

**Gaby Agis at the Chapter Arts Centre**

# Synthesis of trust and confidence

**FROM** the slow, mesmeric opening in which the dancers created movement out of a literal stillness it became clear that the dance performance on Thursday evening would be about trust and confidence.

The audience had to trust the dancers aesthetic sense and had to be confident that the often slow moving patterns would resolve themselves.

The dancers had to trust each other to be in position to support them both physically and aesthetically.

Born of a sequence of

By IFAN PAYNE

austere improvised and semi-improvised movement, in which the sole relief was a bright yellow, cuddly hot-water bottle, the evening showed that Gaby Agis' work is also about integrity and about the nature of continuous movement. She is clearly in love with the nuances of movement.

It is, in some ways, the balletic equivalent of Brian Eno's concern with musical nuances in his ambient music.

Agis is a young dancer who is rapidly making a name for herself among

the Avant-Garde. Recently, she has worked with the star of modern movement, Michael Clark, and also with Ashley Page of the Royal Ballet.

For the past two weeks, Agis has brought this experience to Cardiff and has been conducting workshops which culminated in this performance at Chapter.

The six local dancers, who participated with her, all brought an equal intensity and sense of control to the event which thus made for an absorbing exploration of the nature of dance movement.