
Programs 2002-2003 Season

Theatre Programs 2000-2010

4-2003

Dance USM! Program [2003]

University of Southern Maine Department of Theatre

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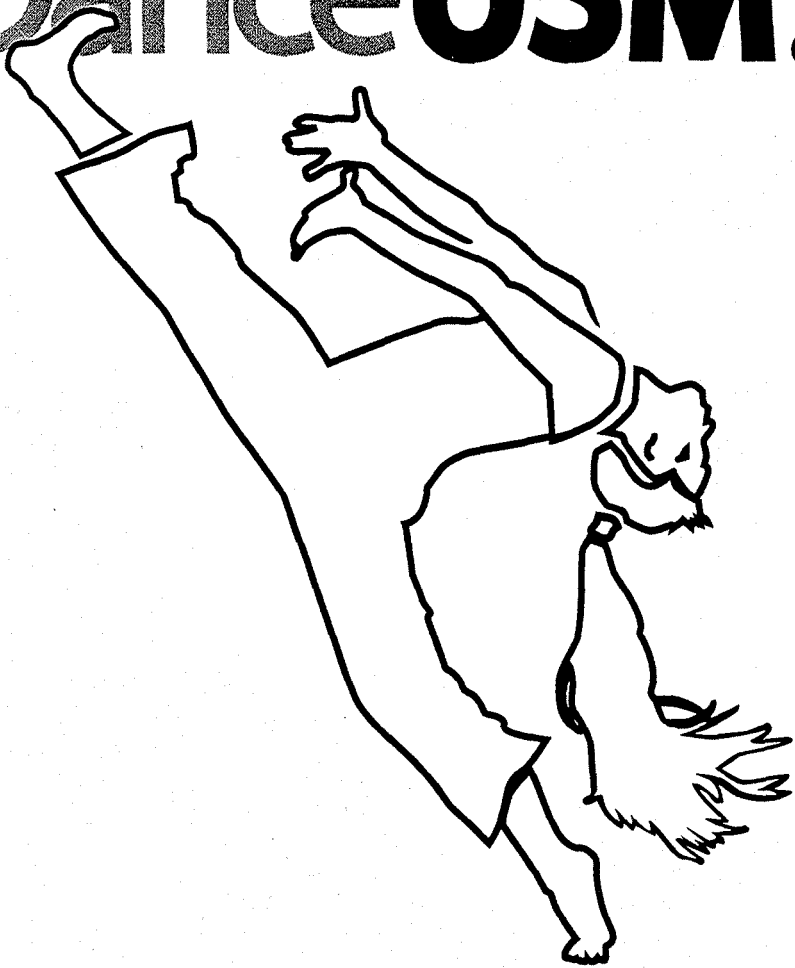
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DanceUSM!



USM Department of Theatre presentation

USM UNIVERSITY OF
Southern Maine

Program Notes

Dance USM is a show produced by USM students, performed by USM students, and featuring dance pieces choreographed by USM students and faculty.

This year's show reflects a variety of different styles and traditions from the world of dance. The processes by which these pieces were created are as varied as their styles. Some of the pieces were built upon traditional dance movements. Others were developed from images, poetry, or events from nature, such as "the way a tree sways." Yet others evolved from improvisation, with the performers allowing the dance to shape itself.

The dance traditions represented in this year's show include the following:

Modern Dance seeks to liberate movement from the formal structure of traditional dance.

Shakuntala is based on Cambodia and Bharata Nattgan dance.

Belly Dance tells stories using the vocabulary of middle eastern ritual dance.

Celtic Dance is an Irish clog dance which emphasizes rhythm and tap.

Swing is a social dance of the 20th Century which originally developed as a rebellious dance of the young.

Between the featured pieces in this year's show are a number of informal movements — vignettes — which celebrate movement for movement's sake. These pieces, performed by the students of choreography class, explore movement through space and time using changes of flow, level, dynamic and energy.

We are confident that this year's show will entertain and we hope that it will also expand your horizons. Enjoy.
Special thanks to Lisa Hicks

Maria Tzianabos, Artistic Director

Dance USM 2003!

Directed by
Maria Tzianabos

You Can Take the Girl Out of the Country...

Sunny Hitt, *Choreographer*

Lighting Design

Kristin Dearborn

Costume Design

Kris Hall

Dancer

Sunny Hitt

Improvisation #1

Dancers for all improvisations are:

John Jennison, Lydia West, Marieka VanDersteenhoven, Ben Potvin, Christina Hart, Mercedes Mendez, Liz Fergussin, Amanda Swanson, Katrina Paradis, Aaron Parcak, Christopher W. Fox, Sunny Hitt, Patience Goodwin, Micah Kramer, Kristen Stake, Meghan Walsh

Belly Dance

Kelsy MacKilligan, *Choreographer*

Lighting Design

Jake Walton

Costume Design

Kelsy MacKilligan

Dancers

Tara Smith, Kira Turnage, Kate Law, Elizabeth Seekins,
Jessica Means, Kelsy MacKilligan

Improvisation #2

Caller Lisa Hicks/ Dr. Assunta Kent

Kissing You

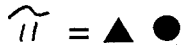
Rachel Garfield, *Choreographer*

Lighting Design & Costume Design

Tara Smith

Dancers

Tyler Sperry, Rachel Garfield



Christopher W. Fox, *Choreographer*

Lighting Design

Amy VonVett

Costume Designer

Rachel Stults

Assistant Costume Designer

Kris Hall

Dancers

Micah Kramer, Christopher W. Fox

Lydia West's Piece

Lydia West, *Choreographer*

Lighting Design

Tara Smith

Costume Design

Lydia West

Dancers

Lydia West, Marieka VanDersteenhoven

Improvisation #3

Psyche's Vision

Patience Goodwin, *Choreographer*

Lighting and Mask Design

Kelly Allen

Costume Designer

Courtney Elliott

Dancers

Kyle Bouchard, Kellsy MacKilligan, Patience Goodwin,
Elizabeth Seekins, Jeni Eaton-Burke

Improvisation #4

Pause

(ten minutes)

Higher

Donlyn A. Duplisea, *Choreographer*

Lighting Design

Kristin Dearborn

Costume Designer

Sandra Fletcher

Dancers

Christopher W. Fox, Donlyn A. Duplisea

Improvisation #5

The Warrior King and The Nymph's Daughter

Assunta Kent, *Choreographer*

with Vanny Bak and Tyler Sperry

Lighting Design

Jake Walton

Costume Design

Jonna W. Klaiber

Dancers

Charioteer: Chelsea Cook - King Dushyunta: Tyler Sperry

Mother Gautami: Meikle Patch - Priyamvada: Annette Bourque

Anasuya: Casey Pratt - Shakuntala: Piper Silverthorne

Synopsis: King Dushyanta is bow hunting for deer. His charioteer explains that the stag has eluded them on rough ground, but now they can catch it. They speed off, but just as the King sights the stag, Gautami, the spiritual mother of an ashram or hermitage, stops them. She explains that the deer is sacred and that this is a place of penitence and prayer. The King respectfully dismounts to visit the hermitage, for whom he is the official protector. Meanwhile, three young women (orphans raised at the ashram) come to ritually water the trees and flowering vines in a sacred grove. The King is taken with their beauty, and then stung with Love's arrows when he beholds Shakuntala. Bees (played by Shakuntala's teasing friends) are attracted to Shakuntala's blossom-like lips and cheeks. Her friends tease her, saying she should call the King to save her! Upon this fortunate cue, the King steps out embarrassing the maidens. Priyamvada greets the King, while Anasuya prevents Shakuntala from fleeing. The King inquires about Shakuntala's birth for he is hoping that she is of his cast and thus marriageable. Priyamvada indicates that she is the child of a nymph; and Anasuya that she is of the warrior cast, just like the King! With this happy news, the King boldly catches the eye of our shy, but lovestruck, heroine.

**USM DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE
2003-04 SEASON**

"INVITATION TO A WEDDING"

directed by Minor Rootes
October 3 - 12, 2003

"SHAKUNTALA"

conceived and directed by Assunta Kent
November 7 - 16, 2003

TWO ORIGINAL STUDENT-WRITTEN ONE ACT PLAYS

directed by William Steele & Thomas Power
St. Lawrence Arts and Community Center
December 5 - 13, 2003

"CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF"

by Tennessee Williams
a staged reading
directed by William Steele & Thomas Power
February 12 - 15, 2004

"COMPANY"

music/lyrics by Stephen Sondheim,
book by George Furth
directed by Wil Kilroy
musical direction by Ed Reichert
a collaboration between the School of Music
and the Department of Theatre
March 12 - 21, 2004

"DANCE USM!"

directed by Maria Tzianabos
April 29 - May 2, 2004

All shows on USM Gorham campus unless otherwise noted
Main Stage, Russell Hall

Tickets (207) 780-5151
ask for a season pass!

www.usm.maine.edu/theater

My Funny Valentine
Kristen Stake, *Choreographer*

Lighting Design

Kelly Allen

Costume Design

Kate Law

Dancers

Meghan Walsh, Kristen Stake

Amanda Jordan's Piece

Amanda Jordan, *Choreographer*

Lighting Design

Michaela Wirth

Costume Designer

Tara Smith

Dancers

Casey Pratt, Courtney Elliott, Amanda Jordan

Improvisation #6

Performed to "The Road Not Taken" by Robert Frost
Read by Dr. Assunta Kent

You Are My Target Audience

Meghan Walsh, *Choreographer*

Lighting Design

Jerome Wills

Costume Design

Frederica Jepson

Dancers

Christina Hart, Liz Fergusson, Amanda Swanson, Katrina Paradis,
Aaron Parcak, Christopher W. Fox, Sunny Hitt, Patience Goodwin,
Ben Potvin, Mercedes Mendez, Micah Kramer, Kristen Stake,
Meghan Walsh

Choreographers' Biographies

Donlyn A. Duplisea - Choreographer, Dancer

A criminology major from Hartland, ME, Donlyn has been singing and dancing since she could walk and talk. She has been involved in everything from pageants, to theatre, to show choir, and she currently sings for the University's Jazz Choir. Many thanks go out to her parents for their love and support.

Christopher W. Fox - Choreographer, Dancer

Chris hails from Southern New Hampshire, where he began theatre at St. Thomas Aquinas High School. He has also worked at Leddy Center for the Performing Arts in Epping, NH for four years. Chris would like to thank family and friends for their support, especially Bob, Barbara, Suzanne, Kate, Kevin, Moe and Elaine.

Rachel Garfield - Choreographer, Dancer

Rachel is a junior theatre major most recently seen in USM's *Cabaret* as a Kit Kat Girl. Rachel has been dancing for over fifteen years, and is excited to have this opportunity to show her work. Rachel would like to thank Tyler for all his artistic input and Mom for instilling in me the love for dance.

Patience Goodwin - Choreographer, Dancer

Patience's recent choreography has revolved around myths that reflect aspects of human nature. She is really excited to be playing director in June for Two Lights Theatre Ensemble's *Heroine's Journey*. There comes a time in everyone's life when they must choose to remove the blindfold.

Sunny Hitt - Choreographer, Dancer

Sunny has been dancing since the age of four, and has studied with Ivy Forrest and Bossov Ballet Theatre. This is her first performance with *Dance USM!* and she has enjoyed being part of the process. She will continue studying dance at Marlboro College in the fall.

Amanda Jordan - Choreographer, Dancer

Amanda is a fourth-year theatre major. She has danced at the Spring Street Dance Theatre of Bethel for 19 years and has recently taken over directing for Spring Street. Thanks to Maria for letting *Dance USM!* be her first performance on the main stage. Thanks to her family and friends for their support.

Assunta Kent - Shakuntala Piece

Dr. Assunta Kent, Associate Professor of Theatre and Women's Studies, has directed *A Dream of Canaries*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *The Rokujo Lady's Passion*, *The Danube*, and *Sinners, Saints and Fools*, *Multi-medi@tion* and *Life in the Late 20th*, all of which included dance! Styles range from Morris and belly dancing to modern, ballroom, contact improv and Japanese Noh. Off-campus,

she has danced with the Esduardo Mariscal Dance Theatre and, in a former life, she taught International Folk dance, particularly Basque. The Warrior King and the Nymph's Daughter provides a sneak preview of Assunta's Nov. 2003 production of *Shakuntala*, a 4th century Sanskrit love story still popular in India today. She would like to thank Vanny Bak for her patient instruction, and the dancers for beginning to experiment with traditional Cambodian and Indian dance.

Kelly MacKilligan - Choreographer, Dancer

Kelly is in her final semester as a theatre major at USM. Over the past few years she has performed, directed and costume designed on the main stage and the black box in various productions, as well as local professional venues. Kelly has also worked as a director for SPA. In June, she will choreograph and dance a belly dancing piece for Two Lights Theatre Ensemble.

Kristen Stake - Choreographer, Dancer

Kristin graduated from USM in 2002 with a BA in Sociology and a double minor in Theater and Poetry Writing. In 2001 and 2002 she performed in *Dance USM!* and the *Vagina Monologues*. She has taken modern dance classes with Emily Ojala, Maria Tzianabos, and Esduardo Mariscal. She works at the Muskie School.

Meghan Walsh - Choreographer, Dancer

Meghan Walsh is a novice choreographer from Bangor, Maine. Her development of the piece, "You Are Our Target Audience," was inspired by modern improvisational and funk-popping styles of dance. Meghan will graduate in May with a bachelor's degree in Social Work.

Lydia West - Choreographer

Lydia West is working towards a BFA, with a concentration in sculpture, here at USM. She has been dancing for many years at The New Dance Studio under the tutelage of dancers including Lisa Hicks, Daniel McCusker, Buffy Miller and Gwyneth Jones. She has performed at various venues including the Center for Cultural Exchange, the Portland Performing Arts Center, the Maine Festival, and The Green St. Studio (Boston). This past summer she collaborated with fellow young dancers and a group of musicians to create *Conversation In Six Parts*, which was performed at the St. Lawrence Church. She would also like to thank Marieka and Esduardo for their time, hard work and contributions to this piece.

Artistic Staff Biographies

Kelly Allen - Lighting Design, Masks

Kelly is a senior theatre major. She was part of the ensemble for *Camino Real* and has stage managed, designed, and built sets for many past USM productions. This is her first time as lighting designer and designing masks. Kelly would like to thank Patience and Matt for this opportunity.

Kristin Dearborn - Lighting Design

Kristin is a third year theatre major at USM. *Dance USM!* marks her second lighting design, after February's *Vagina Monologues*. She has recently finished stage managing *Machinal*. Special thanks to Maggie.

Courtney Elliott - Costume Design, Dancer

Courtney is a senior theatre major from Newport, Vermont. This is her first time performing and costume designing for *Dance USM!*. Past costume designs include *Life in the Late 20th Century* and *True West*. Previous roles at USM include "La Madrecita" in *Camino Real* and "Florinda" in *Into the Woods*.

Sandra Fletcher - Costume Design

While this is only her second year as a theatre major, Sandi has been involved in at least one production every year of her studies here. Her last big project was as a student assistant designer for *The Good Woman of Setzuan*. Thanks to Donlyn for this chance to create fun clothes.

Kris Hall - Costume Design, Costume Shop Supervisor

Kris is currently in her third year at USM. Last June she had the opportunity to costume a local independent film called "Mr. Barrington," produced by Honey Tree Films. In the past, she has costumed at Mad Horse Theatre Co., L.A. Public Theatre, Maine State Music Theatre and the George St. Playhouse in New Jersey.

Joshua GR Hurd - Stage Manager

This is Josh's third show here at USM, and he is thrilled to be involved with the department again. Josh would like to thank his friends and family for their love and support.

Frederica Jepson - Costume Design

Frederica is very excited about being on staff at USM as costume designer. She thanks everyone for being so helpful in making her first semester "happen" despite her arrival with a broken leg. Frederica arrived in Maine ten years ago to work as Portland Stage Company's costume shop supervisor. For five years, she was the resident costume designer at the Public Theater, where her design/work included *I Hate Hamlet*, *Hedda Gabler*, and *Driving Miss Daisy*. Her other work in Maine includes *Greater Tuna* at Mad Horse Theater and *The Mad Woman of Charlotte* at The Theater Project. Prior to moving to Maine, Frederica worked in Richmond, VA where she received her MFA in Costume Design. Her most recent project was ART at the Public Theatre.

Jonna W. Klaiber - Costume Design

Jonna is a senior theatre major graduating this spring. This is her final design as a student at USM. You may have seen her previous design work in *Machinal*, *We All Fall Down*, *Factors of the Mythological Persuasion*, and *Dance USM!* 2001. Jonna would like to thank Kris, Sue, Frederica and especially Steve.

Matthew Meeds - Technical Director

Matthew Meeds joined the Department in September of 2000. Matthew came to us from the local theatre community where he has worked at the Mad Horse Theatre, the Public Theatre, and the Theatre at Monmouth, as well as "away" theaters such as George Street Playhouse in NJ, Syracuse Stage, and Pennsylvania Centre Stage.

Tara Smith - Costume Design, Lighting Designer, Dancer

Dance USM! will be Tara's last show at USM. She has very much enjoyed both dancing and designing for it. Tara was last seen as "Camille" in *Camino Real*. Other roles include, "Cindy" in *Seven Minutes in Heaven* and "Reader #1" in *The Importance of Being Wilde*.

Rachel Stults - Costume Design

This is Rachel's first time at desinging. She enjoyed the experience very much and hopes to do it again. She would like to thank Kris for all her help and patience.

Maria Tzianabos - Artistic Director

Maria holds a BFA from the Boston Conservatory where she studied with Jennifer Scanlon, Ed Disoto, Yasucko Topkunaga and Peter Dimuro. While studying at the Dance Complex in Cambridge, MA, she performed with the Granite State Ballet and independent choreographers in the Boston area. As well as performing, Maria teaches ballet and modern classes at the New Dance Studio and contemporary dance technique and choreography for the Theater Department at USM.

Amy Von Vett - Lighting Design

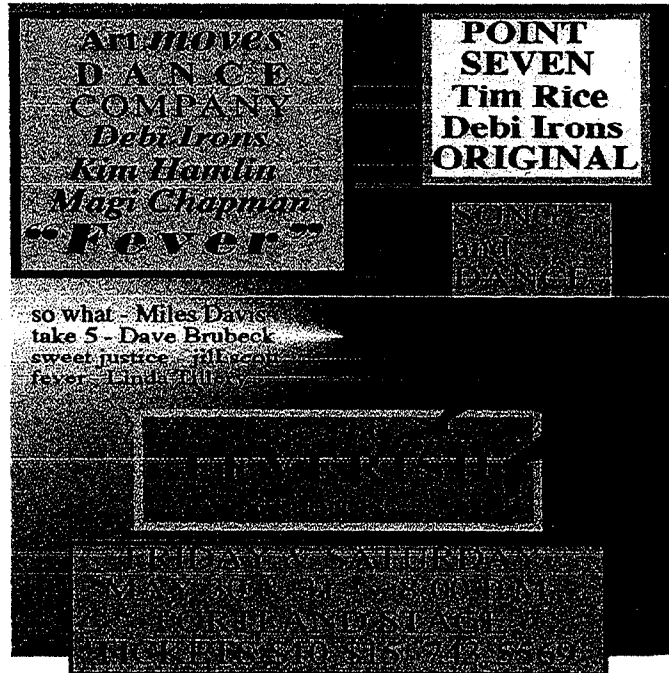
Amy is a junior theatre major. Her focus is acting but is thrilled at this first chance to light design. Amy has been heavily involved with the department and has enjoyed every minute of it. She would like to thank Chuck for his insight into this technical world.

Jacob Walton - Lighting Design

Jacob is a junior theatre major from Boothbay, Maine. He has worked on many shows at USM; most recently on *Cabaret* as a designer. He was an assistant stage manager for *Camino Real* and the set designer last fall for S.P.A.'s production of *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*.

Jerome Wills - Lighting Design & Sound Design

Jerome is a senior theatre and English major with a minor in education. He is also Vice President of Two Lights Theatre Ensemble. He was the scenic designer for the American premiere of *La Promise*, which was produced by Two Lights Theatre Ensemble in the fall of 2002. His latest work at USM was a scenic and sound designer for *Machinal*. Jerome was also part of the scenic design team for this semester's musical, *Cabaret*.



Production Staff

Stage Manager	Joshua G.R. Hurd
Assistant Stage Managers	Caroline Guilmartin, Mea Tavares
Technical Director	Matthew Meeds
Costume Shop Supervisor	Kris Hall
Stitchers	Corey Anderson, Ariel Francoeur, Lindsay Higgins, Kelsy MacKilligan, Jules Michaud, C.J. Payne, Jillian Shapleigh, Jonna W. Klaiber, Sunny Hitt, Kate Law, Rachel Garfield, Shannon Campbell, Heather Crocker and Costume Lab

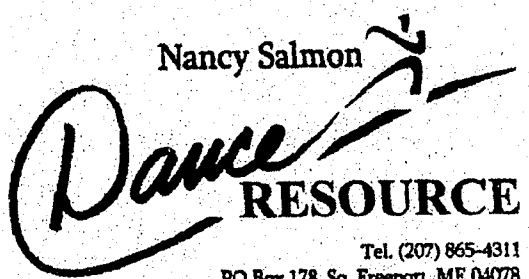
Production Crew

Deck Crew	Craig Bouchard-Geis, Jen Turcotte
Wardrobe	Lindsay Higgins, Jules Michaud, Rachel Garfield, and Nate Greene
Light Board Operator	Jake Theberge
Sound Board Operator	Heather Crocker
Sound Designer	Jerome Wills
Sound Engineer	C.J. Payne

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Arts Events Director	Emmanuelle Chaulet
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