricities. Hui Ying Wen (Extra 1) ’08 has appeared in numerous theatrical productions on the MIT stage (Dramashop, MIT Shakespeare Ensemble, Vagina Monologues). She had previously performed with Dance Theater Ensemble in "The Death of Tintagiles" in Fall 2004. Hui Ying is pursuing dual majors in Aerospace Engineering and Theater Arts. CREW Catherine Redfield (Stage Manager) is pleased to be stage managing her first show at MIT. It's been a great show guys, though I now have a distressing tendency to sound like Maryia when I say "That's weird" and break into evil laughter at the drop of a hat. Thomas F. DeFrantz (Director) is professor of Music and Theater Arts and Director of the Program in Women’s and Gender Studies. He directs SLIPPAGE: Performance|Culture|Technology, an arts research group in residence at MIT. web.mit.edu/defrantz; web.mit.edu/slippage. Ian Condry (Playwright) Ian Condry is associate professor of Japanese cultural studies in Foreign Languages and Literatures, where he's been teaching since 2002. He is the author of Hip-Hop Japan: Rap and the Paths of Cultural Globalization (2006, Duke University Press). Ian is currently working on a book project called Global Anime: The Making of Japan's Transnational Popular Culture, based on fieldwork in Tokyo animation studios. In the fall '08, he will teach a new class at MIT called "Anime: Transnational Media and Culture."

LIGHTING TEAM (students in Karen Perlow’s Lighting Design Class): Zev Benjamin, Brian Demers, Rick Eayers, Michael Graham , Steve Kelch, Clara Rhee Zev Benjamin is a senior majoring in 6-3. "Zev® anti-static sheets can breathe a fresh scent into almost anything, from your favorite sweatshirt to Dad's old recliner. Zev anti-static sheets come in four great scents, and an unscented variety. If ingested, mild gastrointestinal irritation with nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea may be observed. Prolonged eye contact with the product may produce transient, superficial irritation.” Michael Graham is a sophomore at Harvard who has been involved with theater for a number of years. His crowning achievement as a technician is modifying a clock to tick backwards. Steven Kelch is glad to be working with such enthusiastic people, and hopes the strobes don’t hurt anyone. He usually works behind the scenes for Dramashop… try out for the Spring show! Andrés Antonio Jiménez (Video Projects) has been to a lot of different places lately. Originally from Havana, Cuba he is primarily a visual artist who rides a bicycle. He jumped to LA to go by car, then found himself in Bergen, Norway taking many ferries and working on video installations. Now, he landed in Boston and takes the T to MIT to join the casting QUANTUM FOAM BUILDERS (students in Leslie Held’s Costume Design Class): Murcus Lopez ’08 Holli Rachall ’08 Holly Laird ’08 Anna Wallman-Brown ’11 Grace Kane ’11 Sound Design, Music, and Programming: Peter Whincop; Sound Effects: Andres Lombana and Peter Whincop; Sound Recording: Mike Katz and Peter Whincop Music Collaborators: Mats Ahlgren, Dennis DeSantis, Brendan Fay, Anna Lo, Joey Olsen, TJ Torres, Rae Zucker All Around Guy Johnson Li
SHOW SYNOPSIS: The stage is set for the finals of the giant robot contest at the Mokuba Institute of Technology. But as the two teams prepare for battle, a strange disease called VIRTIGO is sweeping the school, causing unpredictable reality slippages. And it's getting worse. Does it have something to do with Homeland Security's suspicious arrest of undocumented workers nearby? Can our heroes solve the mystery of VIRTIGO, help the workers, and . . . find love?

FOR MIT Music and Theater Arts
Michael Katz (Technical Director)
Eric Levenson (Set Design)
Leslie Held (Costume Design)
Diane Brainerd (Costume Assistant)
Karen Perlow (Lighting Director)
Aileen Kanabe (Administrative Support)

LIVE ACTION ANIME 2007 has been sponsored by the MIT Japan Program, MIT Music and Theater Arts, MIT Foreign Languages and Literatures, SLIPPAGE: Performance, Culture, Technology, the Cool Japan Research Project, and the De Florez Fund for Humor.

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THE MIT DANCE THEATER ENSEMBLE The MIT Dance Theater Ensemble investigates intersections of movement forms, literary texts, individual expression, and the emergent idiom of dance theater. Each work created by the ensemble engages a different theatrical and artistic challenge in the interest of physical storytelling. In the first year, an abstract, task-based work by MIT Alum Gus solomons, jr. complemented a humanistic work based on a series of poems by Jean Toomer. The goal of the group shall be to investigate the possibilities of compositional form and individual movement in various theatrical idioms and circumstances.

COME JOIN US! Auditions for the MIT Dance Theater Ensemble are held the first week of every semester. For more information, contact defrantz@mit.edu.