

Belinda Neave's '87, Chapter

Talent is on the boil

By IFAN PAYNE

BELINDA Neave's new solo dance '87 opened at Chapter on Tuesday evening.

The performance, devised by Neave and John Thorne, is directed by Carolyn Noh.

Five choreographers were asked to join the dancer for a day each to create the material for the dance and this diversity is certainly part of the strength of '87.

During the course of the evening Neave explores areas of multi and mixed media; dance, mime, lighting, music, sound effects, and voice.

The theme, insofar as there is one, is a variation of the development from birth to life, or perhaps, more specifically, from innocence to sophisti-

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cation, with a return to the innocence of pure pleasure in the dance.

The work is part abstract dance, part spatial abstraction and part representational and literal.

This dance contains what surely must be a first: a ballet part for functioning electric tea kettle.

All of this is woven together by Neave's unique combination of unassuming honesty of dance; by her vulnerability, her superb classical discipline and her powerful acting ability.

She is a dancer who manages to be sensuous, demure and architectonic at the same time.

Belinda Neave's '87 will also leave you looking forward eagerly to her next

production as she continues to explore the integration of voice with dance.

The potential of voice phrasing, the use of tape loops and of computer enhancement is considerable.

In this she is certainly exploring an exciting and stimulating aspect of dance performance.