

Los Angeles Choreographers & Dancers

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11/13/08 10:30 & 12 noon

Louise Reichlin & Dancers / Dance At the Stone House

Sun Valley Youth Arts Center 213-385-1171

8642 Sunland Blvd., Sun Valley, CA 91352

photo: Louise Reichlin



2/27/09 - 5:00 pm

Louise Reichlin & Dancers

The Steelworkers Auditorium 909-428-8818

8437 Sierra Ave., Fontana CA 92335

photo: Paul Antico

PERFORMANCE FREE

**LAC&D NEWSLETTER
FALL 2008**

Los Angeles Choreographers & Dancers

213.385.1171



SUN VALLEY
YOUTH ARTS CENTER

DANCE
AT THE
STONE HOUSE

photo above:
Steve Fobalvarro

photo right:
Louise Reichlin

A special opportunity for 4th through 6th graders to participate in a 45-minute original interactive performance/workshop that crosses disciplines.

Audience Open to the Public FREE ADMISSION

Los Angeles Choreographers & Dancers

FALL 2008

Los Angeles Choreographers & Dancers' mission is to create high-quality, innovative concert work for Los Angeles artists, communicate to a diverse audience by using LA cultural influences, and to enlarge an educated dance audience in populations typically underexposed to the arts, especially youth. While involving audiences with participatory activities we explore humanistic themes. In this way, **LA C&D** is committed to using dance as a unifying force that crosses cultural, generational, language and socio-economic lines. Founded in 1979, **LA C&D**, a non-profit organi-

zation, has presented multiple educational programs and created many new works. Two professional companies, **Louise Reichlin & Dancers** (modern) and **Zapped Taps™/Alfred Desio** (electronic and acoustic tap) made up **LA C&D** until Desio's death in 2007. The mission for each of our dancers echoes that of our company: to focus but remain adaptable, to have persistence, to present inspiration, excellence and quality coupled with dependability and consistency, examining and deepening the connection with each other and our world.



GOOD TIMES! BAD TIMES!

Louise Reichlin, Director

GOOD TIMES (GT) Good times are waking up in the morning, shaking out my legs and jumping out of bed, riding my stationary bike in the yard looking up at the most beautiful leaves and trees in this challenging and vital city that has been my home since the early 70's.

BAD TIMES (BT) Bad times are when every single day I mourn the loss of my inspirational husband. I never realized what loss was. The artist in me is planning new work for *The Reality Series* about this, working title "Baggage", not in a bad sense but in the way that so many carry through this world the people they have lost.

(GT) Good times are learning that three of our largest public grants have been renewed. They're from the California Arts Council, the Los Angeles County Arts Commission, and the Department of Cultural Affairs, City of Los Angeles. These grants are highly competitive and they're a tribute to LA C&D, our artistic merit and the quality of our programming. In addition to always needed money, these grants provide some valuable opportunities. One was the recent invitation to perform at the Tri Art Festival in San Pedro; another is a short-listing to a pool of potential artists for DCA's Public Art program, which brings site-specific programs to both public and private spaces.

BAD TIMES (BT) What is happening with our economy? As we near the end

of the calendar year, every day we hear about bailouts, rapidly plunging then rising markets only to dive again – unlike anything most of us have experienced in our lifetimes. And here we are asking you for money?

(GT) Yes, we are AND we want to let you know exactly how your donation will help. Good times for us included 1,101 performances, workshops and services this past year alone. We know this figure from the California Cultural Data Project that we are now required to fill out for most of our grant applications. The time required to fill out this information felt like bad times, but upon finishing, we now can track all of our programs, people, and money and we discovered that 90% of our money went for programming. In the last three years we have educated more than 50,000 students at 65 schools in the LAUSD alone. Last year donations helped in creating a series of premieres for our newest work, *The Reality Series*, shown first in progress at the Electric Lodge and in previews at The Rosalie and Alva Performance Gallery. *Dance At the Stone House*, a highly experimental interactive work premiered at the Sun Valley Youth Arts Center (read more about this year's event on the next page). Your donations are imperative to meet the matching goals for our three renewed public grants.

(GT) - (BT) Good times are when our audience discusses and gets excited about the new works in post performance talks and when critics are interested and positive. (Random Lengths). Good times are a picture article in the LA Times and the Daily Breeze titled "Louise Reichlin & Her Troupe Are Creating Art People Can Relate To." To see

review and article + others click on "Media Coverage" near the top of our homepage: www.LAChoreographersAndDancers.org. Bad times are when you hold the curtain for a LA Times reviewer who is late and doesn't want to be there, and when one of the premieres begins and the video doesn't play. Bad times are when the lighting designer goes off head-set and doesn't hear me asking for the lights to come down so the dancers can stop turning endlessly, waiting for the music and images to begin, but my mike is turned on so the audience can hear me. Good times are being able to give free tickets to teachers and students from five high schools and middle schools to our full-scale production at the Madrid this past May. And good times are most definitely creating and rehearsing and troubleshooting technical issues and finally performing our works with lights and costumes – at last for others besides ourselves.

TO SUM IT UP - Please look at our mission above in our newsletter masthead. It finishes - the mission for each of our dancers echoes that of our company: to focus but remain adaptable, to have persistence, to present inspiration, excellence and quality coupled with dependability and consistency, examining and deepening the connection with each other and our world. Add to that – to keep alive and convey the element of PLAY that artists retain and that is such an important part of a passionate life.

photo of Louise Reichlin & students above and photo of students on funding page 3 by Christian Moppett.

RETURN OF DANCE AT THE STONE HOUSE

Last year we debuted our new site-specific piece *Dance at the Stone House* at the Sun Valley Youth Arts Center. The unique use of the historic 1925 Stone House building, the native river rocks set into its interior and exterior architecture and the restriction of only six people in a room inspired Louise Reichlin to create this work for 4th through 6th grade students. Working with our professional company dancers, the students explore the site and artwork there, learning and creating movement phrases that are then integrated into an original dance based on both architecture and movement. It is a completely kinetic approach to the building as the students are both audience on either the outside lawn or inside room, and are part of the performance at the appropriate time. We had such success with this project last year that we were invited to return: on Nov. 13th there will be two performances FREE for the general public, 10:30am and 12:00pm. Joining us will be students from two schools. Featured dancers for this performance, pictured on the outside cover, are Anaja Holloway, Hudson Oliveria, Sun-Yun Park, Stephanie Simpson and Jaclyn Speas. Each performance is unique and one of a kind. Audience observation seats are limited and FREE, so please reserve yours now by phone, 213-385-1171 or email. Future dates are still available for schools that may be interested in this participatory program for their students. Please contact us for fee structures and dates. Free busses may be available.

RECENT AND UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

Our newest work *The Reality Series* only had its official premiere in May, but already we've had a second performance in September at the Tri Art Festival at the Warner Grand Theatre in San Pedro, for which we received some great media coverage. Also at the festival we performed excerpts from our family dance/theatre/multi-media work, *The Patchwork Girl of Oz*. We'll also be spotlighting *Patchwork Girl* at the upcoming IPAY (International Performing Arts for Youth) conference. Special thanks to those of you who made it to San Pedro to see us and the five other companies who performed. On February 27th is a FREE performance at the Steelworkers Auditorium presented by the city of Fontana, Cultural Arts Department at 5:00pm. We will be doing several works from *The Reality Series* and excerpts from *The Tennis Dances*. For information, call 909-428-8818. It will also be highlighted in our E-NEWSLETTERS – please sign up on our website if you wish to receive email updates.

YOUTUBE.COM VIDEOS

Since our spring newsletter, we've added a YouTube.com site for Alfred Desio: www.YouTube.com/AlfredDesio and one for Louise Reichlin: www.YouTube.com/LouiseReichlin, each with its own set of videos. New videos, both current and earlier works, are added regularly so check often.



TAP-TRONIC SUMMIT

Pictured above- a photo sent to me by Julie McLeod from *The Dance at the Gym* in the original *West Side Story*- yes, that's Alfred Desio just right of center. In the other photo are Charlie Bow and Peter Brunner delving into Alfred's Tap-Tronic equipment along with a group that included Matt Lincir, Larry Richards and Hiroshi Hamanishi. They met in July to get the system working and do some planning for possible future developments. Other recent tributes and honors for Alfred Desio include one from Rosie Radiator, creator of Xtremetap™, who invited Louise Reichlin to San Francisco for a tribute presentation about Alfred (and a SoundDance Award) at the Royce Gallery. There was also a dedication to Alfred at the Colburn School where Msaada



Nia and students Joshua Villanueva, Rachel Rosenbaum, Zoe Lesser, and Margaret Havunjian performed one of his pieces that Hiroshi Hamanishi had staged with them. A memorial plaque was hung in the tap studio. Many of us were disappointed that the school didn't name the studio after Alfred, especially after so many letters were sent to that effect. Regardless, he will be remembered by so many he came in contact with, not only for his amazing gifts as a dancer and teacher, but also for the confidence he inspired in those he worked with. Again, you can see more photos in our

past e-newsletters archived on our website: LACHoreographersAndDancers.org/enews.html, and also in the biography/slideshow video on YouTube.

LA C&D INTRODUCES E-NEWSLETTERS

Can't get enough LA C&D? Recently we began sending monthly e-newsletters and the response has been amazing. We keep you up to date on all LA C&D news, including our work with LA area schools, where to see us perform, updates to our website, links and more! Many of you have been "clicking through" to our videos, educational resources and presenter/funding information. You can also see our past e-newsletters archived on our website www.LACHoreographersAndDancers.org/enews.html. If you haven't been receiving e-newsletters, you can sign up on our home page.

SOUTHERN CA DANCE DIRECTORY MORE THAN 500 LISTINGS

The Southern CA Dance Directory that Reichlin began in 1995 is alive and well with over 500 listings of professional dance companies and related organizations. This free service is accessed by thousands of people each month - dance jobs have even come about through this resource! However, if the wrong email or phone number is listed, it's up to you to contact us and usually within 24 hours we will correct it. If you are not listed and would like to be, please email your company's information in the format that is there. This is a special project that is a labor of love - no grant funds involved - so we appreciate you helping us keep it up to date.

JUST FOR TEACHERS

Every year we bring Standards based dance programs to thousands of students, providing an engaging and inspiring learning experience that better prepares them to be creative and innovative as well as become adaptive adults. Besides our Arts Community Partnership packages, we also offer a number of residencies as part of the new SB1131 funds centered on Professional Development for teachers. Our PD programs include "Creating a Dance," "Weaving Dance Into the Curriculum," "Dance and Open Court" and "Using Specific Cultural Dances." More information on all our educational programs can be accessed on our website and educational newsletters archived there. This includes 10 programs on LAArtsEd.org and Arts Community Partnership Network packages.



Featured in the photo are some of the students from our ACPN residency at Manchester ES last season, who performed with us and are wearing shirts they have designed. We're excited to continue our mission to bring California Standards based dance education to children again this year and we need your help. A school administrator asked me with disbelief how the state of CA could give money to an arts organization in this financial climate. But in truth, the arts are so important they deserve to be a priority even in uncertain times. Data from The College Boards shows that students who take four years of arts and music classes while in high school score 103 points better on their SATs than students who take only one-half year or less, but to me the most important thing about the arts is that they open us up to creativity and thinking "outside the box." Art allows us to look within ourselves and to each other, and relate to what we have in common as human beings. It allows for an expression of that humanity - it supports young (and even not-so-young) people in creating their own place in our world. At the end of a workshop at Ascot Ave. ES in central Los Angeles last spring, a 2nd grade teacher said to me, "Today you were an inspiration to our students. They

PLEASE BECOME PART OF OUR SUPPORT GROUP

have never had the focus and motivation that you helped them find today - your words and movement examples have provided them with something I, their regular teacher, had never found for them during our (academic) classes."

Thanks to those of you who sent us contributions this year. Please consider a donation if you have not given us one, or add another if you have already. This newsletter talks about the many areas it will support. And it will also fund the development of a new dance at The Jazz Bakery in April. Remember those three big public grants we mentioned earlier? We need to match every dollar of that public funding or it will not be released to us! And we need to keep creating art!

Some premiums: those who donate \$100 or more can request the Desio Memorial DVD, which includes a photo slideshow and videos plus additional materials including more than 100 photos. If you have already donated this amount since Alfred's death and have not requested it, please contact us for the DVD. You may also add to a recent contribution to receive this gift.

Those who donate \$50 or more can request a CD-ROM (for Mac or PC computers) of Louise Reichlin's family programming that includes 35 minutes of video plus photos and press materials.

We also have a limited supply of Zapped Taps and Colburn Kids Tap/L.A. t-shirts for donations of \$25 or more. A very small supply of the original white "Louise Dancing" t-shirts are available but only in XXL size. T-shirts will only be sent upon request and a \$3 mailing/handling fee.

Please make checks out to **Los Angeles Choreographers & Dancers** and mail to: 351 S. Virgil Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90020. Or make a contribution on our web site: **www.LAChoreographersAndDancers.org**

All donations are tax deductible and our 501C3 number is 95-3509028.

We now have e-newsletters featuring instant access to all the latest **LA C&D** news and photos. To subscribe contact us at **louisehr@LAChoreographersAndDancers.org** with your preferred email address or sign up on our web site. Also, our phone number is **213-385-1171**. We would love to hear from you!



The events of this season are supported, in part, by the California Arts Council, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. Also, the City of Los Angeles, Department of Cultural Affairs, and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Los Angeles County Arts Commission.

MANY THANKS TO OUR LA C&D SUPPORTERS

We would like to thank the following for their support last season and this, including government, foundations, businesses and individuals. We are pleased to have you as friends and hope you will continue to support our performances and outreach programs.

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- California Arts Council
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- City of Los Angeles Dept. of Cultural Affairs Public Art Grants
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- Colburn School of Performing Arts
- GAM, Joe Tawill
- Sun Valley Youth Arts Center
- "Chuy c/s" Rangel, Steve Sobalvarro
- Tri Art Festival, Joe Caccavalla
- ALVAS, Matt Lincir, Sheava Rahimi
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The Tennis Dances photo by Paul Antico