Spring 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
PROGRAM

King Herod's Song
*Music:* King Herod's Song from *Jesus Christ Superstar*
*Choreographer:* Lew-Ann Leen
*Dancers:* Wendy Getchell, Matthew 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

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
*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.

Eduardo 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
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Emily Ojala
Lew-Ann Leen is currently teaching dance classes from Casco Bay Movers, 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 without 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