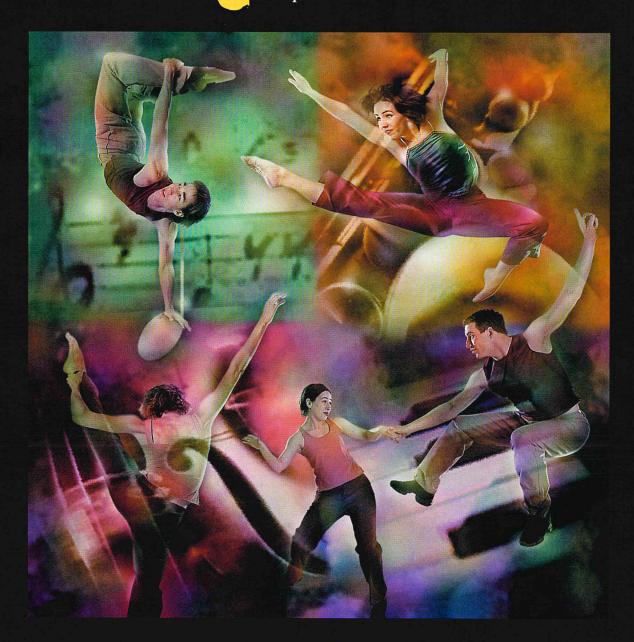
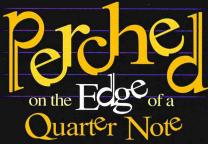
DECIDEDLY AZZ DANCEWORKS

presents





Dancers and Musicians together take flight

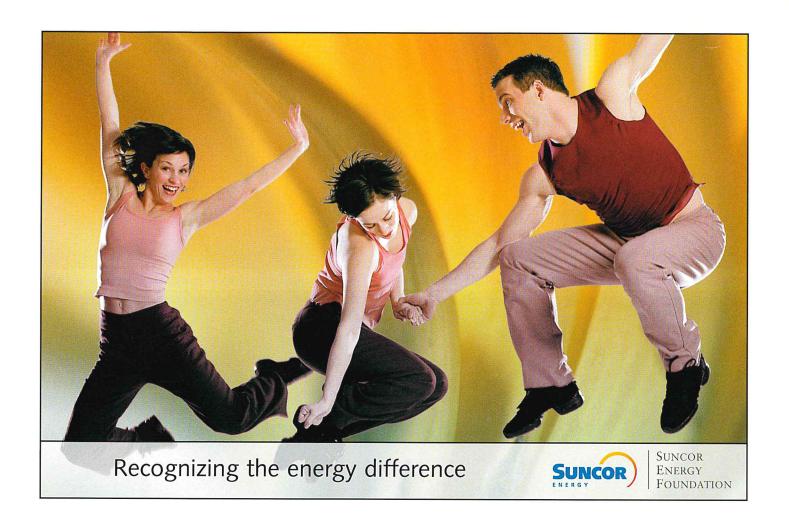


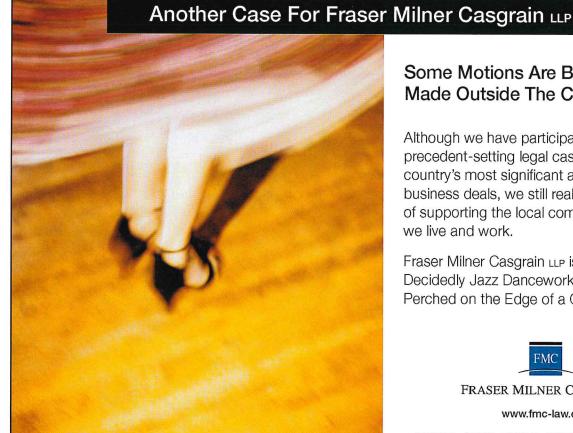












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Although we have participated in numerous precedent-setting legal cases and many of our country's most significant and innovative business deals, we still realize the importance of supporting the local communities in which we live and work.

Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP is proud to support Decidedly Jazz Danceworks' production of Perched on the Edge of a Quarter Note.



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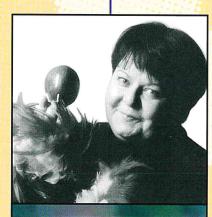
notes from the

Artistic Director

passion was destined to become mine as Mom Time-Stepped and Suzie Q'd her way through the pregnancy. It wasn't until I was about 8 or 9 that I realized that music and dance weren't an integral part of all lives. Didn't all families weave music and dance into their holiday gatherings? "How sad for them," I remember thinking. Even today I sometimes find myself wondering about what they do to connect to their roots and celebrate their existence.

My childhood memories of our family gatherings are filled with images of my mother (joined by anyone wishing to partake) doing the soft shoe, my brother and sister (along with my aunt and uncle) jiving, my brother and uncle doing the sword dance

and pretty much everybody doing their sometimes alarmingly individual versions of the Highland Fling. Of course at landmark celebrations and passings there was (and still is) a Piper included in the mix. During my teen years I became the designated teacher of the latest dance crazes (starting with The Twist).....oh... and then there were the sing songs. The invitation list to my parents' parties always included at least one person who could play a mean piano (usually Henry Flock). Everyone sang and/ or danced every tune, except *Somewhere Over the Rainbow* which Henry's daughter Shirley always sang for my Dad. There were invariably a lot of tear-filled eyes when she finished, but I didn't cry. I was too young. Yet today I can't listen to the song (even the less than stellar versions) without feeling my eyes well up.



Music and Dance... Individually they can be powerful, magical, healing and life affirming. Together they create a unique, highly potent and transcendental realm that is considered essential to life in many cultures - societies that recognize and celebrate their interdependence as humans through the interdependence of musician and dancer.

It is this union that was the lifeblood of the roots and early years of jazz, and in turn, it is this union that is the lifeblood of our work at DJD. In *Perched on the Edge of a Quarter Note* we blatantly and unabashedly embrace, explore and celebrate this connection which is the very source of our existence.

In September of last year, I travelled to Britain on a bit of a creative refueling excursion with the goal of further developing my initial ideas for *Perched*. The trip was on the heels of 9/11 and naturally, the events of the day impacted my thinking rather dramatically. The interdependence theme which had always been fundamental to the work suddenly became remarkably poignant.

I also felt the need to explore the notion that as humans living in a world obsessed with borders, experiencing one another's cultures and sometimes divergent points of view on a one-on-one basis is essential to our survival. For this reason, I decided to ask the dancers and musicians to use *Perched* as an opportunity to boldly move out of their comfort zones and into one another's worlds. The DJD dancers are accustomed to such requests, but I do wish to salute our wonderful musicians for going places I'm sure they had never dreamed of going.

The final bubble that continually rose to the surface of my thinking while in Britain was the fact that the work simply had to be a no-holds-barred celebration of the human spirit.

Rehearsals for *Perched* began in Banff where the entire company (dancers, musicians and choreographers) spent nearly a week developing the initial concepts for *Perched*. Countless thanks to John Murrell and his marvelous Theatre Arts staff (particularly the oh-so-patient and seemingly unflappable Karen Barkley) for providing such an inspiring and nurturing environment within their Performing Arts Residency Program. It was an invaluable opportunity for us to spend a concentrated period of time, living and creating together, "far from the madding crowd".

Deeply felt thanks to Kim, Jamie, Hannah and Michèle for creating such wonderfully rich, musical and celebratory dances. And special thanks to jazz

legend Matt Mattox for allowing us to take one of his class combinations, develop it and incorporate it into the *Perched* journey. Working with Matt was certainly a homage to my personal roots in jazz. I first studied his technique in 1964 when my mentor, Margot McDermott, returned from an extended study trip to New York and used Matt's wonderful, challenging work as the focus of her jazz classes that year. I had my own opportunity to spend an extended period of time studying with Matt in 1972 in London, and then again in 1983 in Paris. It was a sweet opportunity to be able to bring Matt (now age 80) and his beautiful wife Martine to Calgary last January to work with the company.

A quick but heartfelt thanks also to Anne Flynn who inadvertently gave me the key to the opening of **Perched**

through an improvisation class that she taught the company which focussed on the late Richard Bull's Centering Dance, described by Richard as "a realization of self through a common relationship with others".

The realization of DJD has certainly been through a common and valued relationship with a great many people. Take a gander through this program at the lists of artists, staff, crew, board members, volunteers, donors, sponsors and supporters of all kinds. Without them DJD, quite simply, would not exist and the dancer/musician alliance would not be celebrated this evening.

I have ridden this powerful union of music and dance for my entire life and time and time again I have had the profound pleasure of encountering the magic that is inescapable when we choose to experience one another's music and dance with our hearts.

I would like to dedicate *Perched* to the memory of James 'Buster' Brown whose passing last month (at age 89) left a huge hole in the spirit of the international tap community. Buster was one of the last of the old vaudeville hoofers who were the primary inspiration for the revival and resurgence of tap over the past twenty or so years. We had the honour of working with Buster in 1994 when he was featured in our show, Feet First. He was an amazing tapper, a wonderful Lindy Hopper and apparently he "danced right up to the end".

Dai Willer

Vicki Adams Willis

General Manager

magine an entire day without music - no zippy tune at the top of the television or radio news, a movie with only the dialogue, and nothing to

put on your stereo. Imagine a year without dance – no dancing at your cousin's wedding, not even a little head-bobbing when you are out one weekend or even in your own kitchen.

Music and dance are intrinsic to human nature, exist in every culture, and could be considered our first language. What parent hasn't watched with joy as their baby makes their first wiggle to music, or danced their baby around to music to keep them calm?

Music and dance are essential, and yet it can be so easy to take their existence for granted. Lately, those of us trying to create music and dance are facing more and more challenges in keeping it alive. Cutbacks of lottery dollars and corporations tightening their donation belts mean that organizations such as DJD

are struggling harder to bring you the visceral thrill of a night out at the theatre.

DJD is renowned throughout the arts world in Canada and internationally not only for our innovative, satisfying presentations, but also for our impeccably managed business. We never operate in the red, and fund ourselves to a

much higher degree than any other dance company in the country. We do that by working bingos, of course, but also by consistently presenting dance that

people want to see — we sell tickets! We spend a tiny fraction of our budget on marketing and advertising, so it is you and your enthusiasm that will help DJD achieve this year's revenue forecast. Your word of mouth and recommendations mean a lot to us, and saves us thousands of dollars. If you like what you see tonight, please challenge yourself to tell five people in the next 24 hours to "go see DJD!". And next time you come, be sure to bring someone with you who perhaps has never seen us, but will surely become a "convert", just as you have. And be sure to pick up a CD of some of the music you are hearing tonight, maybe you will use it the next time you need to bounce a baby around — it could be more fun than "Pop Goes the Weasel"!

Corporate dollars are scarcer this year but we still have enormous thanks to give. For seven years, with no sign

of that "itch", FirstEnergy Capital Corp and Suncor Energy Foundation have sponsored our June productions, as well as contributed in other meaningful ways to our work throughout the year. We are always excited by new sponsors, and this year we would like to give a very special welcome to Fraser Milner Casgrain, and, for the first time we have an Edmonton corporation recognizing our efforts, Nikel and Company. Welcome, welcome! And for 11 unflagging years, The Calgary Herald and du Maurier Arts both have put huge support behind our productions. Thank you to all of these companies who think of us when they do a little "jig" in their kitchens!

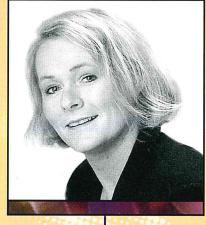
Doing the best they can with the funds at their disposal, government funding bodies are helping us, too. We acknowledge and appreciate the support of The Calgary Region Arts Foundation, The Alberta Foundation for the Arts, and the Canada Council for the Arts.

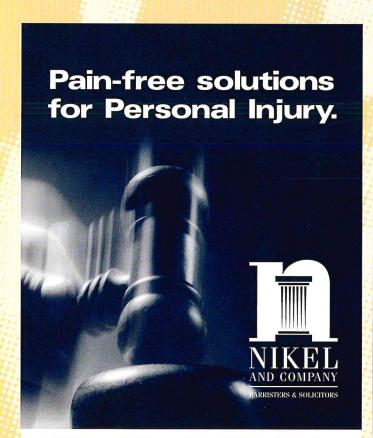
As the support of corporations and government becomes harder for us to secure, we rely more on our "family", the individuals who understand the urgency of keeping the arts alive. Beyond your personal donations, and now your fervent spreading of the word about our shows, think of someone you know who may be able to influence their corporation to give us a boost. Talk about it, remind one another that dance and music really do sustain us, they are not a "luxury" we can afford to give up. That first dance at your cousin's wedding may not be as well executed as what you are seeing tonight, but without artists living to dance, we would not be dancing through life's celebrations. It is a small jump from the stage to your living room!



Kathi Sundstrom







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Kathryn McKinnon

Steeve Paquet

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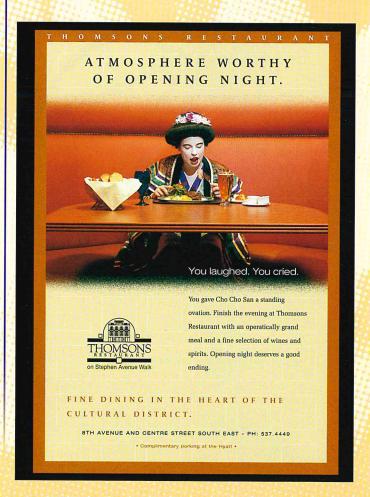
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Have DJD perform at your child's school next year

Decidedly Jazz Danceworks presents:

"LIVE AND IN SYNC!" SCHOOL TOUR

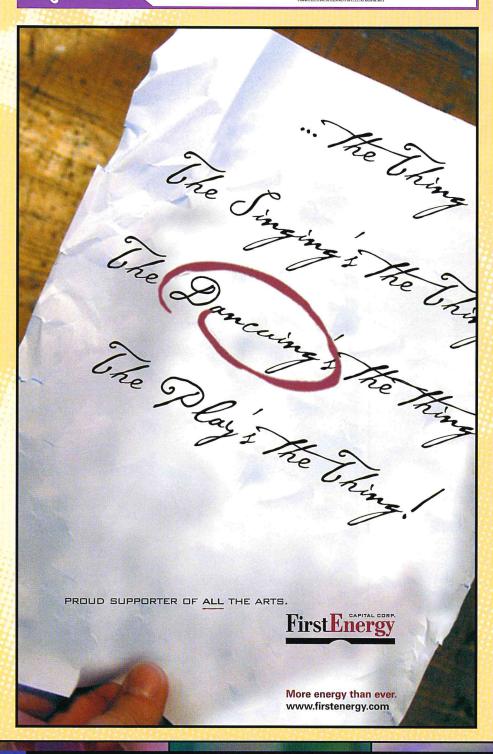
Created especially for grades k-6, Live and In Sync! takes students on a journey through the history of popular and social dances from the beginnings of jazz to the present. Utilizing a television game-show format, the hilarious character of Herman and his "Jazz Crew" involve and educate the students from the moment the show opens. Will Herman ever win a game show?! Maybe — with a little help from the audience!

Fee: \$600 • Duration: approx. 50 min.

For more information or to make a booking contact: Joanne Baker @ D.J.D. tel: 228-8179 • fax: 245-3584 e-mail:jobaker@decidedlyjazz.com

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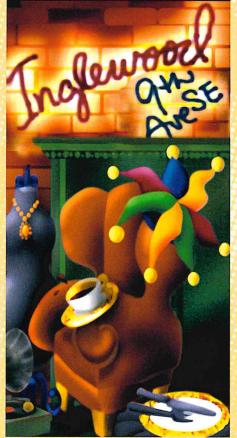
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Decidedly Jazz Danceworks Biographies

Vicki Adams Willis

Artistic Director/ Choreographer

Vicki carries on a family tradition which 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 in Alberta and elsewhere (including The School at Jacob's Pillow in Massachusetts), she was founder of the Jazz Division in the Faculty of Fine Arts, Program of Dance at the University of Calgary, founder of Decidedly Jazz Danceworks School, and is founding Artistic Director of the DJD company. Honours include U of C's Superior Teacher Award and Global Television's Women of Vision Award.



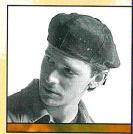
Why do we make music? Why do we dance? In the words of Ruth St Denis, "...to express what is too deep, too fine for words."

Kristian Alexandrov

Musical Director/ Keyboards

Born and raised in Sofia, Bulgaria, Kristian grew up in a family of musicians, surrounded by a variety of "world" musical styles. With intense classical training

as a pianist and percussionist, Kristian was able to tour most of Europe by the age of 16. It was a natural progression for him to come to Canada in 1995 to continue his musical quest in this cultural mosaic. In October 2001 Kristian once again responded to his gypsy roots and made the move from Calgary to Toronto. He has already made inroads in the east, performing alongside Big Rude Jake and Danny B., both swing/jump blues icons. He recently completed an antics-filled European tour with Calgary's own Dino Martinis, Kristian is delighted to be able to continue his artistic collaboration with DJD.



"As a teenager accompanying Bulgarian folk dancers, I witnessed firsthand the intimate relationship between music and dance. They are yin and yang magically and inextricably linked."

Joanne Baker

Rehearsal Mistress

Perched on the Edge of a Quarter Note marks the second DJD production Joanne has worked on since donning the hat of rehearsal mistress. Joanne spent seven seasons dancing with DJD and has danced across Canada and the US at various workshops and festivals. Along with her rehearsal mistress duties, Joanne is currently the Dance School Principal, conducts workshops for the company, and teaches at the DJD School as well as other dance schools in the city.

"Do you hear it? she asked & I shook my head no & then she started to dance & suddenly there was music everywhere & it went on for a very long time & when I finally found words all I could say was thank you."

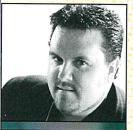
Brian Andreas



Pat Belliveau

Sax

Pat started his formal musical training at the age of four and began playing the saxophone at age 12. His distinguished career has taken him all over the world, performing at international jazz festivals, in concert, on stage, and in recording studios throughout Canada, North America, Europe, and Japan. Pat has performed with a number of groups and artists such as Quintonal, Saxoffonee, the Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra, Vic Damone/Diahann Carroll, the Mills Brothers,



Terry Gibbs, Maureen McGovern, Mel Torme, Bob Mintzer, Randy Brecker, Harry Connick Jr., Pat LaBarbera, Kenny Wheeler, Phil Nimmons, David Foster, Hal Linden, Johnny Mathis, Ben Vereen, Neil Sedaka, Petula Clark, the 5th Dimension, the Temptations, and Lighthouse, to name but a few. Pat currently teaches at both U of C and Bishop Carroll High School.

"Dance: Freedom to improvise"

Kimberley Cooper

Dancer/Choreographer

Kimberley Cooper has been a part of the Calgary dance scene since she first became an apprentice dancer with DJD in 1989. In addition to being a full-time company dancer, Kimberley was recently appointed as Resident Choreographer/ Artistic Associate. She is a vital part of the independent dance community in Calgary having worked with local choreographers such as Nicole Mion, Laurie Montemurro, Jamie Freeman Cormack, and Tara Wilson. Her work has been presented by the U of C Faculty of Dance's Mainstage, Youth Dance Unlimited, Springboard Dance, Alberta Dance Explosions, One Yellow Rabbit, and at DJD. Kimberley recently completed her first full-length piece, Popular, which premiered at One Yellow Rabbit's High Performance Rodeo in January 2002. In May of 2002, Cooper was named "Emerging Professional Artist of the Year" by Alberta Dance Alliance.



"...i got 15 trumpets where other women got hips & a upright bass for both sides of my heart i walk round in a piano like somebody else/be walkin on the earth I live in music live in it wash in it wear sound on my fingers sound falls so fulla music ya cd make a river where yr arm is & hold yrself

hold yrself in a music"

From "I live in Music" by Ntolake Shange

Lori Duncan

Dancer

Lori began vigorous training for a professional dance career in 1997 after moving to Toronto to attend the Theatre-Dance program at Ryerson Polytechnic University. She relocated to Calgary in 2000 after accepting a scholarship with Decidedly Jazz Danceworks, which quickly led to being a full-time company member. Her most notable contribution to the Calgary arts community was choreographing a piece for the Alberta Dance Explosions 2002 which was performed at Dancers' Studio West II. Lori has found this year very rewarding and is looking forward



to future endeavors with the company. She would like to thank Ryan for his amazing generosity and warm heart, and to all the others for making her rookie year so enjoyable.

"Music: healing, inspirational, mood altering fuel, - a necessity for life."

Sarisa Figueroa Ringland

Dancer

Sarisa has been a professional dancer and teacher for the past eight years. She feels very fortunate that her career has taken her on many exciting journeys involving various learning opportunities throughout North America. As a child of a Cuban mother and a Jamaican father, the rich music of these countries was always prevalent at home. Sarisa would like to



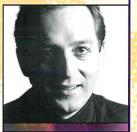
dedicate this evening's performance to the memory of her grandmother Nenita Maza de Cisneros.

"Music always seemed to bring an emotional reaction: happiness, bittersweet nostalgia, passion, sadness, love, attachment and comfort. These are my first and dearest memories of music."

Harry Frehner

Lighting Designer

Over the past 25 years, Harry's work has been seen from coast to coast with such companies as Pacific Opera Victoria, Vancouver Opera, Ballet B.C., Calgary Opera, Edmonton Opera, Citadel Theatre, The Banff Centre (Ballet, Opera, Theatre), Alberta Theatre Projects, Theatre Calgary, Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Manitoba Opera, Canadian Opera Company, Stratford Festival, Opera Lyra Ottawa, Novel



Ensemble Moderne, Theatre New Brunswick, and the Neptune Theatre. He has collaborated with DJD on Stolen Moments, Rhythm Addiction, Classic Jam, Soul Jugglers, Evanescence and Longings... for the Invisible.

"If my light had a body, I would want it to dance"

Jamie Freeman Cormack

Dancer/Choreographer

Jamie has been a professional immersed in the Calgary dance community as a teacher, choreographer, and independent performer for over a decade. She is happy to be back with DJD for this performance after having taken last year off to have her beautiful baby boy, Joel.

"All I know is, without music there is no dance. How lucky I am to dance the music."



Dianne Goodman

Stage Manager



Dianne is pleased to continue her association with Vicki and all at DJD, having stage managed many of their shows since 1993. Her "regular job" is with Alberta Theatre Projects where she is Artistic Associate. Dianne received the Dean Ott/Debbie Boult Award for Distinguished Achievement in Production at the 2000 Betty Mitchell Theatre Awards.

"Music + Dance (DJD) = Joy, Fun, Passion, Energy, Life, Friendship"

Ahmed Fernandez Hodelín

Dancer

Ahmed joins us from Cuba. A former soloist with Conjunto Folklorico Nacional de Cuba, Ahmed has been training as a dancer since elementary school. He spent



seven years at the National School of Arts where he was exposed to international as well as Cuban dance and rhythms. He then spent two years in a pre-professional program before becoming a company member with Conjunto Folklorico Nacional de Cuba for nine years. In the meantime, he found himself taking classes of Cuban percussion in the music conservatory Filix Varela in Havana. Ahmed presently finds himself realizing his hobby as a member of a new Latin band. This is his third season with DJD.

"In my culture it is customary for friends, family and neighbours to get together often to make music, sing and dance. For this reason I feel that music is in your body from birth and is in every moment of your life."

Tyler Hornby

Drums

Tyler holds a B.Mus Degree in Jazz Studies from the University of Calgary and is currently a sessional drumset instructor at U of C. He has recorded/performed with Bob Mintzer, Ingrid Jensen, Tommy Banks, Hugh Fraser, Jann Arden, The Dino Martinis, and many more. Tyler has also released two CDs with the electric jazz quartet "Terrain" where he serves as the drummer, co-leader and co-composer. Notable jazz festival performances include Montreux, Montreal,



Vancouver, Edmonton, and Calgary. Tyler has also written several percussion ensemble pieces, two that have been published by First Stroke Music. This summer Tyler will be instructing at U of C for the Drumset Educational Camp (Aug 2002).

"They stuck me behind the drums because my dance audition with the company didn't go so well....... thought my piece on movement with computers was great!!! Kind of a Mr. Roboto meets jazz....honest!"

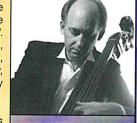


John Hyde

Bass

John is the current Artistic Director of the Jazz Studies Program at Mount Royal College. He has numerous recording, arranging and producing credits with Amos

Garrett, The Tanya Kalmanovitch Trio, Senator Tommy Banks, Karl Roth, Tim Tamashiro, The Swinging Bovines and many others. Performance credits include France's Christian Escoudier, Don W. Thompson, Dr. Ron McCurdy, Marion McPartland, Bill Watrous, Hugh Fraser, Eddie "Lockjaw" Davis, Oliver Jones, Mark Murphy, New Works Calgary, The Royal Winnipeg Ballet, and the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra.



"Since I began playing music publicly, a lot of it has been for dancing. The more I learn about music and

rhythm, the more I see how dance affects music and music affects dance. Dance is vital to the advancement of music and music is vital to the advancement of dance."

Dinou Marlett-Stuart

Understudy

Dinou began her training at the age of five in Calgary and at 17 traveled to England to attend Performers Dance College. After completing a three-year degree programme with 3rd year honours, she danced professionally throughout England for two years, including lead roles in original productions. Since returning to Calgary, Dinou has been teaching, dancing and choreographing - including this

year's Alberta Dance Explosions. Two years ago she returned to her roots when she became a scholarship student with DJD. It hasn't stopped... doing the DJD school tour, dancing with the company in *Popular* and Calgary Cares and currently understudying *Perched*. I am grateful to Vicki and the DJD family for being so welcoming... Thank you!... and Cybil thanks you too.



"The times when I am truest with myself is when music makes me dance."

Jaime Marr

Dancer

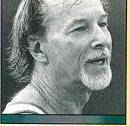
Jaime has studied dance in Calgary for 14 years; attending summer schools in Vancouver, and Sussex, England, and has also pursued various performance opportunities within the Calgary dance community. Her passion for music and dance led her to DJD, where she is enjoying her second season as a company member.

"My involvement in dance began when I was 8 years old and performed for my Cabbage Patch Kids in my basement. Song after song played from my pink ghetto blaster and my connection and love of music grew. I was drawn to the irresistible grooves and melodies and desperately needed to express what I heard through movement. Dance became the obvious solution..."



Matt Mattox

Choreographer



Born in 1921, Matt was a seminal figure in the modern jazz movement that had been initiated by Jack Cole in the 1940's. He became a contract dancer with MGM in 1944 and then with Columbia Studios in New York in 1946. In 1949 he moved to Australia to play the dancing role of Curly in Oklahoma! for over two years. Back in the US in the early 50's he began working with Jack Cole, doing such films as There's No Business Like Show Business and Gentlemen Prefer Blondes with Marilyn Monroe, as well A Carnival in

Flanders on Broadway. With choreographer Michael Kidd he did *The Band Wagon* and *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* (for which he created the role of the eldest brother Caleb). It was also in the early 50's that Matt began teaching; developing a technique designed to train dancers for the highly demanding work of choreographers such as Cole and Kidd. He also began to choreograph for Films, Broadway and Television. By 1964 his reputation of being a remarkable teacher had grown to the point that he decided to focus primarily on his teaching career, moving to London in the early 70's and to Paris in 1975. He is now based in Perpignan on the south coast of France and continues to teach and choreograph throughout Europe and occasionally in North America.

"There is a joy and pleasure in jazz dance, as there is in jazz music, that you will not find in any other form of dance – it is a freedom, a liberation..."



Kathryn McKinnon

Dancer

Kathryn began dancing in her hometown of Regina. Her Studies took her to Toronto, Winnipeg and then to Montrèal. Upon graduating from l'École Superieure de Danse du Québec, she danced with Le Jeune Ballet du Quebec. Returning to Toronto, she danced with Ontario Ballet Theatre from 1994-1997. Kathryn also had the opportunity to dance with Banff Festival Ballet during '96 & '97. She

joined DJD in the fall of 1997. Since arriving in Calgary, Kathryn has also worked as an independent artist in a number of local dance performances, workshops and films and often performs with local musicians who play traditional West African rhythms. She recently completed a Canada Council funded travel study to Guinea, West Africa.

Thank you to Ousman Sylla, an incredible musician through whose artistry and culture I gained a new understanding of the bond shared by music and dance. M'Fafay!

Michèle Moss Johnston

Choreographer/DJD Co-founder

As one of DJD's co-founders, Michèle's various company roles have included principal dancer, choreographer, Artistic Associate Director and Dance School Principal. Michèle is currently enjoying her work at the University of Calgary in the BA Dance program as well as spending more time with her six year old daughter, Odessa. Recently, Michèle assumed the role of Artistic Director of Dancers' Studio West, working with her husband, Damon Johnston, who manages the company.



"The musician and the dancer; riding the waves of bombs, smears, scoops and lay-outs is a dancers' pleasure. The rips, riffs, and releases are sweetness in our mouths. I salute all the performs for their sense of adventure, ephebism and for dancing and playing in the cracks."

Steeve Paquet

Dancer

Steeve began his formal training at L'Ecole Superieure de Danse du Québec in Montreal. He moved to Calgary in 1996 where he became a scholarship student with DJD and in 1999 he became a fulltime DJD company member. Steeve has also made his mark on the local independent dance scene performing in Dance

Montage and Alberta Dance Explosions and has worked with many independent choreographers such as Kyrsten Blair, Laurie Montemurro and Nicole Mion.

"The basic ingredient to music is not so much sound as movement... it takes shape in the inner gestures which embody our deepest and most intimate response."

Composer, Roger Sessions



Heather Pierce

Costume Designer

Heather began her journey with DJD as a dancer. Since then she just can't seem to leave this treasured family and gladly returns to design her fourth show. Thank you Tariq, Alicia Keyes, David Gray, oh and a little Moulin Rouge, for keeping me up late sewing and questioning, "Would I ever want to dance in this? Can't we just have Prada?"

"Musicians sure are a girls best friend...."



Natalie Poissant

Dancer

Natalie is looking forward to travelling to Taipei this summer where she will be teaching and choreographing at The Taiwan Dance Festival. She is happy to be returning to DJD for her ninth season next year.

"Music has the ability to take you to that magical place where memories are eternal and new dreams are created. With the right tune, time can stand still."



Scott Reid

Set Designer

Scott is pleased to be back at DJD where he has previously designed sets for Longings for the Invisible, Evanescence, Soul Jugglers, Rhythm Addiction, Feet First, and Stolen Moments. Other credits include set design for Romeo and Juliet (Theatre Calgary); set design for playRites'02, and For the Pleasure of Seeing Her Again (ATP); set design Dialogues of the Carmelites (Calgary Opera); set design for Tongue of a Bird and Sheer Madness (Pleiades); and set

design for *Aberhart Summer*, *South of China*, and set and lighting design for *How I Learned to Drive* (The Citadel Theatre).

"Dance becomes the rhythm, texture, and colour of the design."



Hannah Stilwell

Choreographer / DJD Co-founder



Hannah Stilwell is a performer, teacher and choreographer entranced by the relationship between audible and visual rhythms. Throughout her career, she has dedicated herself to the discovery of many dance forms that have fused over the past century to become jazz dance. Her work has taken her to Africa, Cuba, Jamaica, India and throughout North America. She holds a BA from U of C where she has instructed dance since 1982, and is a founder of Decidedly Jazz Danceworks. Currently, Hannah is guest teaching and freelancing

in Canada, the U.S. and Cuba, as well as guiding cultural tours of Cuba. This summer Hannah will be guest teaching at ProDanza Italia in Italy, and at Rhythm Explosion in Bozeman, Montana.

"Music: A small word for such a giant. Enormous; more endless than space, and so intimate and personal. Gripping. Too big to comprehend. Essential. Immediate. Powerful. The ultimate con artist, and yet it can never lie. It cannot be disobeyed, but can be so sweetly pliable. Heart-stopping. Music leaves me no choice but to dance."

Jason Stroh

Dancer

Jason's formal dance training began at the University of Calgary where he received a Bachelor of Science in Zoology. He has since trained in Victoria, Toronto, Montreal and Sweden. Jason is kept busy performing, teaching, and



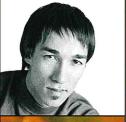
choreographing in the Calgary dance community. His contemporary choreographic works have been presented this year by Youth Dance Unlimited, LuLu Productions, DJD, Children in Dance, The University of Calgary Mainstage, and most recently in the Alberta Feats' Festival. This is his fifth season with Decidedly Jazz Danceworks.

"The Sound of Silence - Enjoy the Music Gambling on the Little Drummer Boy Mission to Wonderland"

Stephen Thompson

Dancer

Stephen began dancing at DJD's school to compliment his figure skating career. After 11 years, with the highlight of competing at the 1998 Olympic Trials, he hung up his skates, completed his B.Kin from the University of Calgary and popcorned into the company. This is his third season, feeling unbelievably lucky to be embraced by such dedicated, unique and gifted people. Stephen will not be returning next year and wants to thank everyone at DJD for their generosity, unforgettable experiences, and lifelong friendships. He also thanks his supportive and loving friends and family for he could not have done this without them.



"Life is like music, Some high notes, Some low notes, But a wonderful song, Just the same..."

Serpé

Brent Van Dusen

Percussion

Brent has lived in Calgary since 1989, during which time he has completed a Masters Degree in percussion performance as well as several residencies at The Banff Centre. Brent has been an accompanist for many Calgary dance companies

including DJD, U of C, DSW, New Dance/Theatre and Springboard, among others. Brent credits much of his development as a multi-percussionist and creative artist to his long-term relationship with dance. He is very involved in Calgary's music scene, with a broad range of activities that include everything from the CPO to the Latin group Masacote, singer/songwriter Anne Loree and his own Persian Fusion group, Lambda. He is an innovative composer and arranger for ensembles, theatre, dance and video and is on the music faculties of the University of Lethbridge and the Mount Royal College Conservatory.

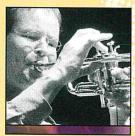


"It is the kinesthetic aspect of dance that is directly related to drumming; that, and gravity, down(beats) and up(beats) have informed my relationship to dance more than anything else."

Martjin van Galen

Trumpet

Working as an international Jazz artist, composer, arranger and educator, trumpeter/flugelhornist Martijn van Galen has made Calgary his permanent home since 1995. Highlights of his career to date include performances at the Montreux and Brienz Jazz festival in Switzerland with Saxophonee, the Calgary Jazz festival with his own group The Jazz Infidels trio, studying and recording in Cuba, and Professional development at The Banff Centre (Jazz Workshop 1999) where he studied with Kenny Werner, Joe Lovano, Dave Holland, and Dave



Douglas. He has also performed production shows and backed up numerous acts on seven different cruise ships. Currently, Martijn continues to teach, write and freelance as well as perform with the Afro-Cuban Jazz group Masacote.

"To me dance and music are one and the same... they are vibrations that make up life... vibrations convey the conditions of one being to another; therefore the seer knows of the past, present, and future, and perceives conditions on all planes of existence."

-Hazrat Inayat Khan

DECIDEDLY JAZZ Danceworks



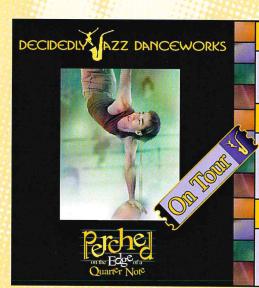
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Artistic Director Vicki Adams Willis

Music Composed and Arranged by

Kristian Alexandrov (unless otherwise indicated)

Choreographers

Vicki Adams Willis Kimberley Cooper Jamie Freeman Cormack Matt Mattox Michèle Moss Johnston Patty Palma Hannah Stilwell

Rehearsal Mistress Joanne Baker

Spangalangin'

Directed by: Vicki Adams Willis Performed by: The Company

Cinq, Six, Sept et Huit

Choreography: Matt Mattox Music: Mercer Ellington Danced by: The Company

Heavy Shuffle/ Theloniology

Choreography: Vicki Adams Willis Music: Bob Berg/ Thelonious Monk Danced by: The Company

Disentrainment

Choreography: Michèle Moss Johnston Performed by: Jaime and Martijn

Brushes

Choreography: Vicki and Stephen (based on Stephen's customary mad outbursts in rehearsal) Danced by: Stephen

Sixth Skin

Conceived by: Hannah Stilwell Performed by: Kristian, Tyler and **Brent**

Perched

Choreography: Hannah Stilwell ...on a Rim

Danced by: The Company

...at the Water's Edge

Music: Beverly Botsford and Khalid Saleem Danced by: The Company Solo: Kimberley

...on the Edge of Madness

Music: Tito Puente (Arranged by: Israel 'Toto' Berriel) Danced by: The Company

Free Time

Choreography: Jamie Freeman Cormack Danced by: Jamie and Jason

Bass Line

Directed by: Vicki Adams Willis (based on improvisations by Natalie and John) Performed by: Natalie and John

7/4

Choreography: Vicki Adams Willis Music: Kristian Alexandrov Danced by: The Company

3/4

Choreography: Vicki Adams Willis (based on improvisations by the dancers)

Ballroom Waltz Choreography: Patty Palma Music: Bill Evans and Kristian Alexandrov

Solo: Sarisa

Trio: Sarisa, Jamie and Jaime Couples: Kimberley and Ahmed, Lori and Steeve, Natalie and Stephen, Kathryn and Jason

Duet: Kathryn and Jason

Solo: Lori

In the Cracks

Choreography: Michèle Moss Johnston Music: Kristian Alexandrov Danced by: The Company

Intermission





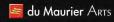












Act 2

Air Time

Choreography: Vicki and Kathryn Music: Jimmy Rowles Performed by: Kathryn and Pat

Gentle Crossing

Choreography: Vicki Adams Willis (based on improvisations by the dancers)

Music: Kristian Alexandrov
Danced by: Ahmed, Sarisa,
Kimberley and Jamie

Turbulence

Choreography: Vicki Adams Willis and the Dancers Music: Kristian Alexandrov Danced by: Lori, Stephen Jason and Steeve

4/4

Choreography: Jamie Freeman Cormack Music: Kurt Weill Danced by: The Company

A Brush With Love

Choreography: Vicki Adams Willis Music: Wessell Anderson Danced by: The Company

Free of Hearts

Directed by: Hannah Stilwell Improvised by: Jason and Tyler

Free Fall

Directed by: Hannah Stilwell

Music improvised and sung by:

The Band

Improvised by: Steeve

Brushing Hearts

Choreography: Hannah Stilwell Music: Don Redman Danced by: Lori, Sarisa, Natalie, Steeve, Kimberley and Ahmed

Four Hands and a Buncha Quarter Notes

Performed by: Kristian and Sarisa

Who's On First?

Music: Kristian Alexandrov
Performed by: The Company

Second Line

Choreography: Kimberley
Cooper
Music: Kristian Alexandrov
Performed by: The Company

Cuban Quarter

Choreography: Hannah Stilwell (based on traditional dances taught to us by Ahmed) Music: Traditional (Arranged by: Israel 'Toto' Berriel) Danced by: The Company

144

Lori Duncan
Ahmed Fernandez
Hodelín
Sarisa Figueroa
Ringland
Jamie Freeman
Cormack
Jaime Marr
Kathryn McKinnon
Steeve Paquet
Natalie Poissant
Jason Stroh
Stephen Thompson

Kimberley Cooper

Dancers

Understudy

Dinou Marlett-Stuart

Musicians

Kristian Alexandrov:
Keyboards
Pat Belliveau:
Sax
Tyler Hornby:
Drums
John Hyde:
Bass
Brent van Dusen:
Percussion
Martijn van Galen:

Trumpet



















production

Designers

Set Design Scott Reid Lighting Design Harry Frehner Costume Design Heather Pierce

Production Production and Tour Manager **Graham Frampton** Stage Manager Dianne Goodman* Head Stage Carpenter lan Wilson Head Electrician Tammy Elliott Second Electrician **Dustin Beck** Dan Frerichs Head of Audio Audio Assistant/

Monitor Technician Jason Witts Costume Construction Heather Pierce Mary Galbraith Pat Irving Kathy Vooys

Fabric Dying and Painting Head Scenic Carpenter Set Construction/Welder Set Construction

Heather Pierce Bill Gardner Guy Gardner Greg Chown Loyola Lewis

Head Scenic Painter Scenic Painter **Production Assistant**

Audio Services Lighting Services

Video Services Tour Trucking

Angie Rees Scott Reid Ryan Hunter

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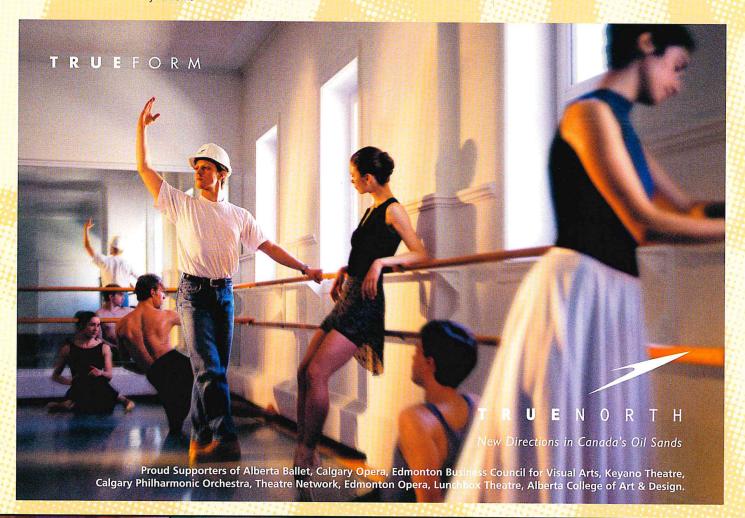
Production and Facility Manager Monty Schnieder

Robert Armstrong Technical Director Head of Sound Mark Belkie Head Electrician Marcia Hildebrand Head Stage Carpenter Robin Messer Wardrobe Mistress Tracey Hooper Front of House Manager & Usher Coordinator Corry Vandermeer

Marketing

Photography Trudie Lee Photography Poster & Program Design desnoyers-schuler inc. Program Publishers McAra Publishing Marketing Consultant Helen Moore Parkhouse





heartfelt Fhanks

For things borrowed, special favours, wonderful deals and valuable advise, our deepest thanks go to:

Ryan Adams

Alberta Theatre Projects

Norm Amadio

Robert Armstrong

The Banff Centre Theatre Arts

The Banff Centre Theatres

Senator Tommy Banks

Karen Barkley

The Conservatory at

Mount Royal College

Pam Denis

Greg Digney

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Decidedly Jazz Danceworks History

he beginning was a dream shared by Vicki Adams Willis (then founding head of the Jazz Division in the Program of Dance at the University of Calgary) and two of her graduating students, Michèle Moss Johnston and Hannah Stilwell.

In 1984 they created Decidedly Jazz Danceworks with the goal of preserving and promoting the rich history and spirit of jazz. The original company had four dancers and an Artistic Director intent on sharing their vision of jazz with others. Now in its eighteenth year, DJD has carved a niche for itself in the heart of Canada's dance audience. DJD is one of the few professional dance companies world wide with jazz music and dance as it's raison d'être.

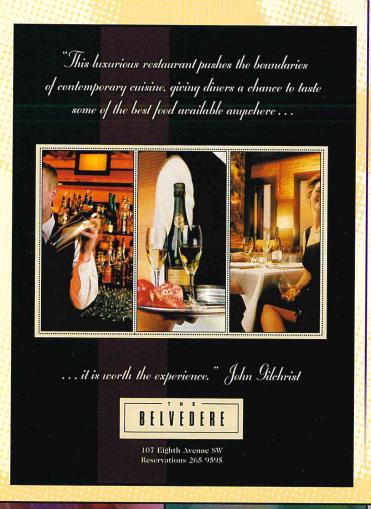
Jazz dance is a North American performing art form with its roots in African and European dance and music. It was born on the streets of America as an Afro-American vernacular social dance form. It is a contemporary dance expression that has evolved and changed drastically over the years through the influence of virtually all dance genres. In its purist form it is a deliberately and inherently accessible – in essence, a type of folk dance. It is expressive of human nature, grounded in the emotions of human experience and therefore has a universal appeal. It is sophisticated rhythmically, as well as playful, competitive, soulful and a direct reflection of jazz music.

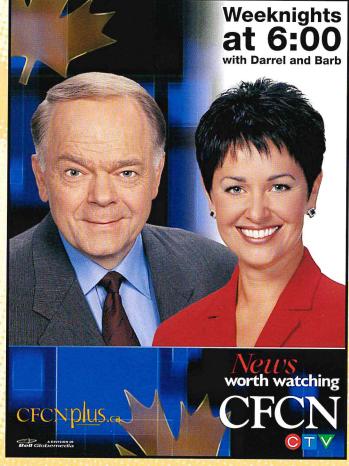
The DJD style has evolved out of the work of the three company founders. As progressive historians, these artists are purposefully aware of and connected to the African and historical roots and spirit of jazz, as well as committed to the evolution and future of the form.

Whenever possible DJD incorporates live music into its performances and classes, and has performed with music notables such as Mark Murphy, Big Miller, Tommy Banks, P.J. Perry, Tim White, Jackie Richardson, and Diane Miller as well as with tap notables Buster Brown, Josh Hilberman and Heather Cornell. The company's trademark respect for and connection to the music has lead many to describe DJD performances as "music for the eyes".

The Calgary based company has toured throughout Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, British Columbia and the Maritimes, as well as to Ottawa, Yellowknife, the Montréal Jazz Festival, Chicago and Japan.

In addition to performing and touring, DJD's mandate includes a strong education component. The Decidedly Jazz Danceworks School has an enrollment of over 1000 students between the ages of 2 and 72 studying Jazz, African, Tap, Modern, Ballet, Afro-Cuban, Salsa, Funk, Pilates, Swing, Lindy Hop, Stretch and Strength, Yoga, and Break Dance. In addition, the company does educational performances and residencies, and teaches workshops and master classes in Jazz, Jazz History, Tap, Funk and African to all ages and levels.





DJD's faithful Volunteers

It is with heart-felt gratitude that DJD acknowledges the following kindred souls. Without the dedication and generosity of these volunteers, as well as the countless others who came before them, DJD would not be what it is today.

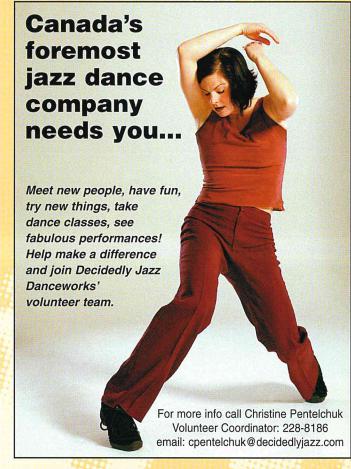
If you would like to help keep the spirit of jazz alive and well in Calgary, we would love to have you join us! Please stop by the table in the lobby for more information or call Christine Pentelchuk (Volunteer Coordinator) at ph 228-8186 or email: cpentelchuk@decidedlyjazz.com

Simone Assad Kara Axworthy Donna Babott Randi Bailey Pam Bayne Sue Bayne Venysa Bedard Noel Bégin Luma Bellisan Kyle Bienvenu Jessie Black Rebecca Bloom Shawna Britch Nan Bruntjen Daniela Burlotti Lindsay Butcher Judy Butcher Larry Cardinal Nadia Chaibi Leslie Chandler Kathy Charlton **Rachel Colless** Gail Cooke Judith Dachowski Anne-Marie Davies Melanie Des Roches Kathleen Dewitt Newell Cheryl DeWolf Matt Dowd Vinita Dowd lain Dunbar Charity Dyke Ayanna Elbourne Marguerite Erickson Noemy Estrada Shirley Ewert Sue Fairbairn Jacqueline Fairbairn Mona Frederiksen Yolanda Freed Pamela Gentile Julie Gibson Cory Gledhill S Jason Goethals Norm Greenfield Barb Grieg

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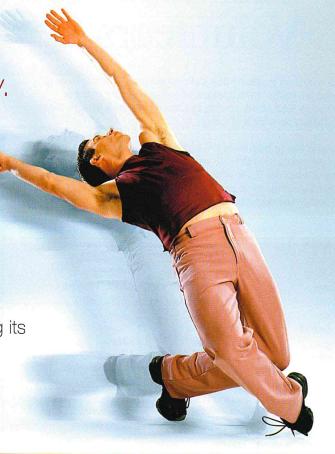


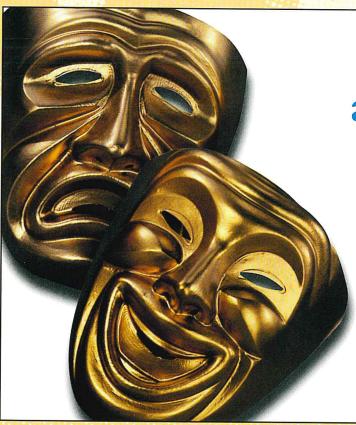
Holly Nepinak

DJD's Board raises funds to support the company. We are looking for Board Members.

If you have the energy, ingenuity and imagination to attract the resources needed to continue to propel DJD along its trailblazing path call Kathi Sundstrom

228-8178





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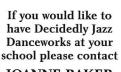
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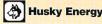


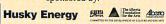
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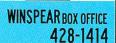






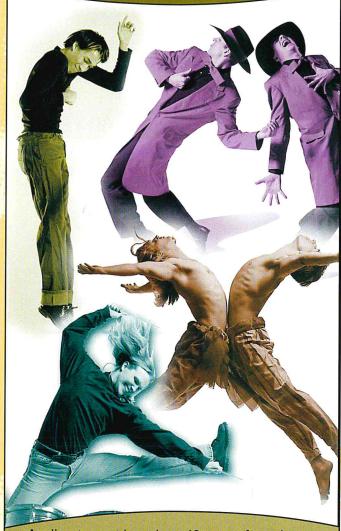








Decidedly Jazz Danceworks will be auditioning MALE dancers for the 2002/03 season



Applicants must be at least 18 years of age, have a strong technical background, be rhythmically skilled and have a good natural jazz feel - experience in gymnastics, tap, African and partnering are an asset.

Personal groove is a must!

DJD is an 18 year old company based in Calgary, Alberta. The work is African-rooted, swing based, musically driven and highly physical. www.decidedlyjazz.com

June 20, 2002 11:00-2:00pm Winnipeg, Manitoba Royal Winnipeg Ballet 380 Graham Avenue July 12, 2002 11:00-2:00pm Toronto, Ontario Metro Movement 833 Broadview Ave, 2nd floor August 18, 2002 11:00-2:00pm Calgary, Alberta DJD Studios 1514 - 4 Street SW

Please contact Joanne Baker (403) 228-8179, jobaker@decidedlyjazz.com for further details.

take a

Bow

Decidedly Jazz Danceworks would also like to thank all those who supported DJD by attending the June 5, 2002 Taste, Talk, Tap & Tour Special Evening, the 18th Annual Black & White Big Band Benefit Ball (Nov. 3, 2001), and the 9th Annual Dance Marathon (Sept 29, 2001). The 19th Annual Black & White Big Band Benefit Ball will take place November 2, 2002.

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Countless thanks to the following companies and individuals who have donated items in-kind to Decidedly Jazz Danceworks. As well, we extend rounds of applause to the consulting professionals listed on page 5 who generously donate their time to DJD.

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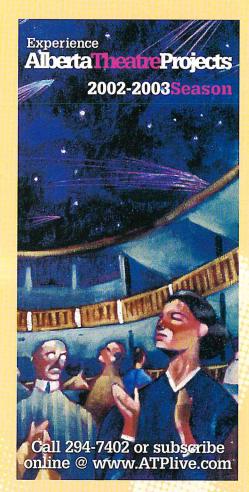
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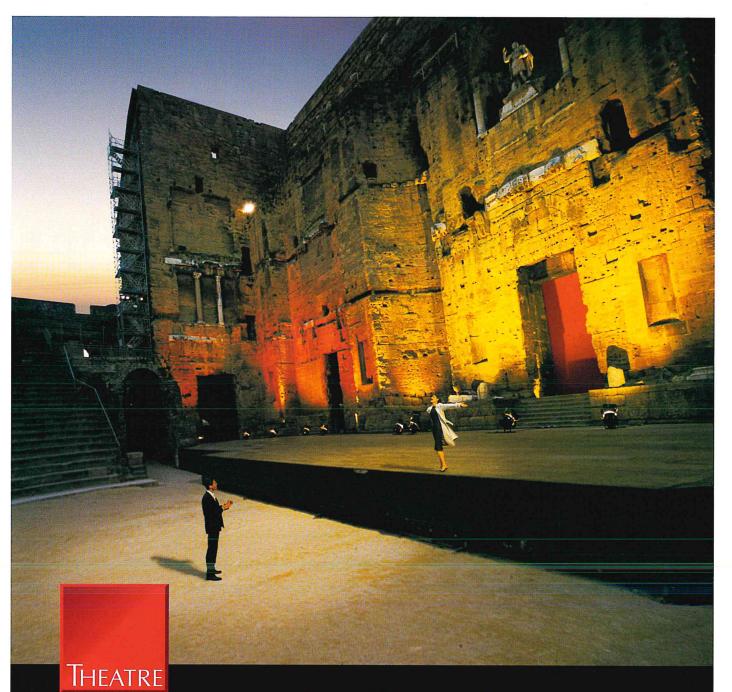
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