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Programs 2009-2010 Season

Theatre Programs 2000-2010

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12-2009

## Dance USM! Program [2009]

University of Southern Maine Department of Theatre

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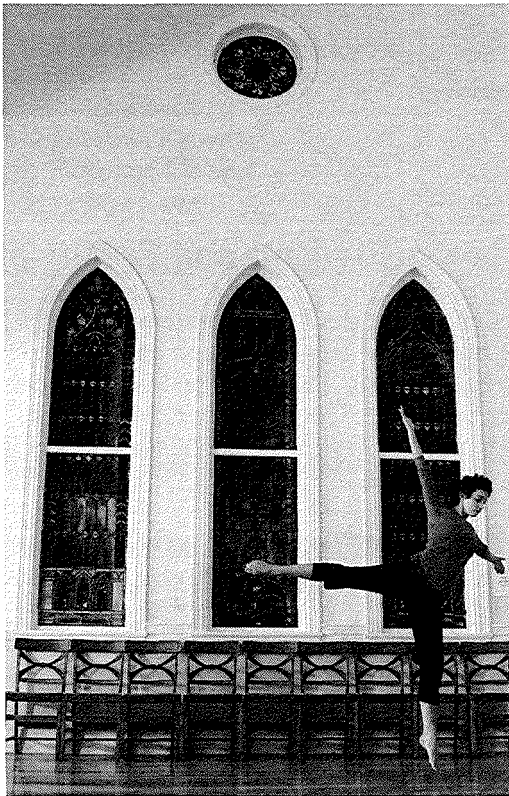
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UNIVERSITY OF  
**SOUTHERN MAINE**

*Department of Theatre presents*



## **Dance USM!**

**Directed by Maria Tzianabos**

**December 10, 11, & 12 at 7:30 p.m.**

**December 13 at 2:00 p.m.**

**Main Stage, Russell Hall  
USM Gorham Campus**

Welcome to Dance USM! I am excited to be directing the performance this year for a variety of reasons. For the first time since 1997, the show consists solely of faculty choreographers. Secondly, new dance forms are being presented: aerial dance, musical theater dance, and performance art. This experience has been so rewarding in that it allowed the students to celebrate their talents and acquired skills. This student/faculty collaboration has culminated in some very novel and interesting pieces of work. We are all thrilled to present this new format and hope that you enjoy the performance.

**Maria A. Tzianabos**  
**Artistic Director**

### **USM Theatre Students and Faculty Shine**

USM Theatre students have distinguished themselves with theatre companies throughout New England, such as Portland Stage Company, Maine State Music Theatre, The Public Theatre, The Children's Theatre of Maine, Good Theater, Mad Horse Theatre, The Company of Girls, and the Two Lights Theatre Ensemble. Many of our alumni go on to perform in L.A., N.Y.C., off and on Broadway.

Emmy Award-winning actor Tony Shalhoub (Monk) and award-winning playwright and screenwriter Lynn Sieffert are USM theatre graduates.

Our professional faculty directors and designers work at some of the best regional theaters in the country such as those mentioned above, as well as The Walnut Street Theatre, The Alabama Shakespeare Festival, The Alley Theatre in Houston, North Shore Music Theatre, and The Seattle Repertory Theatre.

USM students and faculty have worked in several films and TV series including *Empire Falls*, *Hotel Universe*, Stephen King's *Pet Sematary* and *Graveyard Shift*, *Mermaids*, *All the Vermeers in New York*, *Sundowning*, *All About Steve*, and *All My Children*.

## **Program**

### **DANCE USM! 2009**

#### **Sappho ou Suicide\***

Written by Marguerite Yourcenar  
 Adapted for the Stage by Meghan Brodie  
 Direction & Ground Choreography by Meghan Brodie  
 Aerial Choreography by Janette Hough-Fertig  
 Narrator: Audra Anne Curtis  
 Sappho: Janette Hough-Fertig  
 Costume Design: Hannah Brown  
 Lighting Design: Florence Cooley  
 Sound Design: Shannon Zura

\**Sappho ou Suicide* is performed by arrangement with Editions Gallimard. "Sappho ou Suicide" by Marguerite Yourcenar originally appeared in *Feux*, copyright 1974 by Marguerite Yourcenar and Editions Gallimard.

#### **"Who Knowles What Can Happen In Class..."**

Directed by Wil Kilroy  
 Choreography by Simon Skold  
 Music by *Beyonce Knowles*, *Laphonia Thaddis Harrell*, *Terlus Nash*, *Christopher Stewart*  
 Dancers: Julie Higgins  
 Alice Hofgren  
 Clarissa Bergeron-Lawrence  
 Hannah Perry  
 Ashley Pettengill  
 Jericah Potvin  
 Simon Skold  
 Costume Design: Alice Hofgren  
 Lighting Design: Neal Morton

### Three

Choreography by Shannon Zura  
Dancers: Laura Collard  
Audra Anne Curtis  
Jessica Dumich  
Michael Lynch  
Costume Design: Roger Marcotte  
Lighting Design: Marcus Ingerson  
Sound Design: Marcus Ingerson

### Pale

Choreography by Janette Hough-Fertig  
Music by *Beck, Yoko Ono, Radiohead, & Coldplay*  
Dancers: Clarissa Bergeron-Lawrence  
Florence Cooley  
Audra Anne Curtis  
Briana Garside  
Mollie Gun  
Alice Hofgren  
Michael Lynch  
Melissa Ngo  
Jericah Potvin  
Simon Skold  
Costume Design: Travis Grant  
Lighting and Sound Designer: Danny Gay

### Me and My Shadow

Choreography by Vanessa Beyland  
Music by *David Dreyer, Al Jolson, & Billy Rose*  
Dancers: Hannah Brown  
Audra Anne Curtis  
Michael Frier  
Katie Foster  
Jeremiah Haley  
Michael Lynch  
Caitlin O'Reilly  
Jericah Potvin  
Katie Smith  
Joey Valliere  
Costume Design: Kyle Skillin  
Lighting Design: Joshua Adams

### **Biographies**

**Maria Tzianabos (Director)** received her B.F.A. from Boston Conservatory and her M.F.A. from Goddard College. Maria performed several works by Jose Limon as a member of the Boston Conservatory Repertory Company. After graduation, she danced for many Boston choreographers and was a soloist for the Granite State Ballet. Since moving to Maine in 1997, Maria has been on the faculty of the University of Southern Maine where she has continued to teach Contemporary Dance, Repertory and Choreography. She has also held the position of director of Dance USM!, an annual student/professional student performance. Maria has also taught at other universities such as Bates, Bowdoin, and University of New England. For the last ten years, she has choreographed and performed her own work at a variety of venues throughout the state of Maine. In addition, Maria has been an artist in residence, teaching modern dance, ballet, composition and repertory at New Dance Studio and at the Portland High School Arts Academy. Currently, Maria is the Director of her studio, Terpsicore Dance Inc. in South Portland, Maine.

**Vanessa Beyland (Choreographer, *Me and My Shadow*)** is a graduate of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts with a BFA in dance. She was a member of Pennsylvania Dance Theater, has performed with many independent choreographers throughout the country, and has danced in, and choreographed a number of productions here in Maine. She is currently on the faculty of Portland Ballet as well as one of their Principal Dancers, and is also on the faculty at USM, teaching Musical Theatre Dance, and choreographing their upcoming production of *The Pajama Game*. Behind the desk, she has worked in NYC with Roundabout Theatre Company, the Jose Limon Dance Foundation, and is the Assistant to the Director at Portland Ballet. Vanessa is also the Production Manager for the annual Portland Dances! New Works Showcase in August.

**Meghan Brodie (Director, *Sappho*)** is finishing her Ph.D. in theatre at Cornell University and is currently teaching in the theatre department at USM. Her research focuses on the intersections of theatre and feminist, gender, and sexuality studies. She most recently directed an evening of one-acts at the St. Lawrence Arts Center in Portland. Meghan's previous directing credits include work at the University of Southern Maine, Colgate University, Cornell University, and Ursinus College.

**Hannah Brown (Costume Design, *Sappho*)** is a sophomore theater major here at USM, and will be a featured performer in the upcoming Spring Musical *The Pajama Game*. Hannah has been dancing since the age of 8, and was trained at the Art Moves Dance Studio in

### Artistic Staff

Artistic Director: Maria Tzianabos  
Faculty Advisor: Shannon Zura

### Production Staff

Costume Shop Director: Kris Hall  
Technical Director: Perry Fertig  
Stage Manager: Brian Essman  
Assistant Stage Managers: Jake Cote, Tony Ennis,  
Katie Foster, DJ Hutchins

### Production Crew

Light Board Operator: Taylor Rousseau  
Sound Board Operator: Rob Alan Brookes  
Deck Crew: Christopher Ian Ellis, Ian Michael Jones,  
James Michael McDonald II  
Mike Johnson  
Wardrobe Crew: Alyssa Albert, Lauren Elizabeth Harkins,  
Patrick Molloy, Casey Rose Shea, Kyle Andrew Skillin  
Carpenters: Dan Bernardini, Teddy Mattson, Jes Dumich,  
Emily Waller, and Stagecraft Practicum  
Stitchers: Aubrey Anderson, Hannah Brown, Laura Collard,  
Jes Dumich, Michael Frier, Heather Froshour,  
Megan Jackson, Hunter Jandreau, Brandon Johnson,  
Michael Lynch, Hillary Perry, Hannah Perry, Desiray Roy,  
and Costume Practicum  
Electricians: Neal Morton, Danny Gay, Florence Cooley,  
Marcus Ingerson, Josh Adams, Dylan Rohman,  
and Stage Lighting Practicum

### Administrative Staff

Theatre Promotions Director/Photography: Troy R. Bennett  
Arts Events Director: Emmanuelle Chaulet  
Administrative Assistant: Lil Campbell  
House Manager: Hayley O'Connor  
Graphic Design: Jake MacGillivray  
Program: Franklin Kendrick

### Special Thanks to:

Accent Dry Cleaner

Norway, ME under the direction of Debi Irons, learning Jazz, Modern, Ballet, Hip-Hop, Afro-Brazilian and many more styles. In 7th grade Hannah was asked to join the high-level Art Moves Dance Group, performing all over the state. She would like to thank Vanessa for the opportunity to bathe in Fosse goodness, for everyone in the theater department, and to her awesome family and friends!

**Florence Cooley (Lighting Design, *Sappho*)** is a third year theatre major from Yarmouth, Maine. Past USM credits include *The Baltimore Waltz* (light and co-set design), *Jack and Jill* (light, sound and prop design), *Suor Angelica* and *Gianni Schicchi* (stage manager), *Dance USM 2008* (light design). She made her main stage debut last spring in her class's staged readings of Carolyn Gage's work. She is thrilled to be back on the main stage and back on the trapeze in her first dance show experience.

**Brian Essman (Stage Manager)** is a second year media studies major from Waterville, Maine. Past crew credits include *Suor Angelica* and *Gianni Schicchi* (Assistant Director), *The Bear* and *The Proposal* (Assistant Stage Manager), and *Sylvia* (Deck Crew).

**Perry Fertig (Technical Director)** has been working in professional theater for the last twelve years in Philadelphia and around the world. Perry has worked for Ursinus College, Philadelphia Live Arts and Fringe Festivals, the Philadelphia Theatre Company and is a Flying Director for Foy Inventerprises.

**Danny Gay (Lighting Design, *Pale*)** is a senior theatre major from Newcastle, ME. Past USM design credits include the *The Bear* and *The Proposal* (sound design), the Student Performing Artists' *The Distance From Here* (scenic design), *Dance USM's A Constant State of Desire* (sound design), *Waiting For Godot* (lighting design) in the lab theatre, the Student Performing Artists' *Five Flights* (scenic design), and SPA's *Beyond Therapy* (lighting design). Enjoy the show!

**Travis M. Grant (Costume Design, *Pale*)** is a fifth year theatre major. Previous design credits include: *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Maine Premiere, University of Southern Maine School of Music); *Moonchildren* (University of Southern Maine (USM), Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF) Region I Barbizon Costume Design Nomination), *Dance USM! 2009*, *Last Easter* (New England Premiere; USM, KCACTF Region I Winner - Barbizon National Design Award for Excellence in Costume Design); *Leading Ladies* (New England Premiere), *The Full Monty*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Arundel Barn Playhouse); *The Full Monty* (Portland Players), *The Full Monty*, *The House of Frankenstein*, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, *Godspell*, *Play On!* (Waldo Theatre, Inc.); *Dance USM! 2006* and *2008* (USM); *The Tempest* (Camden Civic Theater); *No, No Nanette!* (Lincoln County

Community Theater) and many more. Upcoming designs include *Enchanted April* for Oxford Hills Music & Performing Arts Association, Spring 2010.

**Kris Hall (Costume Director)** Kris is happy to be at USM for her 9th season. Upcoming costume designs include *Inook and the Sun* at USM in April, and *Hansel and Gretel* at the Merrill Auditorium with PORTopera in July. Previous costume design work appeared most recently in Portland Stage's production of *Third* by Wendy Wasserstein. Other design credits include *Julius Caesar* at Portland Stage; *Pump Boys and Dinettes* at Maine State Music Theatre; *Doubt* and *Almost Maine* at the Public Theatre in Lewiston; *Suor Angelica* and *The Tempest* at USM as well as the feature length independent film *Mr. Barrington*. Kris received her BA in Political Science from USM and her MFA in Studio Art from MECA. She also attended the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture with a full scholarship in 2006.

**Alice Hofgren** is a freshman theatre major from Waterville, ME. Past roles include "Oliver" in *Oliver!*, and "Mother Abbess" in *The Sound of Music*. Alice has received two one-act All Festival Cast awards and was runner up in the state Poetry Out Loud recitation contest.

**Janette Hough-Fertig (Choreographer, Pale)** presently teaches aerial dance and theater at USM, Acorn Productions in Westbrook, and Terpsicore Dance in South Portland. She has performed physical theatre with Pig Iron Theatre, puppetry and dance with Sebastienne Mundheim, children's theatre with Theatre Circ, among others. Her performance career started in 1995 as a company member of TRAPEZIUS Aerial Dance. Keep an eye out for her new company-Apparatus Dance Theatre.

**Marcus Ingerson (Lights and Sound for Three)**, originally from Millinocket, is a sophomore theatre major with an emphasis in design. He is thrilled to be making his Lighting and Sound design debut at USM with *Three*. Previous credits include assistant light design for *The Bear* and *The Proposal*, assistant sound design for *Tea and Sympathy* and assistant stage manager for *Jack and Jill*. He was also involved in *Moonchildren*, *The Man Who Came to Dinner* and *Baltimore Waltz*. Additionally, he is the year long sound engineer and electrician for the USM Theater Department. Enjoy the show!

**Roger Louis Marcotte (Costume Design)** This is Roger's first costume design ever. He has worked in the costume shop in the past and would like to thank Kris Hall for inspiring a love of costuming in him. He is a musical theatre major here at USM in his fourth year, and has performed here in Russell and Corthell, most recently as "William Barfee" in USM's Maine premiere of *The 25th Annual*

*Putnam County Spelling Bee*. He will be directing the Student Performing Artists' production of Christopher Durang's *Titanic*, and hopes to see you all there!

**Neal Morton** (of Manchester, Maine) is a third year theatre major here at the University of Southern Maine. This is Neal's first lighting design for a dance piece. Last year he was the lighting designer for the Student Performing Artists' production of *The Distance From Here*. He would like to thank you for coming.

**Kyle Skillin** is a junior theatre major from Standish, Maine. He is very excited to be doing his first costume design on the Russell Hall Mainstage. You may have seen his name in the program as assistant designer in *The Baltimore Waltz* (SPA) and Asst. Hair and Makeup design for *The Chekhov one-acts* earlier this year. This past summer Kyle was a wardrobe apprentice at MaineState Music Theater and currently volunteers in their costume rental division.

**Simon Winslow Skold** is a transfer third year. This is his first year as a theatre major, originally from the Bronx. He has since left his home at Fordham University to join the community at USM. Dancing is not a trained skill of his, just a passion he practices in his own room. He hopes to hang out with high schoolers for the rest of his life.

**Shannon Zura** recently designed the lights for Portland Stage Company's production of *The Gin Game*, the lights & sound for Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble's production of *Leading Ladies*, the lights for Opera House Arts' *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and the sound for the world premiere of *House, Divided* at InterAct Theatre Company. Additional design credits include the sound and lights for InterAct Theatre Company's productions of *Kiss of the Spider Woman* and *American Sublime* and the sound designs for Philadelphia Shakespeare Theatre's *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare* (Abridged), *Romeo and Juliet*, and *Taming of the Shrew*. In March 2005, Shannon was featured in Stage Directions Magazine's salute to outstanding women in theatre. Shannon holds an MFA in Lighting Design from Temple University and is currently an Assistant Professor of Theatre at the University of Southern Maine.

# UPCOMING IN RUSSELL HALL...



## *The Pajama Game*

Music/Lyrics by Richard Adler/Jerry Ross

Script by George Abbott/Richard Bissell

Directed by Wil Kilroy; Musical Director Edward Reichert

March 5-14, 2010



## *Inook and the Sun*

by Henry Beissel

Directed by Assunta Kent

April 23-May 2, 2010

[www.usm.maine.edu/theatre](http://www.usm.maine.edu/theatre)

**Tickets: (207) 780-5151**

*Season Flex Pass: \$40 for 6 tickets*