

Cycropia Aerial Dance Presents

The Madison Improvisational Dance Festival

Oct. 18-21, 2001



Workshops

Thurs. Oct. 18 • 4-9:30 p.m. (with dinner break) Finding Forms; performance workshop with Stephanie Skura, part 1 of 2; culminates in Saturday site-specific performances.

Fri. Oct. 19 • 3:15-6:15 p.m. The Territory Between; improvising with words and movement with Kathleen Maltese • 7-10 p.m. Finding Forms; performance workshop with Stephanie Skura, continued.

Sat. Oct. 20 • 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Testing the Waters of Contact Improvisation with Kathleen Maltese • 5-8 p.m. Skinner Releasing and Improv with Stephanie Skura

Sun. Oct. 21 • 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Resist Into Flow; increasing the range of touch in contact improvisation with Kathleen Maltese • 2:30-4:30 p.m. Intro to Aerial Dance with Marcia Miquelon (at South Madison Boys and Girls Club, 2001 Taft St).

Unless otherwise noted, all workshops are at UW Lathrop Hall (1050 University Ave.), Rm. 349. Cost is \$10 per workshop in advance, \$12 at the door. Cost for Stephanie Skura's Thursday/Friday performance workshop is \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. Pre registration for all workshops is available on our website. Spaces are limited, so register early!

Sat. Oct. 20, 9 a.m. at the Dane County Farmer's Market or in the Capitol Rotunda (rain location) 3 p.m. location TBA 8 p.m. Contact Improv Jam, Lathrop Hall, Rm 349.

Sun. Oct. 21, 5 p.m. at the South Madison Boys and Girls Club (2001 Taft St.)

Guerilla Improv: Many other innovative site-specific performances will take place in conjunction with the festival. See our website for details or to get involved.

all performances are free and open to the public.

Performances, other events

More Info

Visit our website at <http://improv.satorimedia.com>

About the Workshops:

Finding forms performance workshop (Stephanie Skura) These sessions are a radical approach to composition which draws upon Skinner releasing and improvisation techniques. Integrating our intuitive and analytical faculties, Skura guides the discovery of methods and structures that are intrinsic to our ideas. New forms are revealed which evolve into informal performances. This workshop will culminate in Saturday morning and afternoon performances.

Skinner releasing technique/improvisation (Stephanie Skura) The Skinner releasing technique is catalytic in enhancing both technical and creative aspects of any style of movement. Involving poetic imagery, it triggers powerful experiences with perception and performance of movement, and is exceptional in that it integrates technique with creative process. Principles of alignment are cultivated through hands-on partner studies. In a gentle, allowing atmosphere, movement occurs from deeper states, shedding outer layers and tapping into primal energies. Skura also guides an exploration of improvisational techniques she has discovered and refined in her directing & choreographic processes during the past 25 years. The aim is to find one's own movement in all its wildness, immediacy and specificity; and to involve ourselves with physical expression that is as multilayered & unique as our life experience.

The territory between: improvising with words and movement (Kathleen Maltese): Travel fearlessly, explore the borderland between spoken word and movement. Maps and scores are provided for performers interested in the perceptual and emotional landscapes which unfold even as we speak (and move.)

Testing the waters of contact improvisation (Kathleen Maltese): Contact Improvisation is a contemporary dance form in which participants develop physical and perceptual skills such as falling, rolling, working with disorientation, giving and supporting weight with a partner, moving comfortably from the floor to the air to floor again, and subtle communication through touch. Dancers discover and explore physical forces of gravity, momentum and balance. This 3 hour introductory workshop is for movers of all experience levels, and will culminate in a period of open dancing ("jamming") in which to integrate acquired skills.

Resist into flow: increasing the range of touch in contact improvisation (Kathleen Maltese): Going with, blending-always a pleasurable option, but sometimes what's needed in a Contact dance is to connect with a partner through resistance-to brew some energy, make some sparks; using earth energy to make some fire which turns into its own kind of flow. Beginning with the developmental movement principles of Push and Yield, the class will develop flexibility in meeting partners with varying measures of resistance.

Introduction to low flying trapeze. (Marcia Miquelon): Participants will explore movement in the vertical dimension, below, on and above a single-point, low-flying trapeze. Suspended animation, falling, centrifugal force, and exuberant flight will be discovered on an individual basis and with partners.

About the Visiting Artists:

Stephanie Skura's original methods for creating choreography that is unique for each dancer have been refined into a body of techniques that she teaches in schools and theaters throughout the U.S. and in Europe. Called "a major American Experimentalist" by Patricia Tarr, publisher of *Dance Ink*, her work has been presented in 25 of the United States and 52 cities worldwide. She received one of the first "Bessie" New York Dance and Performance Awards for Choreographic Achievement, and has received 7 Choreography Fellowships and 5 Dance Company Grants from the Nat'l Endowment for the Arts. She is on the permanent faculty of the annual Skinner Releasing Intensive and Teacher Certification Program in Seattle, and on graduate faculty at the University of Washington School of Drama Professional Actors Training Program.

Kathleen Maltese has been performing and teaching in the Chicago area since 1978. She is an Artistic co-Director of the *Fluid Measure Performance Company*, and performs improvisation with *A Group Just Forming*. She is on the faculties of the Dance Center of Columbia College and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, teaching Contact Improvisation and Movement for Performance. She also creates and implements arts-integrated curriculum in the Chicago Public Schools. She curated Chicago's first festival of improvisational music and dance, *The Spur of the Moment Series*, in 1997.



Thanks to the University of Wisconsin Dance Dept. for providing the festival with workshop space.



Cycropia Aerial Dance, Inc. is a non-profit organization whose mission is to foster artistic expression and creative movement through dance, education, performance and other community building activities.

DANE COUNTY
Cultural Affairs
COMMISSION

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