

beautiful and demanding
different is good

some of the best modern dance in New England

family friendly

infectious rhythms

treat yourself to a memorable evening

refreshingly fun

a diverse delight

an engaging experience

magnificent

bound to lift your spirits



FUSIONWORKS INFORMATION
WWW.FUSIONWORKSDANCE.ORG

CONTENTS

Biographies

Company page 3

Artistic Director page 4

Dancers page 5

Lighting Designer page 6

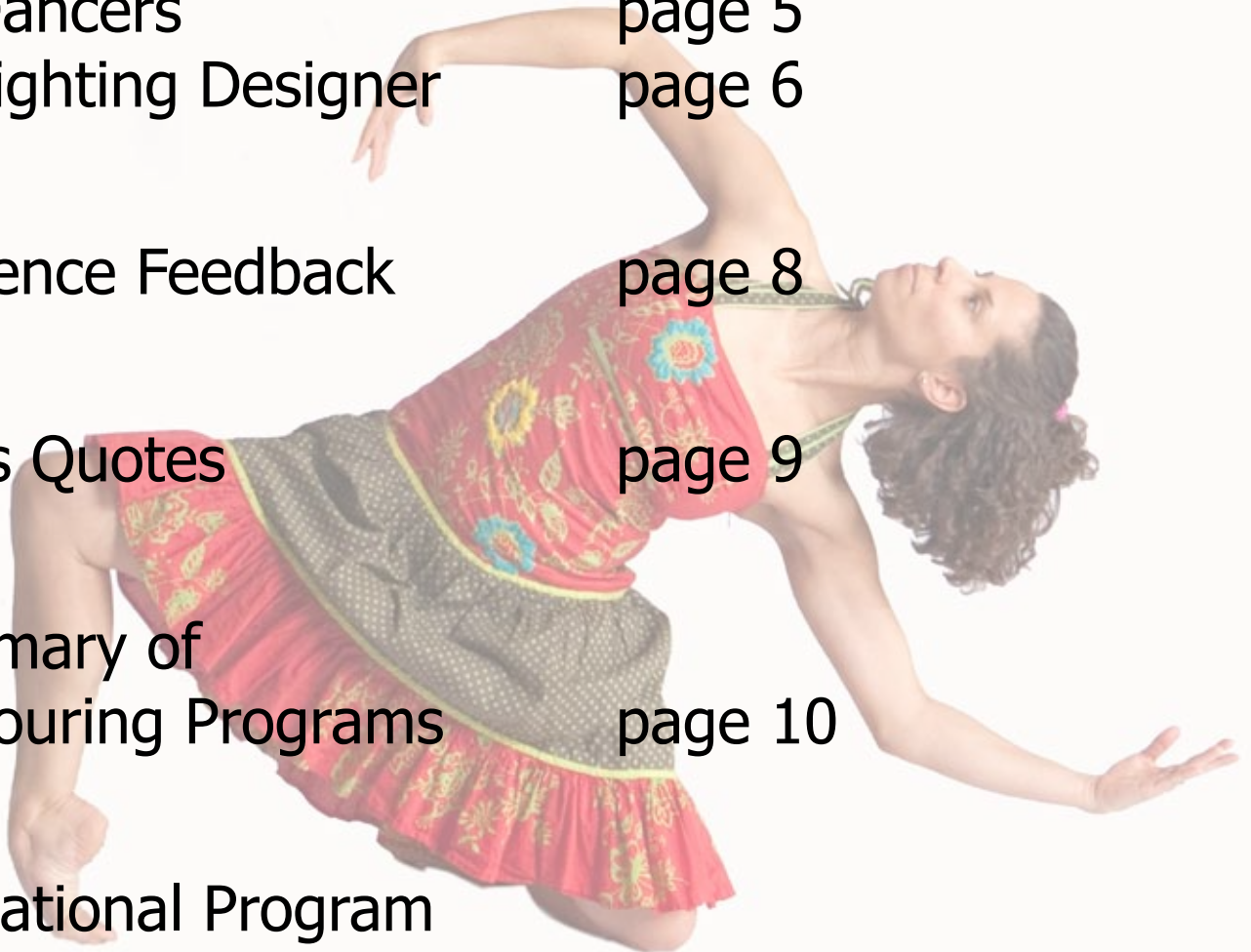
Audience Feedback page 8

Press Quotes page 9

Summary of
Touring Programs page 10

Educational Program
Descriptions page 11

Educational
Recommendations page 12





FUSIONWORKS

DANCE COMPANY

Company Biography

Fusionworks Dance Company has an exciting history spanning more than twenty years as Rhode Island's only modern dance repertory company. Known for their gutsy, striking, and provocative interpretation of work from an impressive line-up of contemporary choreographers, including Artistic Director Deb Meunier.

The Fusionworks dancers bring a spirit of intelligence, humor, and collaboration to their performances. The press has described Fusionworks as "magnificent" (Providence Journal), "beautiful and demanding" (Hartford Courant) and presenting concerts that "stretch the imagination and sooth the soul" (Phoenix).

Both the uninitiated to modern dance and the modern dance aficionado will enjoy Fusionworks' 'tapas menu' style performances, which offer a selection of dances that range in mood, influence, and energy. Fusionworks offers a variety of concerts, residencies, master classes, and educational and community programs for all audiences, Fusionworks lives (and dances) by its motto:



"Different is Good."





FUSIONWORKS

DANCE COMPANY

Artistic Director



Deb Meunier serves as artistic director and primary choreographer for Fusionworks Dance Company and Fusionworks Dance Academy. Her choreography has been produced at Mahoosuc Arts Council in Maine, Jacob's Pillow Inside Out, Dance Services Network, ECA, The Mayfair Festival in PA, Artspace of New Haven, the Gowanus Outback Series, The Field, and the 92nd Street Y of NYC. In the spring of 2001 her choreography was chosen to represent Rhode Island performing artists in the New England Artist's Congress and she was invited back to present her choreography at the prestigious 92nd Street Y in NYC in the spring of 2003. Companies throughout the Northeast including the Rhode Island College Modern Dance Company, Brown University Dance Extension, Providence College Dance Company, WORKS Contemporary Dance of Hartford, and Bridgewater State University have commissioned her works.

Deb is known for her spirit of collaboration and has worked with painters, musicians, sculptors, filmmakers and other choreographers and dancers throughout the years. She is a member of the Artists in Residence Educational Roster as well as the New England Foundation for the Arts Roster. Deb received a MALS and the Rulewater Prize from Wesleyan University for her work on an interdisciplinary choreography with the Rhode Island School for the Deaf. Deb received the 2003 Individual Achievement Award from the Arts and Business Council of RI for her significant contributions to the arts in Rhode Island. She was also awarded a Meet the Composer Fellowship in 2006 from the New England Foundation for the Arts for a project in collaboration with world percussionist Michael DeQuattro.



FUSIONWORKS

DANCE COMPANY

Dancers Biographies



Amy Chiao received her early training at Meg Nutting's Studio, Dance Arts Academy and later Ballet Etc. in Traverse City, Michigan. She has performed with Company Dance Traverse, Northwest Michigan Ballet Theatre, and Lansing Chamber Dance. Amy graduated from Michigan State University with a B.S. in Computer Science and continued on to get her Master of Science in Computer Science from Syracuse University. Amy moved to Rhode Island in 2006 and joined Fusionworks in 2007.



Melody Gamba has been dancing since she was able to walk and received her early training from Carolyn Dutra. She was awarded a dance and academic scholarship to Marymount Manhattan College in New York City. While there she was a member of the Marymount College Dance Company and was assistant rehearsal director. She graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Dance and was awarded the "Silver M" for outstanding leadership in the Marymount College dance community. She studied under and performed works by Milton Myers, Elizabeth Auclair, Merle Holloman, Jose Limon, Anna Sokolow, Deb Meunier, Laura Bennett, Julie Strandberg, Robert Battle, Andrea Woods, and Chris Elam. Melody was awarded jazz scholarships from Mia Michaels and Tom Ralabate. In 2006, Motif Magazine awarded her "Best Choreography" for her work on "A Christmas Carol, the Musical". Melody is a certified Pilates Instructor and has advanced training in programs for cancer patients, golfers, pre-natal fitness, anatomy for movement and body conditioning, injury prevention, and rehabilitation.



Sheramy Keegan-Turcotte was born and raised in Massachusetts. While living in New York City she had the pleasure of performing with Jana Hicks, Noemie LaFrance's SENS Production, Isabel Gotskowsky and Dancers, Lexington Dance Collective, Avila/Weeks Dance, Cornfield Dance, Nina Buisson, Ko-Ryo Dance Theater and Silver Brown Dance among others. She has also performed nationally and internationally with the Next Stage Project and has performed in works by Kevin Wynn, Oliver Steele, Doug Elkins and Jane Franklin. She was awarded a Masters of Science in Dance Science with Merit from the Laban Centre for Dance in London, UK. She graduated summa cum laude with a BFA in Dance Performance from Shenandoah Conservatory and an AA in Dance from Dean College. Sheramy is a certified Pilates Instructor and has worked extensively as a dance researcher, grant writer and arts administrator. Sheramy joined Fusionworks in 2008.



Mary Hanlon, a native of Hingham, Massachusetts, received her classical ballet training from Boston Ballet. She attended The Harid Conservatory in Boca Raton, FL and The Kirov Academy of Ballet in Washington, DC prior to attending Providence College where she received her Bachelor's Degree in Theatre and Dance. Mary previously danced with Fusionworks from 2003-2006. Mary is a recruiter for her family executive recruiting firm, Manning Personnel Group, in Boston.



Betsy Miller is a native of Wooster, Ohio. She is a co-director of Propel-her Dance, an innovative choreographic collective based in New York City, and is currently a Special Lecturer in Dance at Providence College. She has recently performed in works by Michael Kelly Bruce, Ming Shen Ku, Kristin O'Neal, Shawn Hove, and Marden Ramos, and in collaborations with Maggie Bennett and Erik Abbott-Main. Her choreography has been presented in various venues in New York City, Ohio, Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Texas. She holds an MFA in Dance from The Ohio State University and a BA in Dance from Connecticut College.



Alexandra Rose received her early training at the Jasper School of Dance in Cumberland, RI and spent her high school years training seriously at Brae Crest School of Ballet and as a company member of the State Ballet of Rhode Island. She recently graduated from Denison University in Granville, OH, with a B.A. in Dance and a B.A. in Economics. It was there that she became more interested in contemporary, modern and African dance. During her time at school, she enjoyed teaching, acting as a dance fellow, and choreographing multiple works. Excited to return to her home state, Alexandra is currently working as an administrator and teacher for the Jasper School of Dance. She is thrilled to be joining Fusionworks.



Stephanie Stanford Shaw has been with Fusionworks since 1992. She serves as assistant to the director for the company and director and primary choreographer for Fusionworks II. In addition to serving as business manager for Fusionworks Stephanie also teaches at the Fusionworks Dance Academy and Stars of Tomorrow Dance Studio. Before joining Fusionworks Stephanie was a principal dancer with the Cumberland Company for the Performing Arts and received a BFA in dance from the Boston Conservatory. Her work, "All You Need to Know", was chosen to represent the Rhode Island dance scene as part of the 2002 National Dance Education Organization (NDEO) conference and in 2012 her dance "Turf Wars?" was performed at the first annual "Day of Dance" presented by Dance Alliance of Rhode Island and the Massachusetts Dance Education Organization.



Mallory Walker recently graduated Summa Cum Laude from Bridgewater State College with a BA in Dance Education. She received her early training at Stars of Tomorrow Dance Studio in North Attleboro, MA. While at Bridgewater, Mallory performed with the BSC Dance Company and the BSC Dance Ensemble, where she studied under Dr. Jody Weber of Weber Dance (Boston). She has also had the privilege of performing with Sokolow Now! - an Anna Sokolow archival company. Even if for just a short while, Mallory feels honored to have worked with people such as Marjorie Morgan (Boston), and Indian classical dance master, Kausalya Srinivasan (Madras, India). Currently, Mallory teaches at Unique Steps Dance Academy in Plainville, MA. Mallory joined Fusionworks in 2009.



FUSIONWORKS

DANCE COMPANY

Lighting Designer

Tim Cryan Recent collaborations: East River Commedia "The Magnificent Cuckold" (dir. Paul Bargetto), "The Disappearing Woman" (Choreography by Nell Breyer, Alissa Cardone, Lorraine Chapman & Bronwen MacArthur), Fiasco Theatre Company "Cymbeline" (dir. Noah Brody & Ben Steinfeld), Diamanda Galas (performances at Spiegeltent & Joe's Pub, NYC), Martha Graham Dance Company "Visions from the House of Atreus" Athens Greece, Eiko & Koma "Cambodian Stories Revisited" Danspace Project NYC, Jamie Jewett "Melt" (Joyce Soho), "Welkom in het Bos" (dir. Erwin Maas), Dianne McIntyre & Olu Dara "Peaches, Poems, and Pontifications" (651 Arts), Nature Theatre of Oklahoma "Fragment", "Poetics-a ballet brut", "Kasimir & Karoline", & "Three Sisters"(dir. Pavol Liska), Sara Rudner "Dancing on View Variations" (Summer Stages Dance at Concord Academy). In addition he is the resident lighting designer for Fusionworks Dance Company (Providence RI), the Dario Vaccaro Dance Project (NYC), and adjunct faculty member with Long Island University's Dance Department (Brooklyn Campus). MFA: NYU Tisch School of the Arts. Portfolio: <http://timcryan.net>

Tim's work with Fusionworks:





FUSIONWORKS

DANCE COMPANY

Audience Feedback

The dancing was gorgeous - great food for my soul and spirit...I felt privileged to be there.

Fusionworks is excitement, color, rhythm, energy, skill and beauty harnessed in movement that touches the heart and invites the mind to wonder.

It seems as though I have been attending Fusionworks' performances forever, and they are always a joyful and meaningful experience.

Your dancers are gorgeous and your choreography is genius.

I was very impressed by the dance company. They obviously worked very hard and it shows in their ability to dance with seeming abandon and precision at the same time.

The performance was exhilarating.

Your company is amazing, the dancers have such grace, energy and enthusiasm.

Your choreography is both beautiful and intense.



FUSIONWORKS

DANCE COMPANY

Press Quotes

"This 22-year-old company, which has outlasted all competitors in Rhode Island, is dancing better than ever (wider range, more technical ability, real dedication, strong partnering) under the leadership of founder Deb Meunier."

Dance Magazine

"Building on their deft timing, firm partnering and evocative gesture, Fusionworks presents an evening of dance that stretches the imagination and soothes the soul."

The Newspaper/Boston & Providence

We feel this quote truly captures the Fusionworks experience.

"A Fusionworks concert typically offers a wide spectrum of works, varied in tone and style, shape and content. This mix is part of the appeal of a Fusionworks performance, which is often a kind of dance tapas, offering appetizers to audiences ranging in dance appreciation from the beginner's trepidation to the expert's critique."

South County Independent

"Meunier's choreography is beautiful and demanding."

The Hartford Courant

"The company looks stronger than ever, with an emphasis on diversity and variety that has always described their performances".

The Phoenix

"Fusionworks Dance company's fall concert is uplifting-moving, reflective, quirky and refreshingly fun."

Providence Journal

"Once again the company has challenged itself to come, with engaging, sometimes complex works that still manage to be accessible."

South County Independent



FUSIONWORKS

DANCE COMPANY

Summary of Touring Programs

All touring engagements are tailored to suit the needs of the presenter and can include a combination of public performances and outreach programs. The following are just some of the options available for a Fusionworks event: post performance discussion, master classes in Advanced Mixed Modern Technique, the technique used by Fusionworks, community dance classes for all experience levels and ages, open educational rehearsals, short informal presentations in non-traditional spaces including art museums, courtyards and conventions, site-specific structured improvisations, discussions and lectures on the importance of dance in our culture, and artistic collaborations.

Concerts - Fusionworks offers an eclectic array of exciting dances for presentation in a variety of performing venues, including yours. Formats include full evening concerts both traditional and Unwrapped (with spoken introductions), energetic Festival Concerts, and Children and Families Mini-concerts designed specifically for children under twelve.

Single to one week, may also include outreach programs.....fee range \$4,000.-\$15,000.

Residencies – This program focuses on the creation of a new work (either curriculum/community based or an existing format) in approximately fifteen meetings. Residencies include modern dance classes and a performance element for participants. Fusionworks residencies include daily classes, repertory and a full length shared performance.....fee range \$5,000.-\$20,000.

Additional programs available

Fusionworks is a member of the New England Foundation for the Arts Touring Roster. This makes it possible for presenters to apply to NEFA for up to 50% of our fees. For further information and guidelines contact NEFA at (617) 951-0010.

Above fees include travel, lodging and per diem. A \$100 non-refundable deposit will be due upon signing of contract for all programs - longer programs, such as residencies and partnerships, require the same \$100 deposit as well as one half the program cost paid midway through the program and the balance at the final performance.



FUSIONWORKS

DANCE COMPANY

Educational Program Descriptions

Pre-K through 12

Dance Learning Experience Workshops for Very Young Children - Geared to children ages 3 to 6 years, this program involves a fun-loving warm-up that the children join in immediately. Designed specifically for participation, the children are shown short pieces which depict rudimentary concepts (i.e. linear vs. circular) and are then guided in developing their own phrases of movement which explore these concepts.

Dance Learning Experience Workshop - (Grade School, Junior High, Secondary) - Designed for student participation, this format involves a short spoken introduction followed by warm-up exercises and then exploration of dance technique and improvisation. The workshop format is tailored to suit the age of the students and needs of the sponsor. Students move along with the dancers for 90% of this program.

Mini-Concerts for Schools - The focus of our mini-concerts is on performance. In this program, dances are chosen from the active FUSIONWORKS repertory. The program features company dancers performing 2 to 3 works appropriate for the age group. FUSIONWORKS highlights this concert with introductions to each of the pieces by the artistic staff. We recommend presenting a mini-concert, along with DLE Workshops or residencies for the most enriching learning experience.

MOVE! (Minds Opened/Visions Expanded) – An educational field trip, that's also lots of fun! Students are brought to a professional theater to see a live dance concert, during the school day.

Residencies – This program focuses on the creation of a new work (either curriculum based or an existing format) in twelve to fifteen meetings. Residencies include a modern dance warm-up and performance element for students.

Modern Dance Classes and Educational Partnerships – Both classes and partnerships include the study basic techniques of modern dance and improvisation. Classes can include an informal presentation of the skills accumulated. Partnerships include classes as well as repertory and performance work. A partnership involves a weekly, consistent dance class with Fusionworks company members. This format also includes a minimum of one shared performance with Fusionworks. In this concert, students perform an original dance they have helped to create throughout the year.

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FUSIONWORKS

DANCE COMPANY

Educational Recommendations

Full letters of recommendation available.

"I have been teaching here for 31 years and you have brought us the most extraordinary gift I have ever seen."

John Wight, Math Department Chairman
Gould Academy

"It was so cool I jumped out of my seat. That is how cool it was.
A+ Outstanding."

Pedro, 6th Grade Student

"Wow! What a performance! This program was engaging for all and simply a lot of fun, too!"

Nanci Fitzhugh, Principal
Veazie Street School

"The students were constantly engaged. Students that I would never have expected to take an interest were also caught up in the experience."

Jeff Danielian, Teacher
LaSalle Academy

"Thumbs up, to the most exhilarating, comical, and entertaining group of dancers to perform at Saylesville during my 10 year tenure as principal."

Charles T. Graves, Principal
Saylesville Elementary School

"This year's performance captured its young audience from the start and never let go."

Cynthia Goldsmith, Community Outreach Coordinator
Bank of America Arts Showcase (PPAC)

"This has been a very positive experience for our students. There seems to be something of quality for everyone."

Nancy Moses, Coordinator of Dance
Bridgewater State College