

I really
didn't want to
write director's notes.
I mean, who wants to sit
down and try to put months' worth
of thoughts into a few concise
paragraphs that often insult
everyone's intelligence?

However, a few weeks ago I entered the DCAC gallery
to discover the fetish exhibit. Since this exhibit is the first
visual image to confront an audience, I feel it is important to address
some of the issues it raises in conjunction with this production, even though
they are not officially connected. The images in Fetish generally break women
down into sexual organs and suggest that sex is most exciting when the
participants view each other as objects instead of as people. Indeed, it is this tradition of
forbidding women to fully participate in the life experience that Mary, Lili, Eleanor and Renee
strive so hard to escape. Although Why We Have a Body takes place in a world devoid of men,
it remains a world deeply influenced by the world of men and patriarchal constraints.

Both Fetish and Why We Have a Body raise the following questions for me: How do we find
ways to utilize our bodies to express our own innermost thoughts and desires without
allowing the fantasies of others to diminish this experience? How do we escape the
societal and personal limitations on our life experiences that are generated by
the shapes we take? Why do we have a body?

Neither I or this production have any definite answers to these questions,
but I hope that by the end of the evening you will find material which helps you
formulate your own answers that resonate on a personal level, "once
for the immediate future. As Eleanor says, "once
you start to ask, there are just more questions
than there are answers."
In my mind, it is the process of
asking that is most important to
our development as humans.

—Heather May