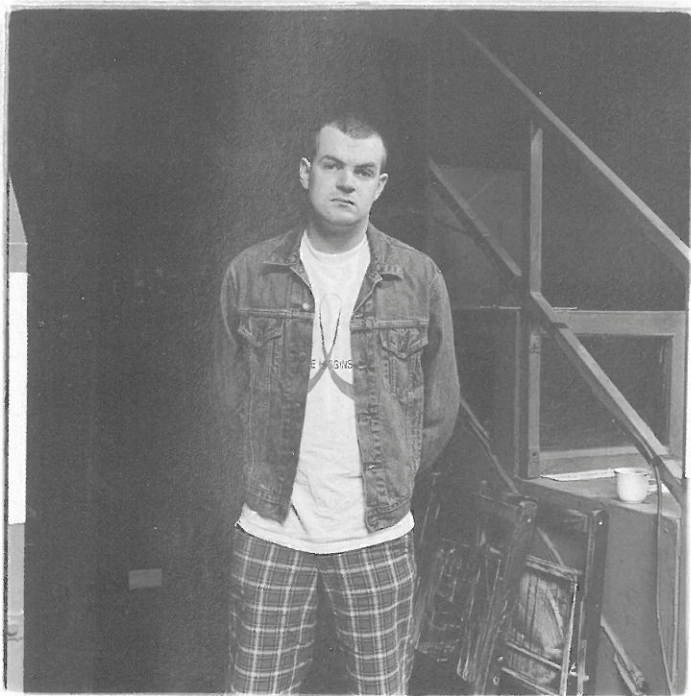




people in vogue

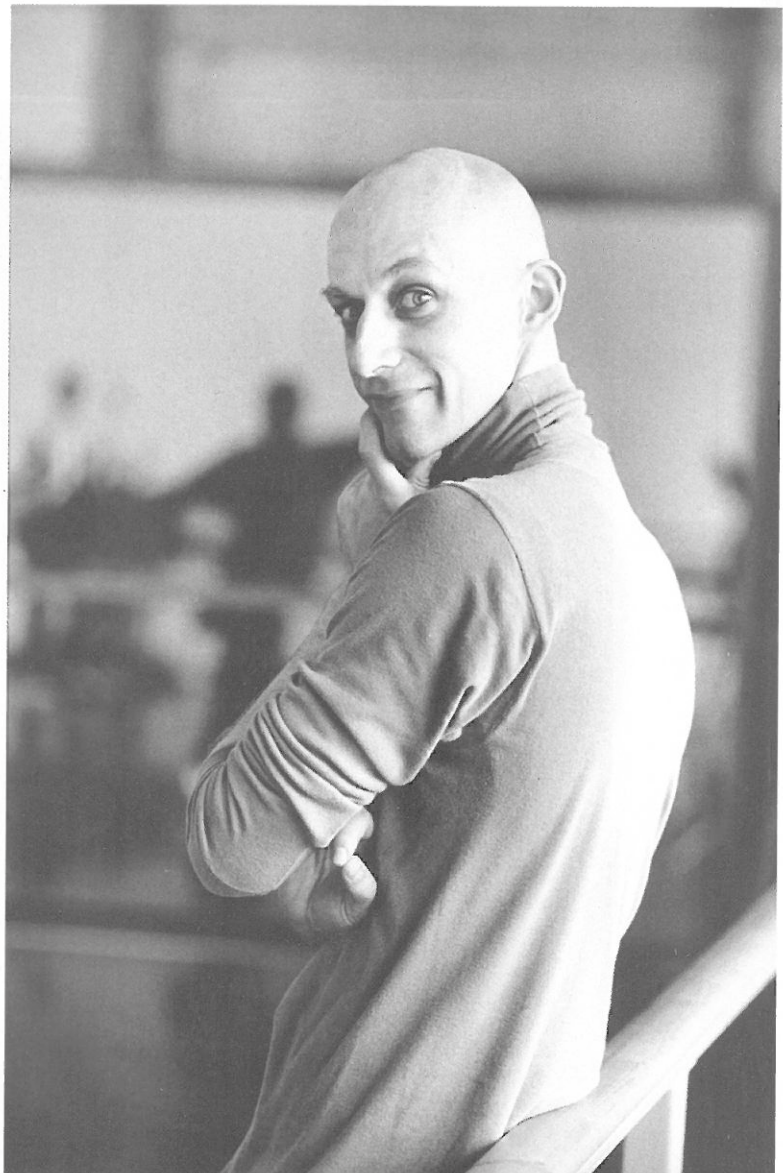
Moving spirit

Elegant, bald dance maverick Matthew Hawkins, *right*, was trained at The Royal Ballet School, but lost his ambition to become a classical prince and turned to a career in independent dance. He was a star performer in some of Michael Clark's most notorious bare-bummed shows and since 1981 has been creating his own very camp, baroque dance theatre in which fiendishly complex choreography is costumed in exotic fancy dress and features oddball performers such as Molly Parkin and tiny sixtysomething Diana Payne. The designs for his new work for Rambert Dance Company are by postmodern corsetière Pearl, and its dense mix of dance music and images will, Hawkins promises, "be served up sizzling". ■ JUDITH MACKRELL
Hawkins's new work will be premiered at the Edinburgh Festival



Four plays and a film script

"I'm not a big fan of farce—it's usually too coy and middle-class for me—but I wanted to turn it on its head. I just thought it would be good fun, I suppose," says the warm-hearted Jonathan Harvey, *above*, of his latest play, *Boom Bang-A-Bang*, set at a Eurovision Song Contest party in Kentish Town. Liverpudlian Harvey, 26, is the latest playwright to have had two plays, *Beautiful Thing* and *Babies*, running simultaneously in the West End. Since then, he has been commissioned to apply his upbeat and down-to-earth insight to an adaptation of the French satire *Life Is a Long Quiet River* for Duncan Kenworthy (who produced *Four Weddings*), and has given the go-ahead for a Film on Four version of *Beautiful Thing*; meanwhile, another play is opening soon at the Donmar Warehouse. He's also been to Hollywood but for now seems unlikely to return: "It was vile. I got a glimpse of what it must be like to be a bored millionaire and left early." ■ MW
"Boom Bang-A-Bang" opens at the Bush Theatre on July 19



In bed with Henrietta

Showbiz showstopper Henrietta Conrad, *left*, is flying higher than ever these days. Having spent the last five years editing *The Big Breakfast* (favourite game: spot the bad splice), she is now taking on British Airways' in-flight entertainment. With audio books and *Ab Fab* videos on her proposed schedule, a jet-set address book (photos of her with Mick Jagger and best friend Paula Yates adorn the dark walls of her Notting Hill mews pad), and an attention span that barely gets her through the ads on MTV, Conrad is likely to make the long haul an easy ride. ■