2-2000

Dance USM! Program [2000]

University of Southern Maine Department of Theatre

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University of Southern Maine
Department of Theatre presents

Dance USM!
directed by Maria Tzianabos

February 11, 12, 13, 2000
Main Stage, Russell Hall
USM Gorham campus
Director's Notes

Dance USM! is a showcase—a showcase of USM dancers and a showcase of promising choreographers. More than fifty dancers and ten choreographers have contributed hours, days and weeks of their time to make this show possible.

Dance USM! is also a showcase of the diverse styles within the world of dance. Ballet, which has provided an unchanging framework for over a century. Modern, with its rebellious roots, has given us many of the greatest choreographers of the twentieth century. Tap, which has grown from its cultural roots, celebrates rhythm. Jazz, which gave us Bob Fosse, just to name one, continues to light up the New York City stages. Lastly, Hip Hop, which depicts the culture of today’s youth.

However, Dance USM! is not just about differences, it is also about common bonds. Each of the various styles and approaches to dance grows from the same basic impulse—the impulse to express oneself through movement. Each style is a language. Each choreographer has something to say. Each performer has a message to deliver.

This is my first year as director of Dance USM!. I am indebted to my predecessors who conceived Dance USM! and have been making it a reality since 1987. I feel fortunate to be a part of Dance USM! and look forward to carrying on the tradition. I hope that this year’s Dance USM! shows you something a little new or a little different. Thank you for coming, and enjoy the show.

Maria A. Tzianabos - Director

Maria is a dancer, teacher, and choreographer. She has a B.F.A. from the Boston Conservatory of Music. She has studied with Yasuko Tokunuga, and performed in various works by Jose Limon under the direction of former company members Jennifer Scanlon and Edward DeSoto. She spent a year studying with Kristin Beckwith and Elaine Bauer of the Boston Ballet. Maria has also performed with the Boston Conservatory Company and was a guest artist for the Granite State Ballet for four years. More recently, she has taken classes at the Dance Complex in Cambridge, Ma. as well as with Peter Dimura, Stephanie Rae Parker, Ruth Ambrose, and Marcus Schuklin of Boston. Currently, Maria performs throughout Maine with Lisa Hicks and Company of New Dance Studio in Portland. She teaches contemporary dance at USM.

Performances

In The Wake
Choreography: Emily Zack
Music: Sixth Sense
Dancers: Brigitte Blose, Bet Black, Scott Essency, Patience Goodwin, Tessa Kingsley, Kelssy MacKilligan, Tina West, Emily Zack
Lighting Design: Amanda J. Poirier

American Woman
Choreography: Lynn Bettencourt
Music: “American Woman” by Lenny Kravitz
Dancers: Melissa Bard, Lynn Bettencourt, Molly Komar, Monica McKenzie, Angie Sabo
Lighting Design: Ethan Hinton

Celtic Circle
Choreography: Patience Goodwin
Music: “Prologue” by Lorena McKennitt
Dancers: Brigitte Blose, Scott Essency, Tessa Kingsley, Emily Zack
Lighting Design: Elizabeth Chambers
Costume Design: Elizabeth Chambers

Crazy
Choreography: Brianne VanDenBossche
Music: “Crazy” by Britney Spears
Dancers: Melissa Bard, Angie Baker, Tina DeSanto, Sarah Poulin, Brianne VanDenBossche, Tina West
Lighting Design: Conrad Maurais

Epiphany
Choreography: Brigitte Blose
Music: “Bad Blood” by Ministry
“Insanity” by Oingo
“Clubbed to Death” by Rob D
“With this Love” by Peter Gabriel
Dancers: Melissa Bard, Lynn Bettencourt, Bet Black, Scott Essency, Patience Goodwin, Ellen Joyce, Tessa Kingsley, Kelssy MacKilligan, Gerry Shannon, Tina West, Emily Zack
Lighting Design: Amanda J. Poirier

Intermission
Lucid Awareness
Choreography: Harold Philbrook
Music: Phillip Glass
Dancers: Julianna Lagin-Nasse, Kristen Stake, Helen Stickney, Harold Philbrook, Tina West
Lighting Design: Thomas C. Vail
Costume Design: Alexandra Munier

Rhythm on the Street
Choreography: Tina West
Dancers: Melissa Bard, Brigitte Blose, Tessa Kingsley, Sarah Poulin, Jaime Smith, Brianne VanDenBossche, Tina West
Lighting Design: Conrad Maurais

Raqs Al Assaya
Choreography: Jeanne Handy
Dancers: Brigitte Blose, Amy Daigle, Patience Goodwin, Tessa Kingsley, Kelsy MacKilligan, Jenny Michaud, Kimberly Morrill, Melissa Pelletier, Gerry Shannon, Emily Zack
Lighting Design: Thomas C. Vail

Raqs Al Assaya is a traditional Arabic cane dance which originated in the Sa'id region of southern Egypt. Traditionally, men carried long sticks which they used as weapons, eventually they evolved a dance called "Tahtiyb" in which they feigned fighting with these sticks. Women then began dancing with canes as a way of playfully imitating this men's dance, and Raqs Al Assaya developed into a distinct women's dance.

Creators of Life (a work in progress)
A cartoonish, futuristic vision of human cloning.
Choreography, Costumes, Props & Lighting Design:
Esduardo Mariscal
Music: Allow Orchestra, Patrick O'Hearn
Dancers: Scott Essency, Adam Frederick, Esduardo Mariscal, Amy Paulson, Melissa Pelletier, Sharon Pienak

Happy
Choreography: Jerome Wills
Music: "Marco Polo" by Lorena McKennitt
Dancers: Bet Black, Brigitte Blose, Patience Goodwin, Jerome Wills, Emily Zack
Lighting Design: Scott Essency

Pretty Fly (For A White Guy)
Choreography: Gerry Shannon
Music: "Pretty Fly (For A White Guy)" by Offspring
Lighting Design: Stephanie Owens
Costume Design: Kimberly Morrill

* * *
There will be a fifteen minute intermission.
Please, no photos are allowed during the performance.
Also, please turn off beepers and phones as a courtesy to the dancers and other audience members.

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PORTLAND OPERA REPERTORY THEATRE
Bruce Hangen, Artistic and General Director

Giuseppe Verdi
Rigoletto
July 27, 29, 31, 2000
Merrill Auditorium
Portland, Maine

Information:
P.O.R.T., PO Box 7733
Portland, ME 04112
(207) 767-0773
Design and Technical Staff

Director
Maria Tzianabos
Brigitte Blose
Amanda Jo Poirier
Elizabeth Chambers
Conrad Maurais
Thomas C. Vail
Scott Essency
Stephanie Owens
Elizabeth Chambers
Kimberly Morrill
Alexandra Munier

Costume Designers
Susan E. Picinich
James Shay
Conrad Maurais
Troy Faucher
Thomas C. Vail
Angela Lemire
Brian Birkinbine
Kris Hall
Alicia Allen, Elizabeth Chambers, Julianna Lagin-Nasse, Aaron Lewis,
Students of Costume Lab 1
Cathy Johnson
Cat Rolfe
Paul Dalgleish
Amy Knowles
Cori Norton
Mary Snell
Emmanuelle Chaulet
Ariane Smith
Courtney Elliott
Lillian Campbell
Leigh Raposo

Biographies

Lynn Bettencourt - Choreographer / Dancer
Lynn is a sophomore theatre major and business minor. She most recently played Bev in Fixin' Amos at Oak Street Theatre. She was in Dance USM! 1999 and is excited to be both dancing and choreographing this year. She has also been seen in West Side Story and backstage for Illuminati and Sinners, Saints, and Fools.

Brigitte M. Blose - Choreographer/Dancer/Assistant Director
"Sometimes people find themselves in bad situations which spiral down into worse situations. When these people find a friend who pulls them up and helps them out, it is a life saving moment. This piece is to say thank you to those friends, mine and everyone else's, who save lives." Brigitte is an alumna of the Theatre Department. She has studied dance with the Robinson Ballet in Bangor, Maine, the Joffrey Ballet in New York City, and has choreographed at the Summer Festival of the Arts in Southwest Harbor, Maine.

Scott Essency - Lighting Designer
Scott is a senior theatre major from Skowhegan. He worked as an intern and apprentice at the carpentry shop at the Maine State Music Theatre and was involved in the IATSE Local 114 and Indiana Repertory Theatre. Scott would like to thank Erin for giving him the insight he needed to design this piece.

Patience Goodwin - Choreographer / Dancer
Patience, a recent theatre graduate from USM, is thrilled to be a guest in this year's festival. A Portland native, she was last seen at USM as Celia in the production As You Like It and in the role of Alida Bloodgood in The Poor Of Portland. Special thanks to Jerome Wills.

Kris Hall - Costume Shop Supervisor
After 12 years of wandering, Kris Hall has returned to the Russell Hall Costume Shop. In the intervening time, she costumed at Mad Horse Theatre, Maine State Music Theatre, Maine Summer Dramatic Institute, Portland Stage, and The George Street Playhouse. She also earned a degree in Political Science.

Jeanne Handy - Guest Choreographer
Of Lebanese descent, Jeanne grew up with belly dance. She moved to Portland from Boston in 1993 and she has been studying, teaching, and performing Middle Eastern Dance for over five years. She is a member of Baraka! Middle Eastern Ensemble and enjoys performing with them and as a solo artist throughout New England in such venues as New York's Portland, the Maine Festival and others. She is happy to return to USM where last year she was a guest artist in Sinners, Saints, and Fools' "Little Red Fish". Special thanks to Baraka! Middle Eastern Ensemble for the use of their costumes for Raqs Al Assaya.
Eduardo Mariscal - Guest Choreographer / Dancer

Eduardo is an award-winning choreographer, dancer, and teacher from Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico. In Mexico, he danced and choreographed for the group Truzka from 1987 to 1990 and was co-founder and principal choreographer of Espiral Danza Contemporanea from 1990 to 1993. In 1993 Eduardo won a grant for a fellowship from the Mexican National Institute of Fine Arts to do research in dance in New York City. Mariscal was also the founder of Espiral Danza. In 1998 Eduardo was a choreographer-in-residence with Corpo Vivo Company in Natal, Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil, where he presented the premiere of The Fall of Time on October 23. He is currently a guest artist and adjunct dance teacher at USM.

Kimberly Morrill - Costume Designer

Kimberly is a junior at USM. Her experiences include assistant costume design in Dirt and costume design for Dance USM! '98 - To Gillian on her 37th Birthday, and Fixin' Amos.

Harold Philbrook - Guest Choreographer / Dancer

Harold received his BFA from the Maine College of Art in graphic design. He has worked with such choreographers as Lisa Hicks, Debi Irons, Eduardo Mariscal, Brian Crabtree, and at Bowdoin Dance Studio among many others. He also worked in several productions at "The Grand Auditorium" in Ellsworth, Maine. He is a two time winner of the Dance Portland Choreographers Showcase. "Beauty is just beneath the broken glass."

Susan E. Picinich - Costume Design Advisor

Susan joined the USM Department of Theatre faculty in 1987 and has since designed costumes for 47 University productions. She has an MFA degree from the University of Michigan and previously taught at SUNY Albany and Western Illinois University. She is a member of the ensemble at Mad Horse Theatre and most recently designed their production of Hamlet. Other credits include seven seasons at Maine State Music Theatre: Most recently Blood Brothers, A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat, and in 1998 the premiere of Maury Yeston's new musical In the Beginning. Susan costumed Crazy For You at the Walnut Street Theatre in Philadelphia in 1997.

Amanda J. Poirier - Lighting Designer

Amanda is a junior theatre major from Foxborough, Massachusetts. Previous credits include lighting designs for Dance USM! '98 and '99, sound design for The Danube, Dirt, and Anasazi, plus carpentry and stitching work for the last two seasons. Amanda was also one of the recipients of the 1999 Granthia Theatre Scholarships. She received the 1999 SPA award for sound design.

Gerry Shannon - Choreographer / Dancer

Gerry is a junior majoring in theatre with a music minor. His previous roles include parts in Dance USM! '98 and '99. He was Diesel in USM's West Side Story and a dancer in A Taste of Killing on the Tip of the Tongue and Fixin' Amos. He will soon be seen as part of the ensemble in the upcoming Lyric Theatre production of Carousel.

Thomas C. Vail - Lighting Design

Tom was the Technical Director at USM for 4 years during the early 80's and designed sets for the Russell Square Players summer repertory theater. He has designed lights for Bill Chinook and Jonathan Edwards, and has worked professionally with the following local companies: Portland Stage Co. (master carpenter), The Children's Theatre of Maine (actor, set designer), Mad Horse Theatre Co. (tech director, set designer and actor), and the Stagehand's Union. He also co-created the Oak Street Theater (now Theatre) in Portland in 1992 and the Sebago Lake Schoolhouse Arts Center. Other credits include lighting designs for beauty and the beast, the way to the west side story, time, the old man and the sea, and many others.

Brianne VanDenBossche - Choreographer / Dancer

Brianne grew up in Litchfield and has danced in Gardiner at Feet First since the age of three. She competed with her dance team for many years. In high school, she began varsity cheerleading and continued for four years, being captain twice. She received the Coach's Award and the Senior Coaches' Award, and was nominated for an NCA All-Star. She also choreographed a piece at Dance USM! '99.
Tina West - Choreographer / Dancer
Tina began dancing at the age of four at the Centre of Movement. She began teaching there when she was twelve. She has attended many national competitions throughout the U.S. and has received first place in the tap duet category three times. Tina has also been awarded several scholarships to workshops with master teachers in NYC and Las Vegas. She appeared in this show last year as a dancer, and is excited to be choreographing as well this year.

Jerome Wills - Choreographer / Dancer
Jerome is in his tenth year of study at USM after adding theatre to his list of majors. This is his first attempt at choreography, which reflects the eclectic mix of his experience in the department, having acted, assistant stage managed and stage managed productions at USM. He would like to thank his dancers for their talent and creative input without which the piece would never have been possible.

Emily Zack - Choreographer / Dancer
Emily is a junior French major and Presidential scholar. As an actress she most recently performed for USM in Rest Stop following two Irene Ryan nominated performances in As You Like It and Dirt. Emily also took on last year the exhausting task of performing the role of Kathy in Company at Biddeford City Theatre where she had worn out her pointe shoes in Nutcracker years before. Emily has 16 years of dance experience and has studied at Portland Stage, with Maine Summer Dramatic Institute, and at Tisch in NYC. "Special thanks to my music mixer, who makes music out of anything, and to my dancers who survived the wave to experience the wake."

University of Southern Maine
Department of Theatre
1999-2000 Theatre Season
This season the USM Department of Theatre is proud to present several exciting original works.

October 2-10 GALA ARTS OPENING!
Anasazi
written and directed by Walter Stump
November 5-14
Grannia
written and directed by Thomas A. Power
music by Larry "Flash" Allen
December 3-11
STUDENT-WRITTEN ONE ACTS
Fixin' Amos
by K.J. Carpenter, directed by Assunta Kent
Rest Stop
by Elias A. Bremick, directed by Emmanuel Charlet
Ooh Street Theatre
February 11, 12, & 13
Annual Dance Concerts
March 17-25
Frankenstein
by Mary Shelley, adapted by Victor Gialanella
directed by Kurt Ela
April 21-30
The Imaginary Invalid
by Moliere
directed by Minor Rootes
Unless otherwise noted, all shows at the Main Stage, Russell Hall, USM Gorham campus
Tuesday-Saturday, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday performances, 5:00 p.m.,
Grannia's November 14 performance, 7:30 p.m.
Tickets: $10 general public, $9 seniors,
$5 students/USM faculty/staff.
Grannia: $12 gen., $9 seniors/USM faculty/staff
For reservations and information or access inquiries, call
780-5151
Consider purchasing a season ticket.

University of Southern Maine
Department of Music
1999-2000 Faculty Concert Series

October 1
GALA ARTS OPENING!
Lawrence Golan and Martin Perry
violin and piano
Sponsored by ARAMARK
October 29
Scott Reeves's Jazz Compositions
Scott Reeves, trombone
with James Williams, piano, Bill Mobley, trumpet,
Bruce Hunter, bass, Bob Gullotti, drums
Sponsored by Key Bank
November 19
Laura Kargal
solo pianist
Sponsored by Filene's
February 4
Schubert's Die Winterreise
Bruce Fithian, tenor and
Judith Hunt Quimby, piano
Sponsored by Tucker Anthony
March 10
Neil Boyer and Friends
Featuring the cello in ensemble music
Sponsored by Gorham Savings Bank
April 21
William Rounds
solo cello
Sponsored by PIP Printing
8:00 p.m. Fridays,
Corthell Concert Hall
on the USM Gorham campus.
Tickets
$9 general admission; $5 students
$7 seniors and USM faculty/staff
For reserved seating, information, or access inquiries call
780-5555.
A Streetcar Named Desire
By Tennessee Williams
October 14 - November 14, 1999

Skylight
by David Hare
January 12 - 30, 2000

Off The Map
by Joan Ackerman
March 30 - April 22, 2000

What The Butler Saw
by Joe Orton
June 8 - July 9, 2000

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