Firm feet for dancer

Natalie Robertson

NEXT time you see a statuesque young man with a buzz cut working at Victoria Markets, in a shop in Melbourne or on television, it could be a talented Brunswick dancer Kyle Kremerstohen as his alter ego.

Kremerstohen, who grew up in Tasmania, came to Melbourne in his late teens to study contemporary dance at Deakin University and stayed. This month he will appear in Aether, a Lacy Guevin production about the increasingly invasive and onslaught of communications we receive.

Kremerstohen has been playing his craft since he was 17 and had given up acting in school plays for a more physical form of expression.

Although he has experienced a lot of success working for several dance companies including Ballet Lab, Kremerstohen has his metaphorical feet firmly on the ground. He realised he chose a sporadic career and was prepared to do whatever job necessary to keep the money rolling in between dance gigs, he said.

"It's great when you are employed (as a dancer) for some time but you have to stay passionate about it because you have to do some pretty soul-destroying work sometimes to keep the money coming in," Kremerstohen said.

"Melbourne doesn't have any full-time contemporary dance companies. Sometimes you have to live hand-to-month but it's good at saving when you work in Europe one day.

He said he enjoyed being involved in the choreographic process of a new production as well as pushing his body to get a message across to the audience while entertaining them. He also said he loved acting the fool on the floor of some of Melbourne's dance clubs.

"I like it because you can just fool around and not worry about sticking to choreographed movements," Kremerstohen said.

Aether runs from March 14-17 at North Melbourne Town Hall. Bookings: 9065-5111.