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Spring 2-1996

Moving Stories Program [1996]

University of Southern Maine Department of Theatre

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THE DANCE FESTIVAL

USM Department of Theatre

Moving Stories

directed by Emily Ojala
assistant director, Wendy Getchell



7:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday
February 15 and 16, 1996
The Main Stage, Russell Hall
USM Gorham Campus

University of Southern Maine Department of Theatre
Dance Festival '96

PROGRAM

King Herod's Song

Music: King Herod's Song from *Jesus Christ Superstar*
Choreographer: Lew-Ann Leen
Dancers: Wendy Getchell, Mathew Ryder, Gina Lane Estes,
Danielle Estes, Patrick Davis, Dawn Nguyen
Lighting design: Rene Renner
Costume design: Matthew Ryder

Anicca

Dancers: Paul Dearborn, Joe Radziszewski
Lighting design: Sarah Parisien

Growing From the Inside Out

Music: Kate Bush, Cocteau Twins, and Lisa Germano
Choreographer / Dancer: Wendy Getchell
Lighting design: Fred Fauver
Costume design: Susan Picinich

Repartee

Music: Marty Ehrlich and the Dark Woods Ensemble
Choreographer: Emily Ojala
Dancers: Lisa Hicks, Emily Ojala
Lighting design: Fred Fauver

INTERMISSION

Munjoy Hill

Music: Live Wire by AC/DC
Choreographer: Lew-Ann Leen
Dancers: Jayson Mathieu, Heather Bissell, Christine Ronco,
Elizabeth Bach, Susan Palmer, Valeri Sousa,
Danielle Estes, Jennifer Desrosiers
Lighting design: Rene Renner
Costume design: Elizabeth Bach

13

Music: Kronos Quartet
Choreographer / Dancer: Alice Starr McFarland
Lighting design: Rene Renner
Costume design: Susan Picinich
Photography: Shannon O'Connor

Whiney Whiney Dance

Music: Whiney Whiney by Willi One Blood
Choreographer: Patrick Davis
Dancers: Patrick Davis and Tia Pike
Lighting design: Stephanie Hughes
Costume design: Patrick Davis and Tia Pike

Nightmare on Hell Street

(Between Congress and Cumberland)

Comic surrealism - a work in progress

Music: Enya, Dead Can Dance, The Alloy Orchestra, Vangelis
Choreographer: Esduardo Mariscal
Performers: Joshua Bisset, Adrian Boudreau, Eric Chase,
Ellie Falby, Kimery Felix, Julie Fitzgerald, Jeffery L. Fortman,
Wendy E. Getchell, Tara Heavel, Tom Kennedy,
Esduardo Mariscal?, Stan Paul, James Shay, Andrea Scarfo,
Brady-Anne Winn, and Gibbs Zabot-Hall.
Lighting design: Jamie Grant and Esduardo Mariscal
Costume design: Christenia Kinne and Esduardo Mariscal

**TECHNICAL / SUPPORT CREW FOR
MOVING STORIES**

Artistic Director: Emily Ojala
Assistant Director: Wendy Getchell
Technical Director: Fred Fauver
Stage Manager: Stephanie Hughes
Assistant Stage Managers: Alison Guinn & Sarah Parisien
Master Electrician: Jamie Grant
Sound board operator: Luca Richard
Publicity / program: Mary Snell
Box office: Emmanuelle Chaulet

Director's Notes

The USM Dance Festival is an annual event that was started ten years ago by Nancy Salmon, an inspiring teacher and talented choreographer who taught dance here in the Theatre Department at USM. I am grateful for her past efforts that have made my job that much easier.

Participating in the Dance Festival can be a rewarding experience for students and professional dancers and choreographers. The atmosphere is that of exploration, learning and growth. The production is almost totally student produced, from lighting designers to stage managers. As a more seasoned dancer I appreciate being among the newly inspired dancers and artists involved in this production. I am reminded of why I chose to become a dancer and why dance/movement is so important to me as an individual, and as a member of a community. I believe moving one's body has the potential to stimulate the movement of ideas, emotions and change.

Lisa Hicks, a professional Portland dancer, will be performing with me in a duet this evening. The dance, *Repartee*, explores movement as a form of conversation between people, and the relational aspects of giving and receiving. I would like to thank Lisa for her contributions to the dance.

This concert also includes two solo works by theatre students, Wendy Getchell and Alice McFarland who will also be participating in a college dance festival at Plymouth State College this weekend. Their work explores personal myth and experience through the medium of movement. Another duet choreographed by students Patrick Davis and Tia Pike is a witty, satirical and highly unique interpretation of the polka.

Lew-Ann Leen teaches Theatre Dance for the Theatre Department here. Her jazz dances include an original work to a song from *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and the other, described to me by Lew-Ann as, "a 90's West Side Story," to ACDC.

Paul Dearborn and Joe Radziszewski, guest artists, will be performing an art/sport called contact improvisation. Contact improvisation was first developed in the early 1970's by Steve Paxton, who, along with other New York choreographers spend a period of time in the 1960's questioning the boundaries and expanding our definitions of dance. People all over the world have been practicing, reinterpreting and elaborating on the dance form ever since.

Esduardo Mariscal is a guest artist at the USM Theatre Department this year. I have been excited to have him involved in this production. Mr. Mariscal has contributed his professionalism and integrity and a cutting-edge style of dance which is sure to add an intriguing element to the Dance Festival. Thank you for coming, enjoy the show!

Emily Ojala

13

Music: Kronos Quartet

Choreographer / Dancer: Alice Starr McFarland

Lighting design: Rene Renner

Costume design: Susan Picinich

Photography: Shannon O'Connor

Whiney Whiney Dance

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Dancers: Patrick Davis and Tia Pike

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Performers: Joshua Bisset, Adrian Boudreau, Eric Chase, Ellie Falby, Kimery Felix, Julie Fitzgerald, Jeffery L. Fortman, Wendy E. Getchell, Tara Heavel, Tom Kennedy, Esduardo Mariscal?, Stan Paul, James Shay, Andrea Scarfo, Brady-Anne Winn, and Gibbs Zabot-Hall.

Lighting design: Jamie Grant and Esduardo Mariscal

Costume design: Christenia Kinne and Esduardo Mariscal

TECHNICAL / SUPPORT CREW FOR MOVING STORIES

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Emily Ojala

From the Guest Choreographer

"Nightmare on Hell Street (Between Congress and Cumberland)" was inspired by the Hell section of the triptych from the Middle Ages, "The Garden of Delights," by Hieronymus Bosch. The piece, composed of several little sections with no apparent connection, was built with images and theatrical situations. This work was originally initiated as a community project open to anyone, with no experience necessary. It grew into a collaboration with the USM Dance Festival. Don't try to understand me, try to feel me.

Esduardo Mariscal

BIOGRAPHIES

Emily Ojala is a dancer, choreographer and dance educator. She has a BFA in modern dance from the University of Utah and an MFA in dance movement therapy from Antioch New England Graduate School. Ms. Ojala danced with Ram Island Dance Company of Portland from 1986-1993. She has taught in schools throughout the state as a Maine Touring Artist/Arts-in Education dancer educator. This year Ms. Ojala is conducting a unique movement therapy program at Sweetser Children Services school in Saco and teaches Contemporary Dance in the Theatre Department at USM.

Esduardo Mariscal is an award-winning dancer and choreographer. He has performed in the most important festivals in Mexico, at the Bates Dance Festival, in Arts Festival Atlanta, in New York City, San Diego, and recently at the Dance Portland festival. He is a guest artist at USM for 1995-96. Esduardo would like to thank the students from the USM Theatre/Dance department and the people in the greater Portland community for their participation, as well as the *Casco Bay Weekly* and *Ram Island Dance* for their support.

Wendy E. Getchell is a sophomore theatre major who hopes to enlighten and educate herself and others through performance. She choreographed "The Drama of the Women-child" in the 1995 Dance Festival, and two pieces in the play, *A Dream of Canaries*. "From the Inside Out" is a piece inspired by learning about my inner self and the history of the women in my family. As women, it seems we BECOME through our deepest struggles, and through the pains of our ancestors which linger about and breathe in and out. I would like to thank Emily Ojala and Alice McFarland for their support and inspiration, Fred Fauver, and Susan Picinich. I dedicate this to my mother."

Lew-Ann Leen is currently teaching dance classes from Casco BayMovers, The Kittery Recreation Department and the University of Southern Maine. She has choreographed for productions at USM, Portland Players, and the Schoolhouse Performing Arts Center where she will be choreographing *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* this spring. She is the founder and artistic director of a theater/performance group, Shenanigans, in Ogunquit.

Alice Star McFarland, a junior theatre major at USM, was an assistant choreographer and dancer in last year's Dance Festival. This is her first solo. She is also currently appearing in the department's ongoing production of *Purple Breasts* which was recently honored as one of the best college productions in New England at the American College Theater Festival.

Joe Radziszewski and **Paul Dearborn** have been moving together since May of 1994 with another partner, Kari VanTine. Their primary form is contact improvisation, a style of dance/art/sport in which the movement is created spontaneously using the natural energy flow that occurs when people move together. The dance takes place in the moment with out any choreography. The dynamics revolve around gravity and levity and the natural weight changes that happen among the dancers.

Upcoming Events in the Department of Theatre

February 22 - 25: Oak Street Theater, Oak St., Portland
Purple Breasts by Lindstrom, Symon, Markus, McMahon & Paterson, directed by Will Kilroy

March 8 - 17: The Main Stage, Russell Hall, USM Gorham
La Ronde by Arthur Schnitzler, directed by Walter Stump.

March 21 - 22: The Lab Theatre, Russell Hall, USM Gorham
The Doctor and Moses by Mary Catherine
A USM Student Performing Artists production.

April 19 - 28: The Main Stage, Russell Hall, USM Gorham
The Poor of Portland by Dion Boucicault, directed by Minor Rootes