Center for Modern Dance Education

50th Anniversary Gala Celebration!

What Is Modern Dance?

June 16, 2012
ABOUT THE CENTER FOR MODERN DANCE EDUCATION

Founded in 1962 by Shirley and Earl Ubell, the Center for Modern Dance Education (CMDE) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to promote modern dance and make it available to everyone; to nurture talent and instill confidence through quality teaching of modern dance and related art forms; and to serve as a resource for the professional dance community. CMDE’s principles of dance training include small classes, highly-qualified faculty, emphasis on the individual, and frequent chances to perform. CMDE believes that a dancer lives within every human being and seek to help every student develop that dancing self. CMDE is dedicated to bringing the joy of dance to everyone, including individuals with disabilities, youth at-risk, older adults, and people from disadvantaged circumstances. In our classes, both serious students and those who dance for fun, fitness, and relaxation can find exactly what they need.

Center for Modern Dance Education 29th Annual Danceathon and 50th Anniversary Gala Celebration

June 16th 2012
Fair Lawn Community Theatre
10-10 20th Street, Fair Lawn NJ

Student Danceathon Performances
at 12:00 PM and 2:00 PM

Gala Concert and Reception at 6:00 PM

Directed by Elissa Machlin-Lockwood

Sound & Light Technicians: Bill Otten & Jackie Klein

Class photos by Stacy Muir Lespinass

Illustration by Marilyn “Mikki” Machlin

This program is made possible by funding from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts / Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

The Center for Modern Dance Education would like to thank Robin Junchaya and the staff of the Fair Lawn Community Center for their help in making this day a success, and the Anniversary Committee, Work-Study Students, and Volunteers for their countless hours of dedication.
The Board of Trustees of the Center for Modern Dance Education welcomes you to the 50th anniversary celebration of “nurturing the dancer within” today and always.

Board of Trustees:
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1950's
The Founding Years
♦ In 1951 CMDE’s precursor, The Studio, was created by Shirley Ubell teaching classes in her home in Paramus NJ.

In 1956 The Studio finds a new home in a rented storefront at 815 Main Street in Hackensack.

1960's
♦ By 1962, The Studio had grown to include over 200 students.
♦ On May 2, 1962, Shirley and husband Earl Ubell co-founded The Foundation for Modern Dance Education, a non-profit, tax-exempt organization. In 1967 the name was changed to the Center for Modern Dance Education and CMDE was born.

In 1963, the first of many branch schools was opened.

In 1968, CMDE adopted the Merry-Go-Rounders, a professional adult company which toured the U.S. to perform for children.

1970's
♦ In 1970, CMDE purchased a former church building at 84 Euclid Avenue in Hackensack, its present location.
♦ Funds from the Rockefeller Foundation and the New Jersey State Council on the Arts assisted CMDE with the creation of The Repertory Dancers, the first adult modern dance company in New Jersey.

CMDE's popular Saturday Workshops, in which children choreograph for children, were presented on television.

♦ In the late 1970s, CMDE received federal CETA funds to run a full-time dance-theater company, BODTY, for one year.

1980's
♦ In 1969-1970, CMDE presented a series of performances and master classes: Martha Graham and Jose Limon were highlights.

In 1970, José Limón instructs students during a master class series.

The first “Danceathon” took place in 1983, initiating an annual event.

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In 1985, Shirley Ubell receives her Master of Science in Movement Therapy from Hunter College, and CMDE begins the “Learning Through The Arts” program for people with disabilities.

CMDE celebrates its 25th Anniversary in 1987. A New York Times article recognizes the Center’s impact on the modern dance world.

CMDE makes its last mortgage payment in 1989, and celebrated with a “Burn The Mortgage Cabaret.”

1990's
♦ At the start of the decade, CMDE received a HUD grant to renovate its building to make its building wheelchair-accessible.
♦ The “Community Arts For Youth At-Risk” program - later renamed the “Moving Into Knowledge” program - is formally initiated in the mid-90s, with funds from the state.

In 1996 Shirley Ubell is celebrated in an article in Dance Magazine as a master teacher.

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♦ The Moving Experience Dance Company for teens and young adults with disabilities was created in the late 1990s. Funds from Bergen County helped make the program possible.

♦ Funders by this point have included the Greentree Foundation, JP Morgan, Lipton/Unilever, The Puffin Foundation, and others.
Foundation, 21st Century Children’s Fund, FleetBoston, and United Way of Bergen County.

In 1990’s, Children Musical Theatre Workshops begin

2000’s
♦ CMDE receives its first grant from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts for the Open Door Dance Project, beginning a series of collaborative events targeting underserved populations.
♦ The African performance company The Seventh Principle, and Raqs LaMajali World Fusion Dance Experience, both begin their ongoing partnerships with CMDE.
♦ In 2002 the piece “It’s About Time,” created by Claire Porter for dancers Irving Burton, Stuart Hodes, Alice Tierstein, and Shirley Ubell, all over 70 years old, is featured in Dance Magazine.
♦ In 2006, Rennie Harris PureMovement performs at the 6th Annual Open Door Dance Concert. Continuing the tradition of bringing contemporary choreographers to new audiences.
♦ In 2009, CMDE is featured in a Dance Studio Life magazine article, titled “Bringing Modern to the Masses”.
♦ CMDE collaborating organizations in the 1990s and 2000s included the Park Performing Arts Center in Union City NJ, with dance company Fusion Tango; the Hackensack Riverkeeper and Ringwood Manor, on outside performance projects; the Lillian Booth Actors’ Fund Home, with older adults; Gilda’s Club Northern New Jersey, for people living with cancer; the Somerset Office for the Aging; the Bergen County Office for Children; and many local schools, libraries, recreation centers, senior centers, disability-service groups, and youth facilities including pre-adoptive facilities.
♦ Funding during the 21st Century has included the National Endowment for the Arts, Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation, the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, the New Jersey Cultural Trust, The Dana Foundation, the Ethel Louise Armstrong Foundation, the Hackensack Women’s Club, and the Lillian Pitkin Schenck Fund.

2010’s
♦ CMDE continues to collaborate with both arts and non-arts organizations, and to support many local artists through the use of its studio space, including dancers and actors from all over the world.
♦ A 2011-2012 “Projects Serving Artists” grant from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts supports a collaboration with Claire Porter to create “Modern on Modern”, an original work grappling with the unanswerable question, “What Is Modern Dance?”
♦ Bergen County awards CMDE a special 50th Anniversary Proclamation in May 2012.
♦ CMDE’s 50th Anniversary Year celebration culminates with a Gala Performance on June 16, 2012.
12:00 Dancethon

1. Time
Choreographer/Teacher: Roger Turner
Assisted by Patrick Hayden and Cassandra Calle
Music: Beyoncé
Kids’ Hip-Hop Class Performers: Victoria Bryan, Maximo Calle, Liam Cristello, Ty Dickson, David Ferrer, Emmanuel Lee, Courtney Lucius, Kimora Rivera, Nina Romeo, Sofia Romeo, Sarah Valencia, Elli Van Hoff, Noah Van Hoff, Nasir Wimer

2. Teardrops of a Waterfall
Directed by Silinea Lucius, with Choreography Conceived by the Dancers
Assisted by Brandon Clifton
Music: A. R. Rahman, Coldplay, Gulzar
Performed by Moving Experience Dance Company Members: Cara Barbi, Nina Goffredo, Chris Hayer, Chesne Valentine, Lauren Valenta, Angie Lado, David Greenspan, Viviana Obando

3. Ode to Chuck/Charlie’s Angels
Choreographer/Teacher: Silinea Lucius
Music: George Winston
Modern Ballet Class Performers: Courtney Lucius, Daniella Newball, Kimora Rivera, Sarah Valencia

4. Birds of a Feather
Choreographer/Teacher: Silinea Lucius
Music: Coldplay
Teen-Adult Ballet Class Performers: Caitlin Bargmann, Michelle Diagaleva, Akosua Koram, Alexa Penn LaCorte, Natalia Oliver

5. Pedestrian
Choreographer/Teacher: Silinea Lucius
Music: Capital K
Performed by CMDE Jr Repertory Co. members: Nina Delgado, Coreen Ferraro, Samantha Garcia, Peter LaScala, Courtney Lucius, Ava Prettyman, Isaiah Smith, Sarah Valencia
6. Striving
Choreographed & Performed by Seqoia Lee
Music: Kings of Leon

7. Escape
Choreographer/Teacher: Brandon Clifton
Music: Nicki Minaj
Teen-Adult Hip Hop Performers: Caitlin Bargmann, Samantha Garcia, Elaina Hirsch, Alexa Penn LaCorte, Vanessa Montgomery

8. Cry
Choreographer/Teacher: Jessica Pantaliano
Music: James Hornet
Adult Modern Dance Class Performers: Danielle Delaurentis, Danielle Hartman, Akosua Koram, Natalie Sanjuan, Erika Santora, Carolyn Smith, Zach Smithlin

9. The Journey
Choreographed by Brandon Clifton
Music: Various
Performed by CMDE Dance Crew Members: Liam Cristello, Alexa Penn LaCorte, Peter LaScala, Isaiah Smith

10. Invictus
Choreographed & Performed by Brandon Clifton
Music: Tyler Bates

11. Horton Hears a Who
Choreographer/Teacher: Janelle Smith-Reed
Music: Gabrielle Poso
Performed by CMDE Repertory Company Members: Brittne Belcher, Nina Kornberg, Alexa Penn LaCorte, Sequoia Lee
2:00 Dancethon

1. Lumba and Kookoo
Choreographer/Teacher/Drummer: Yahaya Kamate
Music: African Drumming
Family African Dance Performers: Desiree Aiello, Angela Bentley, Rhianna Bergman, Elijah Davis, Alex Eaton Samara Eichlin, Cynthia Ortiz-Figueoa, Jordan Hargwood, Courtney Lucius, Soyini and Asada Ma’at, Gina Madagin, Akira McClure, Xsumi Oliver, Infiniti Parker, Maggie Ponce DeLeon, Glenda & Mirame Rhodes, Quin Saunders, Christopher Velez, Nasir Wimer, Akora Ylhen

2. Little Stars
Choreographer/Teacher: Sarah Savoye
Assisted by Cristina Iribarne
Music: Various
Modern Dance for 3-6 Years Class Performers: Sarah Bansai, Jayden Deloach, Saimon d’Adolf, Maria Fontana, Sage Getman, Rui Macaluso, Avery Roberts, Emily Taveras, Kevin Tavaras, Victoria Wiltshire

3. Do You Like Jazz?
Choreographer/Teacher: Lateefah Fleming
Music: James Brown
Jazz Dance Class Performers: Lateefah Fleming, Debbie Glaser, Venus Rose

4. Moving Right Along
Choreographer/Teacher: Sarah Savoye
Music: Various
Modern Dance for 6-9 Years Class Performers: Alejandra Callejas, Natalia Jarpa, Emily Liu

5. Song of Myself
Choreographed, Written & Performed by Nina Kornberg
Poem read by Ella Scott
Music: Little People
6. Lamb Chops
Choreographer/Teacher: Sarah Savoye
Music: Jordan Rudess, Various
Modern Dance for Teens with Disabilities Class Performers: Jessica Dunic, Meghan Farrell, Anne Marie Isip, Eionna Pennington, Nelly Rojas

7. Joy in the Mundane
Choreographer/Teacher: Lateefah Fleming
Music: Fadi El Saadi
Middle Eastern Dance Class Performers: Manushi Desai, Jacqueline George, Danielle Hartman, Laura Jean Lopato, Venus Rose, Victoria Wells, Clarissa Williams

8. The Journey
Choreographed by Brandon Clifton
Music: Various
CMDE Dance Crew Performers: Liam Cristello, Alexa Penn LaCorte, Peter LaScala

9. Across the Floor!
Choreographer/Teacher: Elissa Machlin-Lockwood
Music: Jeremy Nasta
Modern Dance Adult Class Performers: Katonya Cray, Diana Fainberg, Leslie Farber, Danielle Hartman, Cristina Iribarne, Adrienne Palmer, Marianne Pita, Isabelle Pradel, Debra Shapiro, Sharon Silow-Carroll, Carolyn Smith, Amanda Trott, Suzanne Wolfe

10. Invictus
Choreographed &Performed by Brandon Clifton
Music: Tyler Bates

11. Horton Hears a Who
Choreographer/Teacher: Janelle Smith-Reed
Music: Gabrielle Poso
Performed by CMDE Repertory Company Members: Brittne Belcher, Nina Kornberg, Alexa Penn LaCorte, Sequoia Lee
6:00 Gala Performance

1. Moved Still
Created by Linda Mensch
Editing by Paul Romano
Music: Jeremy Taylor, Andrew Tracey, & The Eeels
The people in the photographs have all been part of CMDE, past or present.

2. Modern On Modern Dance
Written, choreographed & introduced by Claire Porter
Material developed with the Dancers
Music: Guy Klucevsek, Camille Saint-Saens (on a Theremin)
This piece was made possible by an FY12 Projects Serving Artists grant from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts.

3. For Shirley
Choreographed & Performed by Josie Moseley
Music: Eric Satie
Costume by Josie Moseley
For Shirley, who taught me my first step, my first dance, and a new world. — Josie Mosely

4. Lyric Suite Solo, 1953
Choreographed by Anna Sokolow
Music: Alban Berg
Performed by Susan Thomasson
This solo is part of Anna Sokolow’s suite of dances Lyric Suite, which is considered a modern dance classic. Lyric Suite is Sokolow’s own homage to Isadora Duncan. Sokolow recounted that Louis Horst, composer and mentor of Martha Graham, and one of the first teachers to define the principles of modern dance choreographic technique, praised Lyric Suite and told her, “Now you are a choreographer.”

5. Lady Macbeth: Part I: Ambition; Part II: Guilt
Premiered 1948 (original music and scenery lost); reconstructed in 1999
Choreographed by Mary Anthony
Music: Arvo Part, Fratres
Text reading of Macbeth’s voice by Larry Opitz
Original costume design by Kim Swados, executed by Caroline Kuntze; costume reconstruction by Timberlake Studios
Original scene design (lost) by Kim Swados; throne courtesy of Herbert Berghof Studio
Performers: Mary Ford (Lady Macbeth) and Rachel Cohen (Nurse)
6. Angels
Choreographed by Juan Carlos Gonzales Varela
Music: Gregorian Chant, Bach
Performed by Brandon Clifton, Silinea Lucius, and Karen Francesca Silvano
This piece is presented in tribute to Juan Carlos, beloved CMDE faculty member and Mary Anthony Dance Company member, who succumbed to brain cancer last year.

SHORT INTERMISSION

7. Outside In
A dance film created by Victoria Marks (choreographer) and Margaret Williams (film director) in collaboration with CandoCo Dance Company in 1994. Original music composed by Steve Beresford. Commissioned by the BBC/Arts Council England.

8. Inherit (Lamentations Variation)
Choreographed by Josie Moseley
Conceived by Janet Eilbert
Music: Joshua Redman
Performed by Samuel Pott
Lamentation Variations is an event conceived in 2007 to commemorate the anniversary of 9/11. The work is based on a film from the early 1930s of Martha Graham dancing movements from her then new, and now iconic, solo Lamentations. The choreographers were each invited to create a movement study in reaction to the Graham film for the current company of Graham dancers. The variations were developed under specific creative conditions: ten hours of rehearsal, public domain music or silence, and basic costumes. Inherit was commissioned by White Bird Dance of Portland OR.

9. Lambarena
Choreographed by Val Caniparoli
Staged by Maiqui Manosa
Music: Bach
Costume Designer: Sandra Woodall
Premiered March 28 1995, San Francisco Ballet
Performed by Julia Rowe and Javier Ubell

10. Modern On Modern On Modern
Written, choreographed, & introduced by Claire Porter
Material developed with the Dancers
Music: Guy Klucyevsek, Julio Numhauser (sung by Mercedes Sosa)
Performed by Liliana Amador-Marty, Seta Bairamian, Allison Bazin, Joanne Koob Brown, Tanya Mgrdechian, Lisa Parra, Jamie Sporn, Mary Suk, Alexandra Vasallo

Please join us for a light reception following the performance.
Gala Artist Bios

Mary Anthony began her career with a dance scholarship with Hanya Holm in the early 1940’s, eventually joining the Holm Company, concertizing with Joseph Gifford, and appearing in Broadway shows. Over the years, she has performed with most of the major figures in modern dance, including Martha Graham, Anna Sokolow, Lester Horton, Charles Weidman, Ross Parkes, and Bertram Ross. The Mary Anthony Dance Theatre began life in 1956 and has a repertory that includes works by numerous modern dance luminaries as well as Ms. Anthony’s own acclaimed choreography. An international choreographer, Miss Anthony’s works have been added to the repertoires of the Pennsylvania Ballet, the Bat-Dor Company of Israel, the Dublin City Ballet, and the National Institute for the Arts of Taiwan. Her staging of the London production of Touch and Go, in which she danced one of the lead roles, resulted in a long association as a choreographer for Italian musical theatre. Mary Anthony is a legend in her own time, and at 95 years old continues to teach in her Manhattan studio. Mary was Shirley Ubell’s teacher and mentor, and several CMDE teachers have come to CMDE through their long association.

Rachel Cohen graduated from Harvard University where she studied dance and choreography with Claire Malardi. She moved to New York City in 1997, where she has studied with Mary Anthony and Bertram Ross, among others. She is the director of dance-theater company Racoco/Rx. Ms. Cohen is the recipient of a 2012 Field Dance Fund award and is a resident artist at CAVE in Brooklyn.

Mary Ford has had an extensive career as a dancer, teacher and choreographer. A member of the Limon Company from 1996-2004, she received critical praise for her performances in several works including Limon’s There is a Time and The Moor’s Pavane. She is also privileged to have a long-time affiliation with Mary Anthony and her company. Ms. Ford was featured in many of Ms. Anthony’s masterworks including Threnody and Songs, and new works, Tabula Rasa (1996) and the solo, The Magdalena (1997). This fruitful relationship led to Ms. Ford’s chilling portrayal of Ms. Anthony’s Lady Macbeth, reconstructed in 1999, and performed often since that time. Ms. Ford currently teaches Limon Technique at the Joffrey School in New York City. In November 2004 Mary and her husband, Bill, welcomed their most perfect creation: their daughter, Aleah Rose. Ms. Ford is delighted to be performing in this celebration honoring Shirley Ubell and the 50th anniversary of Center for Modern Dance Education.

Juan Carlos Gonzales-Varela (1962-2011) graduated from the National School of Superior Ballet in Lima, Peru, and was awarded a scholarship to attend the Professional Training Program at the School of Dance Theatre of Harlem. He performed in Chile, Cuba, Puerto Rico, and extensively throughout the United States. He choreographed for television, as well as appearing in a series of HBO specials in 2002. Juan Carlos trained, danced with, and taught for the Mary Anthony Dance Theatre, and danced with Kun-Yang Lin. He was a company member of the all-male pointe troupe Le Grand Ballet de Looenis in the 1990s, danced with Ariane Anthony & Company from 1999-2002, and with Rachel Cohen & Company and Rococo Productions. He performed and taught ballroom, Latin, ballet, and modern dance in NYC and NJ, including at Stepping Out Studios, Manhattan’s largest and most diverse Latin and Ballroom dance school. At CMDE, he taught Latin and Modern Dance for all ages and abilities including individuals with disabilities, and worked with people living with cancer through a partnership with Gilda’s Club Northern NJ. He lost his own battle with brain cancer in August 2011. Juan Carlos was a superior dancer, teacher, and choreographer and a wonderful individual who touched the hearts of everyone who had the good fortune to know him.

Victoria Marks creates dances for the stage, for film, and for professional and non-professional movers. Her recent work continues to consider citizenship, as well as the representation of disability. Marks is a 2005 Guggenheim Fellow and has received numerous grants and fellowships from, among others, the Irvine Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Los Angeles City Department of Cultural Affairs. In 1997, Marks was honored with the Alpert Award for Outstanding Achievement in Choreography. She has received a Fulbright Fellowship in Choreography, and many awards for her dance films co-created with Margaret Williams. Marks is a Professor of Choreography in the Department of World Arts and Cultures/Dance at UCLA, where she has been teaching since 1995. Victoria was a student at CMDE for many years, and danced with the CMDE Teen Repertory Company.

Javier Ubell took class at “Aunt Shirley’s” dance center as a toddler, and then began his ballet training on full scholarship at the prestigious School of American Ballet in New York City. As a student, he danced in various New York City Ballet productions such as George Balanchine’s “The Nutcracker,” “Swan Lake,” and “Harlequinade.” He was featured in ballets with American Ballet Theatre and toured with them when he was 12. He has choreographed ballets for the SAB Student Choreographic Institute, Chautauqua...
Choreographic Institute, and Buck’s Rock. As well as being a seasoned performer, Javier has taught all levels of ballet to private students and group classes and has been in charge of tech and dress rehearsals. In 2007 he joined Oregon Ballet Theatre under artistic director Christopher Stowell, and was promoted to Soloist in 2011.

**Julia Rowe** was born in Elizabethtown, PA, and received her training from the Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet and the San Francisco Ballet School. In 2008 she was invited by artistic director Christopher Stowell to join Oregon Ballet Theatre, and was promoted to the rank of Soloist in 2011.

**Linda Mensch** has a BA in Choreography from Bard College, and is currently the Artistic Director of The Moving Company in Warwick, NY. She taught for many years at the Gowanus Arts Exchange in Brooklyn, at bard College, and at the Center for Modern Dance Education. Her choreography has been performed from London to NYC. In 2007 she choreographed the work “CMDE Family Tree” for the Center’s students, staff, and alumni, which was performed at the organization’s 45th Anniversary Gala. In 2008-2009, she taught people living with cancer at Gilda’s Club Northern New Jersey as part of the Can Dance! collaboration with CMDE. She currently teaches and assists with marketing at CMDE, and teaches in the Road Recovery program.

**Josie Moseley** is one of the Pacific Northwest’s finest choreographers. She has captivated audiences for over 25 years with her solo performances and group pieces set on various artist and companies world wide. Her dances were presented by White Bird Dance to sold-out houses. Dance Magazine recognized her as one of the “100 Most Influential Woman Choreographers of 2009”. In 2010 she was greatly honored to create a new work for the Martha Graham Dance Company. Josie is currently working with film marker Janet McIntyer and as an independent choreographer. She lives in Oregon with her husband and two daughters. Josie studied at CMDE as a teen, and re-created one of Shirley Ubell’s dances for the Gala, “for Shirley, who taught me my first step, my first dance and a new world.”

**Claire Porter** has had her work performed in Germany, Holland, Latvia, Korea, India, throughout the United States, including at The Joyce Theater, NYC Town Hall, NY Horticulture Society, American Dance Festival, Lucille Ball Comedy Festival, Bates Festival, Jacob’s Pillow, Florida Dance Festival, and the Kennedy Center, among others. She performed at the Mikhail Baryshnikov Art Center Gala, set a solo on Kansas City Ballet, and performs her one-hour forensic poetry piece about the muscles, Namely Muscles, at festivals, medical schools and universities. Porter has received many fellowships, including from the National Endowment for the Arts, the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, and the Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation. Currently, she is working on a project supported by a Live Music for Dance Award, and receives support from the Jody and John Arnhold Foundation. She has an MA in Dance from Ohio State University, a BA in Mathematics, and is a Laban Movement Analyst. She is delighted to be working again with CMDE. More information at www.cportables.com.

**Samuel Pott** founded Nimbus Dance Works in 2005, drawing on a deeply held personal belief in the role that the arts can play in bringing people and communities together. Mr. Pott has performed as a lead dancer with many companies, including New Jersey’s American Repertory Ballet and the Oakland Ballet. His choreography has been shown in New York City, New Jersey, New England, and California. Recent projects include a commissioned work for Martha Graham II, performed at the Joyce Theater in NYC. A member of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts “Arts in Education” roster of artists, Mr. Pott has taught dance to all age groups and levels. In 2008, Mr. Pott received a Choreography Fellowship from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts. He currently performs as a soloist with the Martha Graham Dance Company, and as a freelance dancer throughout the United States and abroad.

“Choreography always reflects the character of the creator. We see in the person’s work what he asks from life and from art. Art should recognize all our needs.” — Anna Sokolow

**Anna Sokolow** (1910-2000) began her training at the Neighborhood Playhouse with Martha Graham and Louis Horst. In the 1930’s she was a member of the Graham Company and assisted Mr. Horst in his dance composition classes. Ms. Sokolow’s interest in humanity led her to create works of dramatic contemporary imagery showing both the lyric and stark aspects of the human experience. In a 1965 Dance Magazine article she wrote that there were no “final solutions to today’s problems,” but that she “could simply provoke an audience into awareness.” Her
work grew to become the Mexican National Academy of Dance. In 1953 she was invited to Israel to work with Inbal Dance Company, and following that she choreographed for Batsheva, Kibbutz Dance Company, and Lyric Theatre. Ms. Sokolow also choreographed Broadway shows including the original Hair. In the late 1950’s Ms. Sokolow was the first modern dance choreographer to have her work (Rooms) presented on national television. She was a longtime faculty member of the Juilliard School. Among her many honors and awards she received a Fulbright Fellowship to Japan, the Dance Magazine Award, a National Endowment for the Arts’ Choreographic Fellowship, the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American/Israeli Cultural Foundation, the Samuel H. Scripps Award, and the Encomienda, Aztec Eagle Honor (the highest civilian honor awarded to a foreigner by Mexico). Ms. Sokolow’s works are performed by the Sokolow Theatre/Dance Ensemble, and are in the repertories of numerous other companies around the world. Anna Sokolow passed away in her home in New York City on March 29, 2000, at the age of 90.

**Susan Thomasson** has performed with the companies of Kathryn Posin, Raymond Johnson, Bill T. Jones, Bill Evans, and Rosalind Newman, soloed with Anna Sokolow’s Players’ Project, and assisted in reconstruction of Sokolow’s repertory. Susan also tours a solo/duet concert of Pilotobolus Dance Theatre’s work. In addition to her own work, she now performs with Claire Porter, Elissaveta Iordanova and Mark DeGarmo. As a teaching artist for Lincoln Center Institute, she helped in the development of many of the Institute’s national affiliates. She has been a faculty member of Brooklyn College, the Rutgers University system, Hofstra University, Manhattanville College, Fairleigh Dickinson University, the University of Northern Iowa and Brooklyn’s Berkeley Carroll School. She is an artist-in-residence for the 92nd St. Y, NY City Center, the Joyce Theater, the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, and the Theater Development Fund. Her work has been presented at DanceNow, NY’s 40Up Series, Dance Theater Workshop, the 92nd Street Y’s Harkness Dance Series, the American Dance Guild, NY International Fringe Festival, Flea Theater, New York’s Riverside Dance Festival, the Aspen Music Festival, Hopkins Theatre at Dartmouth College, and Iowa’s Cedar Arts Forum. She received a 2011 Choreography Fellowship from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, and was recently commissioned by the University of Nebraska’s Lied Center for an evening-length work. In 2006 Susan received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Association of Teaching Artists and the New York State Council on the Arts and a Governor’s Award in the Arts from the State of New Jersey. Susan is a frequent master teacher and panelist, and a writer of arts and arts education materials. She holds a BFA from the University of Utah.

Susan is on CMDE’s advisory board and has been a guest artist for many years.

**CMDE ARTISTIC STAFF**

**Shirley Ubell**, Founder, began teaching dance in her home in the 1950s, incorporated CMDE in 1962 as a non-profit community organization, and was its Director for most of the organization’s existence. Ms Ubell has a BA in Psychology and a Master of Science in Movement Therapy from Hunter College, and is a Registered Dance Therapist. She took her first modern dance lesson at the late age of 19 from Maya Kyla, and continued at The Martha Graham School and at The Mary Anthony Dance Studio. She now serves in an advisory capacity to CMDE’s artistic and administrative staff, assists with individual-donor solicitations, and continues to dance, all with the aim of having everyone experience the joy of dance.

**Elissa Machlin-Lockwood**, Artistic Director, began dancing at age 3 at CMDE, and began teaching dance over 35 years ago. She attended The Martha Graham School, Jacobs Pillow Summer Dance Festival, Bennington College, Simons Rock College, and the New School for Social Research. She has taught students of all ages in a wide variety of settings, has developed and implemented numerous original programs for CMDE, and continues to teach and present her own choreography. In her role of Artistic Director, she manages all of CMDE’s artistic and professional-development programming, supervises all staff, and is the primary liaison between CMDE staff and the Board of Trustees. She is also the Chairperson of the Committee for the Bergen County Family Fun Festival; a member of the Advisory Committee for the Bergen County Teen Arts Festival; and a former Board Member of Dance New Jersey.

**Mimi was the first professional dancer Shirley hired as a CMDE faculty member in 1962. She taught on and off for many years and is currently on CMDE’s advisory board.**

**Miriam Levinsohn Cole** began her dance studies with Martha Graham at the age of twelve and, after attending New York University for one year, she transferred to the University of Wisconsin as a pre-med student. After six months, she changed her major to dance and graduated in 1946. While at the University, Cole and four of her friends formed a group known as the Wisconsin Dance Group, which toured throughout the U.S. (As well as Cole, two other members of the Group went on to join the Martha Graham Dance Company, Mary Hinkson and Matt Turney.) Cole joined the Martha Graham Dance Company in 1952 and remained until 1958.
TEACHERS

Seta Baraimian began taking classes at CMDE when she was not quite three years old. She joined the CMDE Repertory Company at age 11, and continued cultivating her status as “studio brat” until she left to study experimental theatre at NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts. She has since returned as an instructor, and has taught CMDE Summer Moves, as well as other CMDE classes. “I have nothing but gratitude and admiration for Shirley, Elissa, and everybody that makes CMDE the home and dynamic arts space that it is.” Seta wanted to tell you that.

Brandon Clifton has just recently earned his degree in accounting from Fairleigh Dickinson University, and has been studying dance most of his life. Brandon first started dancing in North Babylon NY at the Venettes Cultural Workshop where he studied Ballet, Jazz, African, Hip-Hop, Tap, Modern, Contemporary, and Poetic Interpretation. Upon his graduation from the Venettes, he was rewarded with the school’s most prestigious award, The Mary A. Baird Scholarship, for his academics, community service, and contribution to the art of dance throughout the years. In 2008 Brandon received a gold medal for first place in the NAACP Act-So Local Competition for Long Island NY, and was later ranked in the top 10% for the national competition in Orlando FL. Later on that year he was also awarded CMDE’s 2008-2009 Eva Bauer Talent Scholarship. Brandon started teaching at CMDE in 2009.

Lateefah Fleming began her dance career at the age of seven, as part of the Afro-Caribbean group La Rocquey Bey Dance Company in Harlem NY. She earned a degree from City College of New York, and is certified in Pilates Mat, Pilates Reformer, Personal Training, Group Fitness, Pre- and Post-Natal Fitness, and Vinyassa Yoga. She has performed with The Perry Dance Company, the Middle Eastern Dance Company Rainbow Essence, Oasis, and her own company, Raq’s la Majali, A World Dance Fusion Experience. She has trained in numerous dance techniques at Broadway Dance Center, The Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance, Steps on Broadway, Perry Studios, and with various masters of Oriental dance. She also has a Master’s Degree in Natural Health. She started her own fitness firm, empowerfit, was the Group Exercise Director at The Spa At Glenpointe, and now runs fitness programs at the Ridgewood YWCA. She joined the CMDE faculty in 2005.

Yahaya Kamate is the Associate Artistic Director of the Seventh Principle Performance Company and the Founder of Kamate Traders, “trading art for smiles”. He has performed world-wide and soloed with companies including the National Ballet Cote D’Iворie, Ballet D’Afrique, and Mask Dance Company. He is currently teaching at Mark Morris Dance Center for NY and NJ Young Audiences, Alvin Ailey, and elsewhere. He has been with Seventh Principle as principle artist/choreographer since 1997. He has taught and performed for CMDE since 2004.

Silinea Lucius, a Maryland native, began her ballet training at Jones-Haywood School of Ballet. Her love of dance eventually led her to Howard University, where she earned a BFA in Musical Theatre. She also trained with the Broadway Dance Center in NYC and the British American Drama Academy in Oxford, England. She has taught at the Dance Institute of Washington, Dance & Body Works, and Hudson Repertory Dance, and has performed with various regional theatres including The Shakespeare Theatre and The Kennedy Center. She was a member of Seventh Principle Contemporary African Performance Company, and has been a member of the CMDE faculty since 2005.

Jessica Pantaleano is a professional dancer and choreographer with over 24 years of extensive training in contemporary, jazz, hip hop, improvisation, choreography, and performance art. She is a 2003 graduate from Roger Williams University where she received a BA in Dance/Performance Studies under the direction of Kelli Wicke Davis. She continues her training at Broadway Dance Center in NYC and studies contemporary and hip hop technique with some of the biggest names in the industry. Her performance experience includes professional work with Venom Dance Crew, TG Gordon Dance Company, and Camara Dance Unlimited. Her work with these companies has given her the opportunity to travel and perfect her craft. She has appeared in music videos for artists NJ 5ive (Dem Haters) and Bela Mami (Una Loca) and danced back-up for Bela Mami throughout NYC. Jessica has performed for several MTV hosted events and most recently appeared in a commercial for Boost Mobile.

Karen Francesca Silvano (Guest Artist) is a graduate of the National Academy of Dance in her native Rome, Italy. After a London experience at the Covent Garden School of Dance, she moved to New York, where she graduated from the Ailey School. Francesca has danced with several companies and independent choreographers, such as Mary Anthony Dance Theater, Ramos Dance, Kun Yang Lin, and I Giulieri di Piazza, a company that reconstructs theater, music, and dance productions from the Italian Renaissance. She holds a B.A. and a Masters degree in Romance Languages and Literature and teaches Italian at Pascack Valley High School. Francesca is also the proud mommy of Luca and Luisa. She is honored to have been the director and choreographer of CMDE’s Junior and Senior Repertory Company, and is grateful to the CMDE family for allowing her to create so much choreography and multimedia works.

Sarah Savoye studied dance on scholarship at CMDE from age 3 to 18, and joined the staff at 19. In addition to teaching for CMDE, she has also supervised the Center’s Saturday Workshop series for many years. She earned a BA in Theatre from Ramapo College, and has been performing and choreographing for community theater productions. She is currently arts coordinator and certified teacher for a Montessori School.

Janelle S. Smith-Reed teaches dance full-time in the Newark Public Schools. She attended Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of the Performing Arts (FAME) and was a Fellowship student at The Ailey School. Janelle is trained in Horton, Graham, Dunham and Ballet techniques. She
earned a BFA in Dance from Montclair State University and received her Masters in Arts Administration from Seton Hall University. She was a recipient of the Governor’s Teacher Recognition Program award in 2007, a recipient of the Marion A. Bolden Award for Professional Development Initiatives within the Performing Arts, and a recipient of the 2008 Excellence in Dance Award from the Newark School District. Janelle is a member of the International Dance Council and was a co-writer for Arts High’s dance curriculum. She has been the coordinator for Newark Public Schools’ district-wide dance events and developed Newark’s Dance Educators’ Resource Handbook. She has also developed Newark Public Schools’ Dance Board, which is a resource to dance educators around the district. Janelle has performed with the Denishawn Repertory Company, Maxine Steinman and Dancers, Six Degrees Dance Company, and is currently dancing with the Seventh Principle Performance Company. She is currently the director of the Center for Modern Dance Education Repertory Company for teenagers.

Alexandra Stavrou has developed a repertory of expressive dance pieces which often incorporate the live performance of her own music. She has performed in New York City, throughout the US, Greece, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea, at venues ranging from NYC’s Brooklyn Academy and City Center, homeless shelters and mental health centers to dirt clearings in remote villages in Papua New Guinea. Reared with traditional Greek music and dance, Alexandra went on to train and perform with artists from Java, Bali, West Africa, and India. For 8 years she was a member of the NYC-based Haitian Troupe “Shango” which performed dances from the Voudon Ceremonies, and danced with the Balinese-American Dance Theatre. Invited to be a Guest Director by the National Theatre Company of Papua New Guinea, Alexandra remained for two years as a Visiting Artist, where she was known as “meri bilong singsing” (woman who sings and dances) to the villagers. Next, she went to New Zealand, choreographing, teaching, and composing and performing with “Spartan Wave” at theatres and music festivals, for seven years. Alexandra received a BFA in Dance Theatre from Tisch School of the Arts, where she performed in works of Gladys Bailin, David Gordon, Yvonne Rainer, and Anna Halprin. She was a Clark Center New Choreographer, and a NYFA recipient. She composed the music and dances and acted in “Gogol” at the Public Theatre, and was an original cast member of the Glass/Wilson opera “Einstein on the Beach” Returning from her travels to her native NJ, Alexandra was welcomed at CMDE by the amazing Shirley, who makes a home for everyone. She currently teaches for CMDE’s outreach programs for individuals with disabilities.

Roger Turner started dancing at age 12 as a CMDE scholarship student. After CMDE, he attended Rowan University where he studied theatre, dance, and psychology. During his college years, Roger performed in local Repertory Theatre and toured as a dancer for a Hip-Hop group. He went on to join the United States Army, and later worked in marketing for a music label. Returning to the performing arts, Roger joined CMDE’s faculty in 2000, where he has taught and choreographed for a variety of classes, including Hip-Hop, Real Men Dance, and Afro-modern, and has co-directed CMDE’s summer programs for boys and teens at-risk since 2002. He also teaches dance at various after-school programs and at New Jersey City University. He is a certified personal trainer and dances and acts professionally in NYC and NJ.

Quotes from CMDE studio “graffiti” wall

Modern Dance is...
...a language of its own....a language you don’t understand....a dance that shows your feelings....what you make it....a wonder of life....a type of dance you use with expression....pushing the limits of what you can do with dance....a beautiful dance with a lot of feeling....a language that the world has yet to know of....to express your feelings without talking....an outer expression of the human soul....what you think it is....you and only you to do what you feel....my life....my passion.....to dance with modern integrity....once in a lifetime chance to relax....a gift from the Gods....my outlet for expression....a way of life....life’s expression....fun....awesome....cool....fabulous....rocks....the most fun-est thing on the earth....modern dance is you....modern dance is me....make modern your own.
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Call Us Clowns
Dian Dong & H.T. Chen
Roger & Nora Gimbel
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Daniel J. Gross
Ralf Grossmann
Isabelle Pradel
Schwartz & Benjamin
Mike & Janet Slosberg
Bairamian Family
Carole Brawer
Antonia Diaz
Allan Feldman
Susan Fingerhut
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Rebecca Silver
Adelle & Jerome Trupin
Vivian Ubell
Bonnie Weiss
Alexander Wolfe
Lisa Ackerman
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Clarissa Drill
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Center for Modern Dance Education

84 Euclid Avenue, Hackensack, NJ 07601  Phone: 201-342-2989
Fax: 201-342-8209 (NJTTY for people with hearing impairment: 800-952-7897)
Website: www.cmde.org, E-mail: cmde1962@aol.com

Visit www.cmde.org to learn more about CMDE, see schedules for upcoming programs and classes, and to sign up for e-mail newsletters and updates.

Schedules are available in the lobby and online at www.cmde.org.

CMDE is a member of Dance New Jersey, a nonprofit service organization dedicated to promoting dance in New Jersey. For more information and to join Dance New Jersey, visit www.dancenj.org.

Check out CMDE on Facebook and YouTube. New! CMDE Archives available for perusal. Call or e-mail for more information.

CMDE is located in a wheelchair-accessible facility. Any patron needing special assistance should call 201-342-2989 or e-mail cmde1962@aol.com.

UPCOMING DATES

Summer Sampler Workshops
July 9th - July 18th

Free Summer Dance Camps
July 30th - Aug. 23rd

Fall Open House
Sat Sept. 22nd

Fall classes start
Sat. Sept. 29th

See schedules online at www.cmde.org.

Large-print and electronic versions of all publications available upon request.

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Center for Modern Dance Education
84 Euclid Avenue, Hackensack, NJ 07601 • Phone: 201-342-2989
Website: www.cmde.org, E-mail: cmde1962@aol.com