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Spring 2-1998

## Dance USM! Program [1998]

University of Southern Maine Department of Theatre

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The University of Southern Maine  
Department of Theatre  
presents



**Dance USM!**

directed by Emily Ojala

Main Stage, Russell Hall, USM Gorham  
7:30 p.m. February 12 & 13, 1998

### Director's Notes

Welcome to Dance USM. This year's program is made up of a wide variety of dance styles and forms. Each dance presented this evening is made by a different choreographer with specific training, ideas, style and intent unique from the others. The common theme that links them is the exploration of movement as an expressive art form. Some of the dances are pure entertainment, others are conceptual in nature, and still others are based on movement themes that speak for the choreographer.

Performing and choreographing in Dance USM! is a great learning opportunity for students. They have the chance to give form to ideas and feelings in an art medium that uses the human body as an instrument for communication. The people performing tonight have worked in various studios throughout Gorham and Portland. They represent a wide range of movement backgrounds; some are performing dance for the first time while others have extensive performance experience.

Dance USM! has been one of the Theatre Department's Mainstage Productions since 1985. This is my fourth year directing the show and it becomes more rewarding each year. It really has a life of its own; I just provide the deadlines! I would like to thank all of the people involved in the show for once again creating and presenting Dance USM!

Emily Ojala

### **Design and Technical Staff**

Director  
Assistant Director  
Lighting Designers

Emily Ojala  
Alice Starr  
Jason Bannister  
Scott Essency  
Iain Odlin  
Bridget Paulus  
Amanda J. Poirier  
Thomas C. Vail  
Veronica Ward  
Christenia Alden-Kinne  
Harold Philbrook  
Susan E. Picinich  
Alexandra Munier  
Pamela Yuhas  
Sarah Parisien  
Michael Philbrook

Costume Designers

Sound Designer  
Stage Manager  
Asst. Stage Manager  
Technical Director  
Light Board Operator

Thomas C. Vail  
Jessie Robinson  
Veronica Ward  
Matt Carey  
Scott Essency  
Bridget Paulus  
Christenia Alden-Kinne  
Chad Cockcroft  
Matt Curtis  
Hope Dvorak  
Becca Fischer  
Mark Menezes  
Marguerite Provandie  
Jennifer Sabin  
Jessica Wood  
Frank Taliento  
Mary Snell  
Emmanuelle Chaulet  
and staff

Sound Board Operator  
Master Electrician  
Assistant Master Electrician  
Costume Shop Supervisor  
Deck Hands

Dressers

Arts Promotions Director  
Box Office/Promotions

House Manager  
Box Office Manager

Theatre Office  
Graphic Design

Luca Richards  
Emily Binion  
Cheryll Merrill  
Lillian Campbell  
Leigh Raposo

## **Program**

### **Improvisations**

Director of Improvisations: Jolyn Arisman

#### Dancers:

Jae Bilideau

M.J. Emerson

Liz Foley

Wendy E. Getchell

Emily Hager

Aaron Lewis

Kelly Pontau

Nadia Shapiro

Gerry Shannon

Julie Smith

Alice Starr

Sherry Whittemore

Light Design: Veronica Ward

### **Solace**

Music: Fiona Apple

Choreography: M.J. Emerson

#### Dancers:

Elizabeth Chambers

M.J. Emerson

Emily Hager

Julianna Lagin-Nasse

Kelly Pontau

Liz Chambers

Nadia Shapiro

Julie Smith

Light Design: Iain Odlin

Costume Design: Christenia Alden-Kinne

### **Out of Darkness**

Music: Sarah McLaughlan

Choreography: Wendy E. Getchell

#### Dancers:

Danielle Estes

Wendy E. Getchell

Light Design: Amanda J. Poirier

### **I Can't Do it Alone**

music: from "Chicago" by John Kander

Choreographer: Danielle Drouin

#### Dancer:

Danielle Drouin

Light Design: Amanda J. Poirier

### **Judo Dance**

Music: Judo Music

Choreography: Sensei Fukuda and Takeuchi

#### Dancer:

Aaron Lewis

Light Design: Veronica Ward

Costume Design: Pamela Yuhas

### **Water's Way**

Music: Philip Glass

Choreography: Emily Ojala

#### Dancers:

Jae Bilideau

Roxanne Kenerson

Kelly Pontau

Nadia Shapiro

Sherry Whittemore

Pamela Yuhas

Light Design: Thomas C. Vail

Costume Design: Susan E. Picinich

### **Thriller**

Music: Michael Jackson

Choreography: Leslie Janel Guerin

#### Dancers:

Lyndsey Caufield

Kelly Caufield

Liz Chambers

Danielle Estes

Leslie Janel Guerin

Myan Kallweitt

Samantha Kinne

Alexandra Munier

Nadia Shapiro

Light Design: Scott Essency

Costume Design: Susan E. Picinich

## **INTERMISSION**

### **Disco Mania**

Music: "You Should be Dancing" by the Bee Gees

Choreographer: Lew-Ann Leen

#### Dancers:

Darcee Betit

Destinie Boyd

M.J. Emerson

Liz Foley

Emily Hager

Lynne Leach

Teresa Libby

Kelly Pontau

Gerry Shannon

Nadia Shapiro

Thomas C. Vail

Light Design: Thomas C. Vail

Costume Design: Christenia Alden-Kinne

### **Electric Blue**

Music: The Cranberries

Choreography: Roxanne Kenerson and Johnathon Pina

#### Dancers:

Roxanne Kenerson

Johnathon Pina

Light Design: Jason Bannister

Costume Design: Susan Picinich

### **Underworld**

Music: Underworld

Choreography: M.J. Emerson

#### Dancers:

Kelly Pontau

Elizabeth Chambers

M.J. Emerson

Emily Hager

Kelly Pontau

Nadia Shapiro

Light Design: Iain Odlin

Costume Design: Christenia Alden-Kinne

### **Window**

Music: Various artists mixed by Rodney Nason

Choreography: Alice Starr

#### Dancers:

Emily Hager

Alexandra Munier

Julie Smith

Light Design: Scott Essency

Costume Design: Alexandra Munier

### **Forever**

Music: Infinity Christmas by Thanks to Gravity

Choreography: Emily Hager

#### Dancer:

Emily Hager

Light Design: Veronica Ward

Costume Design: Alexandra Munier

### **Out of Arm's Reach**

Music: Ashley MacIsaac

Choreography: Harold Philbrook

#### Dancers:

Darcee Betit

Destinie Boyd

Tiffany Crocker

Wendy E. Getchell

Alice Starr

Light Design: Thomas C. Vail

Costumes: Harold Philbrook and Christenia Alden-Kinne

## **Thank You !**

Special thanks to Lisa Hicks of New Dance Studio for her generous contribution of studio space and special thanks to Jim Anderson.

## Biographies

**Jolyn Arisman** escaped from NYC where she performed with Hatian dancer, Arianne Pierre. She studied modern technique, choreography, African, and improvisation at Cornell University. Jolyn performs locally with the jazz improvisation group; Chat Noir, Esduardo Mariscal and she will be premiering in the fall with Ram Island Dance company. She teaches her unique blend of styles at New Dance Studio. To the dancers: "Take the moment, it is yours!"

**Danielle Drouin**, from Westbrook, is a junior communications major. She is assistant teacher with The Dance Studio of Maine, assistant choreographer for The Dance Studio of Maine Competition Team, and dancer and choreographer for the University of Maine Dance Company. She danced in the Gorham Community Ballet Company and the Dirigo Dance Troupe. Danielle has received numerous awards at the Showstopper American Dance Championships, Rhee Gold Dance Awards, and Starlight Dance Championships. She has studied with the Virginia Door School of Dance and Maine State School for the Performing Arts and currently studies with The Dance Studio of Maine.

**Marcia J. Emerson (MJ)**, originally from Norway, Maine, is a theatre major in her fourth year of study. Having most recently choreographed for and performed in USM's production of *As You Like It*, she has been involved technically with several other USM productions and was in last year's Dance Festival. This past summer MJ completed an internship at Maine State Music Theatre, crewing shows such as *The Who's Tommy* and *A Chorus Line*. MJ is a 1996 graduate of the University of the Arts, earning a Certificate in Dance, and currently teaches at the Konservatoriet in Alfred. "Many thanks to my dancers and all my teachers...in dance and in life."

**Wendy E. Getchell** is a senior theatre major from Portland. She was most recently seen in the role of Allie in the one act, *Family Values*, and will be directing *The Effects of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds* in March. Wendy has danced for the USM dance festival for four years, choreographing *A Dream of Canaries*, *Rokujo Lady's Passion*, and *As Is*. She has recently choreographed a dance story called *Greed* with students at Cape Elizabeth High School. She has also received the Chris Meaner Dance Scholarship for her efforts. "Special thanks to all my friends who have helped me keep my head above murky waters and allowed me to look past the clouds every now and then. You know who you are."

**Leslie Janel Guerin** is a junior theatre major from Gorham. She has had extensive dance experience including competing in high school at The Dance Studio of Maine, where she won first place in jazz. She teaches hip hop and street funk at The Schoolhouse Arts Center in Sebago Lake. Leslie has performed at USM as Jackie in *The Boys Next Door* and most recently as a tree in *As You Like It*.

**Emily Hager** is a sophomore from Wells, Maine. She has had eleven years of ballet and jazz training at First Class Dance Studio in Wells. She also took part in last year's Dance Festival at USM.

**Roxanne Kenerson** is a junior art major with a concentration in photography from Fryeburg, Maine. She has studied modern, ballet, pointe, jazz, and tap for twelve years. She spent three years as a member of the Axis Dance Company from North Conway, New Hampshire, dancing in *The Nutcracker*, *The King and I*, and many others. Roxanne has received two silver medals for her performances at the American Dance Spectrum Competition in Manchester, New Hampshire, and two gold medals at the Gold American Dance Competition.

**Lew-Ann Leen** teaches jazz dance for Casco Bay Movers; jazz, tap, ballet, and acting at The Kittery Recreation Department; ballet for Stepping Out in Saco; and musical theatre dance for the University of Southern Maine. Besides helping with the dance for the summer theatre camp at USM, she has choreographed several pieces for the *USM Dance Festival* and *Die Fledermaus* and for the music department. She has choreographed pieces for Madhorse, The School House Arts, Portland Players, and Cape Elizabeth High School. After studying acting and dancing in NYC, she moved back to Maine where she founded Shenanigans Productions in Ogunquit. *Tony N' Tina's Wedding* is her latest production.

**Aaron K. Lewis** is a junior double major in theatre and criminology at USM. She went to the Olympic Training Center in Lake Placid, NY to learn this *Judo Dance* from Keiko Fukuda, a seventh degree black belt Judo instructor and Kuniko Takeuchi, a sixth degree Judo instructor. "Seiryoku Zenyo," the maximum efficient use of one's mind and body, is the principle underlying this *Judo Dance*. Every movement illustrates a throw, a strangle, an armbar, etc. She has worked with people across the country to experience Judo in its purest form and would like to share this dance with all of you. "Special thanks to my family and friends. Dad, Mom, Rebecca, Isaac: You have given me so much -- Sarah, you're in my heart forever."

**Emily Ojala** is a dancer, choreographer and dance educator. She danced with Ram Island Dance Company from 1986-1993. She has a B.F.A. in modern dance from the University of Utah and an M.F.A. in dance movement therapy/counseling psychology from Antioch New England. She teaches contemporary dance at the University of Southern Maine, creative movement for young children, and dance improvisation and composition classes for adults at New Dance Studio. Emily is also a registered dance movement therapist specializing in work with emotionally-at-risk children. She is a Maine Touring Artist/Arts-in-Education artist and has conducted residencies in school throughout Maine since 1987. Emily will be performing a new collaborative dance with Lisa Hicks and 'BLINK' in March.

**Harold Philbrook** (guest artist), performer, teacher, and choreographer, received a BFA from the Maine College of Art. He was the Dance Portland Showcase winner in 1995 and 1997. He has done solo and collaborative work with Debi Irons and Art Moves Dance Studio and with Lisa Hicks at New Dance Studio. He has served as guest choreographer at The Theatre Project, dance instructor at Summer Festival of the Arts 1991-1997, and guest artist/choreographer at Davenport Center, University of Vermont, and College of the Atlantic. His stage work includes working with Ken Stack in *The Wizard of OZ* and *The Pajama Game*.

**Johnathan Pina** began dancing at the age of 17. He has been dancing with the Axis Dance Company in North Conway, New Hampshire for three years. He has also danced with The Studio of Fine Arts in Fryeburg for a year. A member of the Maine State Ballet Company for two years now, Johnathan danced the role of Chinese in their recent production of *The Nutcracker*. He won two awards at the 1997 American Dance Awards in Concord, NH with Axis Dance Company; a gold medal in Sr. Duet Modern as a dancer and choreographer, and a silver medal in Sr. Group Modern as a dancer.

**Alice Starr** is a senior theatre major. She has danced and choreographed for Dance USM in previous years. She is a recipient of the Grannia Theatre Scholarship award for 1997. "We were haunted by the marvelous tales we could not tell...because he would not let us make a fusion of sexuality and feeling, sensuality and emotion." *Anais Nin*.

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