

DECIDEDLY JAZZ

D A N C E W O R K S



Jazz Immersion'07

Summer Intensive
July 22 - 28, 2007

What is Jazz Immersion?

A week-long intensive jazz experience for intermediate-advanced students, dance educators and jazz lovers

DJD, a full-time professional dance company, is dedicated to exploring, evolving and promoting the art of jazz dance. Jazz Immersion provides you with a seven day opportunity to delve into the unique style that DJD has created over the past 23 years.

Classes include Jazz, West African, Improvisation, DJD Repertoire, Swing, Latin Jazz and Funk Fusions.

All classes taught by DJD's co-founders, as well as past and present company members.

Calgary, Alberta, Canada | Ph: 403-245-3533 | www.decidedlyjazz.com

- Dedicated to the rich traditions and boundless future of jazz -

IMMERSION FACULTY

Vicki Adams Willis

(Artistic Director, DJD)

Vicki carries on a family tradition that began when her mother, Alice Murdoch Adams opened one of the first dance schools in Calgary in the 1920's. Vicki's passion for dance and jazz has taken her literally all over the globe. Besides teaching and choreographing for countless organizations, including the renowned School at Jacob's Pillow, she founded the Jazz Division in the Faculty of Fine Arts' Program of Dance at the University of Calgary in 1978, and co-founded Decidedly Jazz Danceworks in 1984 where she enthusiastically continues in her role as Artistic Director.

She has received U of C's Superior Teacher Award, Global Television's Women of Vision Award, the City of Calgary's Community Achievement Award for the Arts, and an Alberta Centennial Medal. She has also had a U of C Fine Arts Entrance Award named in her honour, and was named one of the University of Calgary's Top 40 Alumni.

Michèle Moss Johnston

(Co-Founder, DJD)

Michèle is one of the co-founders of DJD and continues to create for the company, most recently for the Twentieth Anniversary Jam in 2004 and Pulse in 2006. Over the years, she has served as performer, choreographer, dance school principal and Associate Artistic Director for the company. Michèle is currently a faculty member in the B.A. Dance Program at the University of Calgary where she is also completing her MA. Her most significant research areas are the West African roots of jazz and the traditions of the West African Diaspora.

Kimberley Cooper

Kimberley began dancing with Decidedly Jazz Danceworks as an apprentice in 1989 and has been Artistic Associate/Resident Choreographer since she returned from a sabbatical funded by Canada Council for the Arts in 2000/2001. In 2001 she created her first full-length work, Popular, that was produced by DJD for One Yellow Rabbit's High Performance Rodeo. Since then she has co-created Velvet and the critically acclaimed cross-cultural mega show iBulla! A Loud Cuban Jazz Experiment, with DJD Co-Founder Hannah Stilwell. In addition to continuing to dance full-time with the DJD company, Cooper is an important voice in the independent dance scene in western Canada, both as a dancer and as a choreographer. Her work has been produced locally by Dancers' Studio West, the University of Calgary's Program of Dance, One Yellow Rabbit, eko dance projects, Springboard Dance, in Edmonton by Alberta Dance Alliance, and in Vancouver at Dances for small Stages. In 2002 she was named Emerging Artist of the Year by Alberta Dance Alliance. In 2004 she created the dance film Distemper with Director John Albanis. Funded by BRAVOFact! and the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, Distemper enjoyed success in festivals across North America and Europe. The two recently released their newest short film Methuselah, with Jason Stroh as a co-choreographer. In 2006 she created in Charcoal & Crimson, a parallaxic fairy tale which the company performed at Calgary's newest venue The GRAND Theatre. In the fall of '06 Kimberley took a short sabbatical where she began to research a new project for next season and was guest choreographer at SUNY University in Potsdam New York.

Ahmed Fernandez Hodelin

Ahmed spent seven years studying dance and percussion at the Nacional School of Arts (Cubanacan) in Havana. After graduation he joined Conjunta Folklorico Nacional de Cuba where he spent nine years touring to countries such as Spain, France, Mexico, Japan and the USA, dancing, performing and teaching workshops. In 1999 he was invited to Canada by DJD through a cultural exchange contract and was soon offered a position with the company. This is Ahmed's seventh season dancing with DJD. He can also be found teaching Cuban dance in various locations around Calgary.

Sarisa Figueroa

Sarisa began her formal dance training in classical ballet at the age of seven, graduated from the Edmonton School of Ballet's Professional Program in 1993, and has danced with Decidedly Jazz ever since (apart from a year-long sabbatical during the 2003-2004 season to pursue independent interests in theatre and dance). Her dance studies have taken her to New York, Los Angeles, Montana, Cuba, Spain, Brazil and across Canada studying jazz dance and many of its root forms. Apart from dancing with DJD, she has performed with One Yellow Rabbit, Springboard Dance Collective, Theatre of the Living Statue, Sage Theatre as well as for various independent choreographers and directors. She was Artistic Director for DJD's dancer-choreographed evenings Larimer St. in 2005 and root 7 in 2006. She also choreographs, acts, and teaches in Calgary and throughout Western Canada.

Jamie Freeman Cormack

Jaime has been dancing, teaching and choreographing in the Calgary dance community for over a decade. A former Company dancer (1994-2002), Jamie is currently a teacher and director of the Pre-Professional Program at the DJD School. She has lived and studied in New York City and London and has attended several jazz and swing festivals in Sweden, Boston, and Montreal.



CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

(ALL CLASSES WILL BE TAUGHT AT AN INTERMEDIATE-ADVANCED LEVEL)

JAZZ - A class that combines technique with groove while exploring some of the many influences that have contributed to DJD's unique approach to jazz - a physically grounded and rhythmically propelled method that balances innovation with a deep connection to the history of the form.

CREATIVE PROCESS - DJD's creative process is unique in that it requires invested creative participation from its artists. Many elements must align for inspiration to flow and the work to unfold; musicality, improvisation, commitment, honesty to name a few. This class will guide participants through exercises that will tap into some of these elements as well as actively involve them in a rehearsal/creative process with DJD's resident choreographer.

DJD REPERTOIRE -The DJD style can be best expressed and showcased through its choreography. Using personal anecdotes and video, participants will be lead through two dances from DJD's creatively prolific 23-year history.

FUNK FUSION - DJD's creators and dancers have always added a touch of groove to help create the style we have become known for. This class has been designed to push the limits of fundamental funk/hip hop vocabulary. A fusion of jazz, funk, hip hop, West African, AfroCuban and popular dance.

LATIN JAZZ - DJD first created work inspired by AfroCuban rhythms in 1994, after two of our founders participated in an intensive Cuban dance workshop at the Banff Centre. Cuban and other Latin influences have since provided our creators with fertile springboards for innovation within the jazz dance idiom. This class will present a combination of Cuban footwork patterns (AfroCuban, son, cha cha cha, mambo, salsa), samba footwork and jazz dance vocabulary. An understanding of basic Latin rhythms will be introduced and participants will be encouraged to find upper body Latin feel while keeping a grounded lower body.

ROOT FORMS - Many West African and Cuban Folkloric dances, have offered endless playful movement experiments to our dancers and creators. Traditional dances, rhythms and songs from West Africa and Cuba will be taught with live drumming accompanying this high-energy class.

SWING - Focusing on vernacular dances such as the Shim Sham and the Jitterbug Stroll this class will teach a variety of swing jazz steps that will move across the floor and be put into a cumulative combination. Incorporating some of the history of swing dance and music, this class will also spend some time teaching couples swing/social dance. Swing at DJD's Jazz Immersion is designed to help people understand what it means to swing musically and how to put that swing feel in the body and use it in an improvisational way.

APPLICATION FORM

(Participants must be at least **16 years** of age to attend Jazz Immersion)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov/State: _____

Country: _____ Postal/Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Birth Date: M/____ D/____ Y/_____

Have you attended Immersion before? Yes No

Class Schedule

Participants will be placed into the appropriate level for the **9:15-11:15 a.m.** jazz class. The placement class is on **July 22 at 5:30pm** - the class will be preceded by an **Immersion orientation meeting at 4:30 p.m.** The remainder of the day is your choice.

Please circle your 1st choice in each time slot below.
All classes will be taught at an Intermediate-Advanced Level

Schedule

9:15-11:15	J a z z	
11:30-1:00	Root Forms (West African/ Cuban Foloric)	Swing
2:00-3:30	Latin Jazz	Funk Fusions
3:45-5:15	Repertoire	Creative Process
5:30-6:00	Stretch	

Classes are first come first serve. If your first choice class is full we will place you in the alternate class and notify you of the change.

Payment (in Canadian funds)

- Tuition
- for professional and teachers \$420
- for all others \$460

- Swingin' Soiree \$25

Sub Total _____

Add 6% GST _____

Payment in Canadian funds TOTAL _____

Method of Payment: Visa MasterCard AmEx

(IN CANADIAN FUNDS) Cheque Money Order

Card #: _____

Expiry Date: ____ / ____

Signature: * _____

I have enclosed the following required materials:

- Resume of dance background
- Full Payment
- Season performance program or school brochure (if applying as professional or teacher)
- T-shirt Size: small medium large XL
- Did you include payment for Swingin' Soiree? If so please list any dietary restrictions: _____

Please complete application form and mail with your payment to:

Decidedly Jazz Danceworks

1514 - 4 Street S.W.,
Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2R 0Y4
Fax: (403) 245 - 3584
Email: jwillis@decidedlyjazz.com

Due July 6

JAZZ IMMERSION SHIRTS

Your very own Jazz Immersion shirt is included in your tuition so please ensure that you indicate your preferred size on the application form.

SWINGIN' SOIREE

A time to relax, gab, reload needed carbohydrates and celebrate the finish of a great week of dancing. This optional social event (catered dinner) will take place Friday, July 27. Cost is \$25 CDN. Please indicate on the application whether or not you plan to attend and if you have any special dietary needs.

ACCOMODATION

Please visit: www.decidedlyjazz.com, for a list of accommodation options. Prices range from \$350-\$800/week (shared accommodation available).

Please note: It is the responsibility of the Immersion participant to arrange and book their own accommodation.

CANCELLATIONS

Cancellations must be given by written notice no later than July 9, 2006 for a full refund less the \$100 deposit.