

LODA NEWS SPRING 2019

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF THE LODC UK

- Teacher Training opportunities
- Delivering an accessible and inclusive dance Award

NEW BOOKS BY ANN HUTCHINSON GUEST

- Sigurd Leeder books
- Advanced Labanotation Book 10

LODC USA AND MEXICO

- Past courses and projects
- Upcoming events

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ANN!

 100 years young, Ann reflects on this milestone birthday

LODA News Issue 47 - Spring '19

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EDITORIAL

Arianna Carloni

Welcome to the latest issue of LODA News.

We were deeply saddened by the passing of Ivor Forbes Guest in March 2018. Eminent ballet historian, chairman of the Language of Dance Trust board and Ioving husband of our founder Dr Ann Hutchinson Guest, he will be greatly missed but remembered with fondness and admiration.

Ann has been very busy as usual, publishing a book on Sigurd Leeder, filming for a documentary about her life, working on an additional Sigurd Leeder book and on Advanced Labanotation Book Ten and especially celebrating her 100th birthday! Catch up with Ann's news on Pages 5-10.

The Language of Dance Centre UK reached its 50th year in 2017, and we are marking the occasion by offering 50 teachers across the UK the opportunity to deliver our accredited and accessible Level 1 Award in Language of Dance Movement Exploration. Find out more about our anniversary celebrations, teacher training programme and other updates on Pages 11-17.

Susan Gingrasso gives us an update on the LODC US courses in 2017 (Pages 19-20) and Theresa Heiland on 2018 events as well as current and upcoming courses (Pages 21-23).

Finally, we are very pleased to introduce you to our newest centre, LODC Mexico, and to their great achievements. Find out more on Pages 24-25.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF IVOR FORBES GUEST

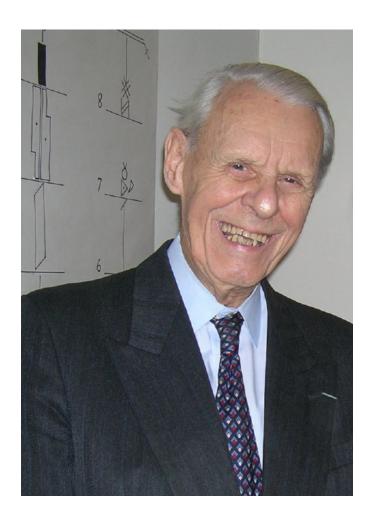
It is with great sadness that we announce that Ivor Forbes Guest, the eminent ballet historian, died on March 30th 2018, two weeks before his 98th birthday.

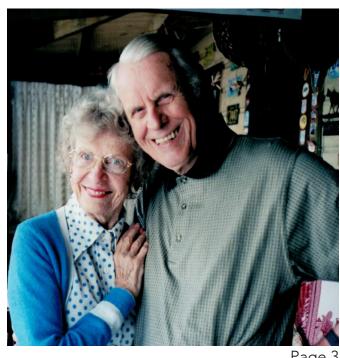
Tributes in the New York Times and in the London Telegraph and Times focus on the influence his 32 books on ballet history have had on academic dance research and study.

He was a member of the Society for Theatre Research, a founder of the British Theatre Museum, and was for 23 years chairman for the Royal Academy of Dance. He created the Language of Dance Trust and, for his contributions to dance was awarded an honorary doctorate from the University of Surrey, the Queen Elizabeth II Coronation Award for services to ballet (the RAD's highest honour) and in 2000 he received the Ordre des Arts et des Lettres (France).

Ivor enthusiastically supported the work of the Language of Dance Centre and for over four decades advised as the Chairman of the Language of Dance Trust Board, for which we are truly thankful. We will remember him as our advisor, mentor and the perfect gentleman with a beaming smile.

We were honoured to be able to organise a celebration of Ivor's life in September 2018 at the Royal Academy of Dance. It was a great opportunity for everyone who had the privilege to know Ivor personally and/or professionally to get together and share their memories of him, and a reminder not only of his outstanding contribution to the world of dance but also of his wonderful personality.





A Celebration of the Life of Ivor Forbes Guest



Ann greeting guests at the RAD



More guests arriving



Dame Monica Mason paying her tribute to Ivor



Ann looking at the display of Ivor's publications



Guests in the Genée studio at the RAD



Ann with David Leonard

NEWS FROM ZURICH

Ann Hutchinson Guest

Sigurd Leeder was an outstandingly gifted dance teacher with whom I studied years ago. His work is now taught so little that I was determined to capture some of his legacy to benefit future generations. The resulting book, A Selection from The Sigurd Leeder Heritage, was published by the Noverre Press in time for the May 4th opening of the Sigurd Leeder exhibition in Zürich.

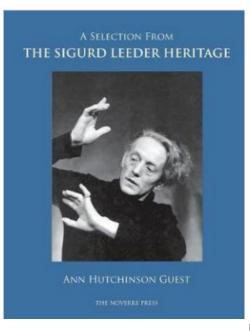
The exhibition featured Leeder's career as a performer, choreographer, teacher, notator and artist. His artistic sensitivity imbued all that he did. Ursula Pelleton at the Zurich Dance Archives had found an array of interesting materials. Actual film footage of Sigurd teaching was rare, one wished for much more - but the fragments illustrated his focus on the quality of the movement. There was considerable footage of his Danse Macabre choreography. I had danced in that piece and remember the images he evoked for each movement. The film shows none of that, just the resulting patterns. Were the dancers rehearsed with those images? I felt they lacked depth, but that may be partly the problem with films.

My 'Leeder book' provides background history, a description of him as a teacher and the curriculum at his Dance School, contributed by June Kemp. There are many photographs and also a selection of his line drawings to fill blank pages. The Labanotation for ten contrasting classroom Studies is given with Performance Notes for each one. The music CD for each Study is now available separately and a DVD illustrating performances is in preparation. Copies of the book were donated to each of the three Swiss Dance Archives as well as to my Swiss colleagues who had contributed to the project. I was prompted to produce this

book by the enthusiastic response I received when, some years ago, I had begun to teach today'sophisticated dance students some of the studies I had notated during my days at the Jooss-Leeder Dance School at Dartington Hall in Devon. Coming across these old notations I thought "Why not delve into the past?". I began presenting them at the National Dance Education Organization (NDEO) annual conferences. The response was very positive.

I believe it is because each study features a particular dynamic aspect which provides 'colour' and invites personal involvement. Leeder always encouraged leeway in the personal expression, there were no tight corsets demanding only one perfect rendition. His students had individuality, personal expression; he was not interested in uniform peas in a pod.

A Selection from the Sigurd Leeder Heritage may be ordered from www.dancebooks.co.uk, price £15.



LMU CINEMATOGRAPHY STUDENT BEGINS DOCUMENTARY ON ANN HUTCHINSON GUEST

Susan Gingrasso with help from Ann Guest, Teresa Heiland, Christine Wirth, and Connor Smyers

Teresa Heiland, Associate Professor of Dance at Loyola Marymount University (LMU), had one of her students, Lauren Delisle, a double major in Dance and Film, become so interested in Ann's life through her course reading, that she asked if there already existed a documentary about Ann, her life and her work, especially her development of Language of Dance. When Teresa said it did not, Lauren, her student, said it was high time that one be made.

Lauren, a story teller/screen writer enlisted her boyfriend, Connor Smyers, also an LMU film student, to be the cinematographer for this project. Teresa proposed this project to Ann and she agreed, suggesting filming at the cottage on Goose Pond, Jacobs Pillow, the Longfellow House, and Dana Beach on the west and east sides of Massachusetts respectfully. Each of these places is quite special to Ann. She and Ivor have spent several weeks each summer at the cottage on Goose Pond starting in 1962.

As a student, Ann attended Jacob's Pillow in 1941 and 1942, and then, at the invitation of Ted Shawn, taught Labanotation there from 1953 to 1978. She remembers visiting the Longfellow House (yes, Ann is related to Henry Longfellow through Edith, one of his daughters). Ann had also visited the Dana House in Manchester-by-the-sea where her parents had been married in 1913.

The filming took place from June 29 to July 9, 2017, while Ann was at Goose Pond and surrounding areas. Teresa took over the organizational aspects of the project when Lauren's internship obligations in New York City zeroed out any involvement with the



Ann reaching skyward at the end of her morning Ballet, Pilates, Yoga warm up on the dock at the cottage on Goose Pond

Guest Documentary Project, as I will call it. Teresa arranged for the permissions needed to shoot at the Longfellow House, which is now part of the National Park Service system.

Filming at Jacobs Pillow was a much more informal process. Norton Owen, Jacobs Pillow Archivist, facilitated that process for us. During the actual filming Teresa also assumed multiple other roles normally handled by separate people when one has a proper

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film crew. Connor, whom Teresa had never met, tackled on his own, traveling from Los Angeles, CA to New York City, then by bus to Lee, MA, to be the cinematographer. Susan Gingrasso joined the Ann, Teresa, Connor trio three days after the actual filming began to provide a helpful hand.

Teresa suggested and kept track of the various shots and continuity from shot to shot and from one day to the next. Connor filmed Ann talking about various aspects of her work as well as some action shots of Ann at the Pillow and at the Longfellow House, officially called the Longfellow House-Washington's Headquarters, and other park staff facilitated our visit and filming in various parts of the house before the site opened to the public. They made sure that after filming, Teresa, Connor, and I took an official tour of the house followed by lunch and a special visit with the staff! They also sent two images, one of which was Ann's entry in the guest register on her first visit that occurred January 12-14, 1940, when the Longfellow family still lived there.



Susan Gingrasso, Ann and Teresa Heiland in front of the Ted Shawn Theatre at Jacobs Pillow

Connor, who has experience in editing film projects, hopes to continue editing footage he shot this summer during his LMU Semester Abroad—Film and Television European Track in Bonn, Germany. He aims to assemble a 10-minute documentary to garner funding for a full-length documentary about our Language of Dance creator and notation guru, Ann Hutchinson Guest.



Left to right: Kate Hanson Plass, Teresa Heiland, Ann Hutchinson Guest, Christine Wirth (Longfellow House curator), Amy McKinney and Connor Smyers at the entrance to the Longfellow House Welcome Center

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ANN!

We were thrilled to celebrate Ann's 100th birthday in November 2018.

Ann started off her "birthday season" with a month-long city hopping across the US visiting friends and relatives after the NDEO Conference in San Diego, California, and she ended up in New York City for a fantastic celebration organised by our colleagues at the LODC USA. Travelling back to the UK on the day of her birthday, Ann then had a lovely surprise on her BA flight. The Captain announced the special occasion before take off, and all passengers sang Happy Birthday. After landing Ann was then taken to meet the Captain in the cockpit and given some birthday goodies and a card with wishes from all members of the cabin crew. The LODC UK then organised a party at the Garrick Club in London, where friends and family members came together to wish Ann another fantastic year. After another party with the Guest and one with the Hutchinson family, Ann flew to Switzerland to celebrate with the colleagues who worked with her on the production of the Leeder Heritage book. Head to page 9 for pictures of the Garrick Club party.

Here are Ann's words on turning 100: "100 years is an amazing milestone. How fortunate I am that I am physically at least two



Ann "flying" the BA plane!



Ann with her cake at the Swiss party

decades younger. I find it very amusing seeing people's faces when they discover my age and I am so grateful that I can still move fluently. I confess to being old fashioned but it seems to me that contemporary dance bodies are being used as athletic automations and seem only to explore the next most amazing lift. I am most interested in dance as an art form. I have had the privilege of studying with Martha Graham which was a very positive experience. Studying ballet with Antony Tudor was enriching and revealing. Martha Hill was a wonderful mentor, she helped me enormously. In later years, I enjoyed very much working with my former teacher, Sigurd Leeder. As a dancer, a highlight was my part in the Jerome Robbins' Charleston Ballet from the Broadway Musical "Billion Dollar Baby". I am happy that I have a DVD of the recording of a performance and I am hoping to get clearance to include it in my Language of Dance publication of the Charleston Ballet. I enjoy working with my many wonderful Language of Dance colleagues in furthering what I believe to be a valuable educational approach.

The way my life has unfolded meant that there have always been interesting things to be involved in, goals to be reached, ballets that needed to be recorded and remarkable friends and mentors who contributed to the positive side of life and who helped keep life interesting."

Ann's Birthday Party - Garrick Club



Ann with the birthday balloons



Ann dancing to her favourite Swing album



The birthday cake







Dame Monica Mason, Kenneth Robertson and Nicola Gaines share stories and poems dedicated to Ann







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AN ADDITIONAL SIGURD LEEDER BOOK AND ADVANCED LABANOTATION BOOK TEN IN PROGRESS

Ann Hutchinson Guest

Interest is now being focused on the specific Barre Work and Basic Exercises taught by Sigurd Leeder. In 1966 and also 1976 Leeder taught two introductory courses in London, both of which I attended. As a result, my notation notes fill two ring binders. This material needs some notation updating and, of course, to be entered into the computer in preparation for publication. Two of Leeder's former Swiss students, Jacqueline Keller and Annamaria Studer, are interested in contributing to this project. Also interested are Hannah Russ of Kenyon College, Ohio, and Miao Wang of the Beijing Labanotation Group.

Raymundo Ruiz from Mexico is at present studying for another Masters Degree on the Choreomundi Program at Roehampton University in London. As an advanced Labanotator who was at the recent ICKL Conference, Raymundo came to see me,

Ann and Raymundo looking over materials

expressing interest in both my archives at Roehampton and also the collection here in my home. Visiting me two afternoons a week, he soon became interested in the Leeder Project, making a start by scanning the Leeder pages into the computer. He agreed to be in charge of this project, my role being to check the final results before publication.

The last book in the Advanced Labanotation series, that of Spatial Variations, came out in 2002. The plan has been to follow it with an Advanced book on Body Variations, subtle details on many physical aspects in movement. Over the years I have collected much material in preparation for this book, three large ring binders full. On one of his visits, Raymundo and I looked at some of this material. I found that he immediately understood the action and how best it could be captured in notation. Finding him a pleasure to work with, I began to think this could be the person to be involved in working with me to produce Book Ten. Leaving him with the volumes, I found he was soon creating a data base in his computer - he knew what needed to be done and made a start.

Now funding needs to be sought so that he could be here for a year or two to work with me on making all this valuable material available to the general public.

LODC UK 50th ANNIVERSARY

On Saturday 28th October 2017 we celebrated our Centre's 50th anniversary and Dr Ann Hutchinson Guest's 99th birthday with a wonderful day at the Royal Academy of Dance, London.

The event started with a great Introduction to Language of Dance session led by Valerie Farrant and presentations on the many possible applications of Language of Dance by our representatives in the UK, USA, Mexico and Japan. Many wonderful guests such as Dame Monica Mason, Angela Rippon CBE and Wayne Sleep OBE then joined us in the evening to celebrate Ann and the achievements of the LODC in the UK and in the rest of the world.

Head to pp. 14-17 for pictures of the event.

FREE EVENTS

We had a wonderful start to 2018 thanks to the Victoria & Albert Museum, as we were kindly invited to be part of their first Friday Late event of 2018, entitled 'Systems and Secrets', on Friday 26th January. Valerie Farrant led two Language of Dance workshops, and then Dr Ann Hutchinson Guest spoke about various notation systems and her fascinating work. It was great to have so many people join in our sessions, and a pleasure to see the stunning Raphael Gallery come alive through dance.

We then held Introduction to Language of Dance sessions in London, Bradford, Birmingham, and at MOVE IT 2018. As you may know, the Language of Dance Centre UK has recently developed a customised dance award, the Level 1 Award in Language of



One of the LOD workshops in the Raphael Gallery

Dance® Movement Exploration, accredited by the national awarding organisation NCFE. The award has been specifically designed to be accessible to and achievable by learners of all abilities, including those with SEN and physical disabilities, but it is also applicable in community, primary and secondary school settings. We currently have fully trained teachers delivering the Award in primary, SEN and Saturday schools in Tower Hamlets, Walthamstow, Hackney, Birmingham and Portsmouth, and the Award has so far proved very successful and beneficial for the students.

We are aiming to train more and more teachers and educators to deliver the Level 1 Award, in order to maximise the number of students that can benefit from it. We firmly believe it can not only help to bridge the current gap in provision of equal access to dance accreditation, but also help students increase physical activity level whilst developing self-confidence, creativity,

motivation and focus. On the occasion of our 50th anniversary, we want to provide fully funded training to 50 teachers throughout the UK who believe their students would benefit from our Award.

TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAMME

We are very excited to have been able to start the programme and very grateful to the Garfield Weston Foundation, whose generous grant has allowed us to run a fully funded training course in London and one in Bradford, and are currently applying for funding to run two more courses in 2020. Our current course participants come from a varied background of professional and personal experiences and are working with students of various abilities and ages. We are pleased to see how our Award can ultimately



Participants performing a creative task during the Teacher Training Course in London

benefit such a wide range of students. If you think your students would benefit from achieving our accessible and NCFE accredited Level 1 Award in Language of Dance Movement Exploration and would like to know about future opportunities of fully funded training, register your interest on our website or contact info@lodc.org.

LEVEL 1 AWARD DELIVERY

As well as training new teachers, we are also focusing on supporting already trained teachers delivering the Award in their settings. A total of 92 students from both mainstream and SEN schools in London and Birmingham have achieved the Level 1 Award to date, and 96 students are working towards it this academic year.

CERTIFICATION COURSES

Valerie Farrant delivered a two-week Language of Dance® Fundamentals (Stage 1)



Participants working on a Stage 1's practical study

course in April 2018, and a Develop Language of Dance® Principle (Stage 2) course between August and October 2018. Congratulations to Ann-Marie Fields, Paola Piccato and Alison Whyte who successfully completed Stage 1 and achieved the Language of Dance Fundamentals certification. Paola Piccato has also attended Stage 2 and successfully achieved the certification. All of our best wishes to Paola, who has now moved back to Italy and is bringing Language of Dance to several local settings.

Our Certification Courses are designed for dance specialists, movement educators and artists, choreographers, dance teachers, movement therapists, dance professionals and students. Starting from a basic introduction to the LOD approach, these progressive courses aim to give a thorough understanding and knowledge of the approach as well as insight into its various possible applications, including choreography, movement analysis and dance teaching.

Get in touch with us at info@lodc.org to find out more about our Certification Courses or to register your interest in future dates.

NEW WEBSITE!

If you have recently visited www.lodc.org, you might have noticed that it looks very different! We have in fact launched a new website and we hope you find it more user-friendly and easy to navigate.

The Shop section will be coming soon, so keep an eye out for it. If you wish to purchase any resources in the meanwhile, please complete the Contact Us form or email us at info@lodc.org.

Celebrations on 28th October 2017 - Afternoon Session



Workshop participants warming up with Valerie Farrant



Exploring "Extension"



Creative task using the LOD symbols



Ann greeting and thanking workshop participants







Tina Curran, Alejandra Ferreiro and Yoko Morita presenting on their LOD work in the US, Mexico and Japan

Celebrations on 28th October 2017 - Evening Event



Guests gathering in the Genée studio



Ann greeting guests



Ann presenting on her work and life achievements



Ann's birthday cake



RAD students performing an LOD score



Dame Monica Mason and Angela Rippon CBE

LANGUAGE OF DANCE FOUNDATIONS PARTS 1 AND 2 IN SOUTH CAROLINA AND LOS ANGELES

Susan Gingrasso

For the first time, the Language of Dance Center ran two Foundations courses in June 2017, one on each coast. Dr. Stephanie Milling, Head of Dance Education at the University of South Carolina-Columbia, hosted the Foundations Part 1 course on the Columbus campus, June 12-16. Dr. Teresa Heiland, Associate Professor of Dance, hosted the Foundations Part 2 course on the Loyola Marymount University at Los Angeles campus, June 23-27. Congratulations to Dr. Milling for hosting her first Foundations course and to Dr. Heiland for hosting her third Foundations course!

The thirteen participants from the Part 1 course at USC included dance educators from

Wang Miao, Sharina and Zhou Shiyi (Nina) interpreting a Relating study

K-12 and postsecondary schools in South Carolina and four participants from China, three of whom took the Part 2 course at LMU this summer. Of the twelve participants in the Part 2 course at LMU, five returned from their 2016 Part 1 Foundations experiences. Of the four new participants, one just finished high school while the other three teach in high school.

Heiland and Gingrasso built on the Part 1 lessons from their 2016 teaching experiences. Milling presented a lesson using the Areas of the Room to provide participants with a way to grasp the concept of Social Justice. Thank you, Stephanie, for creating this rich Social Justice experience. Heiland, Gingrasso, and Richter expanded on ideas for lessons presented in previous Part 2 courses.

The lesson on Motion and Destination became a way to explore one's pedagogical preferences through the process of moving. Heiland, Gingrasso, and Richter realized that we have developed the LOD Foundations pedagogy and content to the point where we can now focus on assembling all of the information, scores, and handouts we need to teach the courses without having to constantly create material.

Themes that emerged from participants course feedback included the importance of building relationships, collaborating with peers, making new connections, expanding their movement vocabularies and observational skills, feeding their creative spirits, and seeing how their colleagues would adapt and use LOD in their various practices on the final day of the course.



Collecting ideas for Flow for the Part 1 concept review (left to right): Emily Kenney, Zhou Shiyi (Nina) and Wang Miao

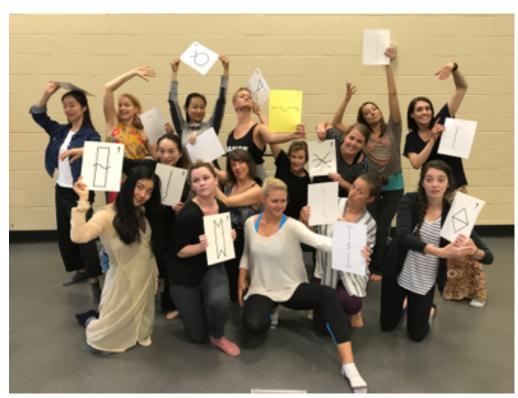
The four Chinese participants discussed ways to bring LOD Foundations to China where dance educators have been trained in the theory but need the pedagogical knowledge and experience of the multiple ways to apply the material across the range of practices. Heiland met with Wang Miao in Bejing during the ICKL conference to discuss possible ways to start this process.



Instructors Teresa Heiland and Stephanie Milling sharing ideas



Instructors Susan Gingrasso, Michael Richter and Teresa Heiland



LOD Part 1 Graduation photo: Left to right, 3rd row: Wang Miao, Teresa Heiland, Sharina, Gretchen McLaine, Meredith Sims & Stephanie Milling 2nd row: Zhou Shiyi (Nina), Erin Leigh, Susan Woodham & Jennifer Stephens 1st row: Wang Shiyao (Sail), Olivia Waldrop, Emily Kenney, Alison Chapman, & Charlotte Cook

LOD Part 2 Graduation photo: L-R
2nd row: Wang Miao,
Peggy Hongduc Nguyen,
Cassie Roberts, Zhou Shiyi
(Nina), Brittney Nevison,
Sam Hazan, Katie Dorn &
Susan Gingrasso
1st row: Michael Richter,
Teresa Heiland, Sharina,
Amy Vaillancourt, Lori
Wilkerson & Penny Boyes



SUMMER 2018 NEWS

Beth Megill

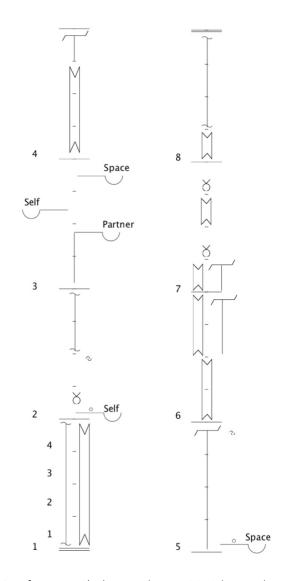
LODC presented a special LOD session at the 40th Anniversary LIMS Laban/Bartenieff conference in New York at Hunter College last summer.

Ann Hutchinson Guest began the session with her personal story of joining the Laban community and spearheading the development of Labanotion while founding the Dance Notation Bureau and later generating the Movement Alphabet. She described her inspiration for fleshing out the richness of the Language of Dance® approach to help bridge the learning from motif to structured notation.

Tina Curran, Teresa Heiland and Beth Megill then lead participants in a playful session of constructivist LOD pedagogy in which participants worked in teams to devise a piece of group choreography from a shared score. The session, originally capped at 25 people, ended up with over 75 people present to hear Ann's story and share in the playing with Language of Dance[®]. The room reverberated with the spirit of creative and expressive movement exploration.

The LOD summer continued with Language of Dance Foundations courses in both Los Angeles (Loyola Marymount University) and New York City (92nd Street Y Dance Education Laboratory) where both new and returning students explored LOD fundamentals and developed applications within their own dance practices.

The culminating projects included embodied storytelling, LOD board games, personal artistic development, and interdisciplinary visual art inspirations.



LIMS Conference Skeleton Phrase 2018 by Beth Megill



CURRENT AND UPCOMING NEWS

Beth Megill

The LODC now offers online Webinars for FREE to all interested in furthering and deepening their LOD practice while dancing with likeminded others through the miracle of video conferencing! Sessions include a brief LOD warmup, an introduction of a central LOD concept or principle of analysis, shared dancing and reflective discussion to deepen meaning-making and application of the work. The first two sessions have had an incredibly positive response and the practice promises to become a staple of LODC offerings for practitioners in the US and beyond.

Next up the LODC USA will offer newly restructured certification courses featuring the developmental, pedagogical framework

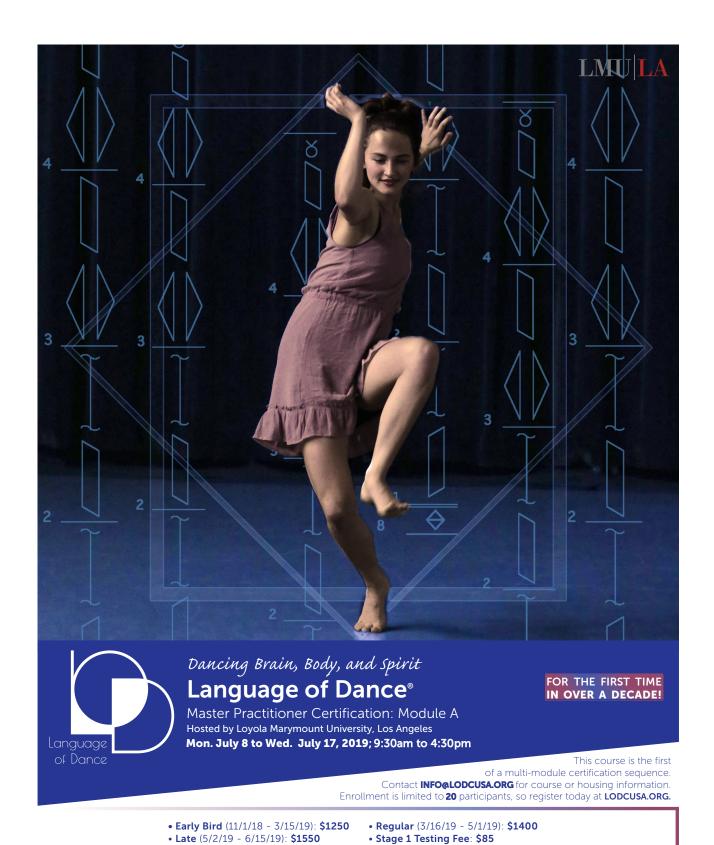
Instructor Michael Richter teaching a session

and corresponding structures for making the LOD Movement Alphabet and Motif notation meaningful for a variety of dance and movement purposes. The first module will be held from July 8-17, 2019 at Loyola Marymount University hosted by Teresa Heiland. This is the first in a three-module, 15-month process leading to certification as a LOD Specialist.

Luna Dance presents Tina Curran teaching Language of Dance in Action in Oakland, CA June 24-28, 2019. With a focus on dance literacy, creativity, collaboration and social emotional learning those who successfully complete all course requirements will receive the Language of Dance® Foundations— Part 2 Certificate. https://lunadanceinstitute.org/product/guest-intensive-language-of-dance-in-action/

The Dance Education Laboratory again features Tina Curran and Frederick Curry teaching Laban Movement Analysis/ Language of Dance for Dance Educators at the Harkness Dance Center, 92nd Street Y in New York, NY July 22-26, 2019. Basic components of LMA and LOD will be explored, along with corresponding Motif Notation, in an experiential and integrated format. Participants actively explore concepts and also consider applications in practice. This course fulfills the requirements for a LMA Fundamentals Introduction course.

http://www.danceedlab.com/classes/summer-institute/



Required to complete LOD Foundations Part 1 and 2. For equivalency, contact Susan Gingrasso, **sgingrasso@lodcusa.org**.

Taught by LOD Certification Specialists: • Tina Curran, PhD • Teresa Heiland, PhD, CLMA • Michael Richter, MA • Beth Megill, MFA

Mexico News

LANGUAGE OF DANCE CENTRE, MEXICO

Alejandra Ferreiro and Marisol Limón

In 2016, the Language of Dance Trust granted the Mexican team permission to establish a Language of Dance Centre in our country.

Our mission at LODC-Mexico is to spread the use of Language of Dance® (LOD) as an educational tool for helping students learn creative movement and dance, through imaginative experiences with the Movement Alphabet.

We are interested in promoting LOD in Spanish-speaking countries, as an essential element in the formal training of dance professionals (dancers, teachers, choreographers and researchers) and the general public interested in learning and enjoying creative movement and dance.

Our goals

- Create, translate, and publish educational materials for the implementation of LOD in different educational environments and levels.
- Design formal LOD training programs and courses for teachers and anyone interested in integrating LOD tools and strategies in their teaching of creative movement and dance.
- Certify students, educators, and dance professionals in the LOD Approach.
- Establish a bond with the Spanish-speaking dance community in order to create customised courses and activities with the LOD Approach that respond to their needs.

Centro del Lenguaje de la Danza® México

Bienvenid@s al Centro del Lenguaje de la Danza® México (LODC-México).



Mexico News

- Promote research about the uses of Movement Alphabet and the educational and psychological potential of LOD.
- Encourage educational activities that allow the exchange of ideas and experiences about the usage of LOD.
- Design syllabus for the teachers of the National Educational System in order to integrate the use of LOD and Movement Alphabet to the dance and creative movement teaching.

Relevant activities of LODC Mexico in last 2 years

In March of 2017 we started a new generation. 7 students successfully completed Stage 1 Course and got their certificate.

In May of this same year, 5 students finished Stage 3 Course and became specialists, certified by the Language of Dance Centre, London. In order to receive their certificate, besides elaborating the planning of an LOD brief course and teaching one of this classes to their groups, each of them wrote a paper in which they reflected about the possible uses of LOD in their professional development.

In the same month, we taught an Introductory LOD Course to teachers of Mexico City School of Dance, as part of a Diploma Course.

At the very beginning of this year we achieved that INBAL acknowledged the certification program as a Diploma Course, which provides our students with an official qualification.

Last year we launched a web page for the Spanish speaking audience that is interested in LOD. Apart from general information about LOD and courses, on this web page people can find free materials, videos, photos of our



activities, and articles about inquiries related to LOD. We hope that this space will become the platform for sharing and showing the experiences and development of LOD in Latin America.

Upcoming events and news:

- A brief online course about Movement Alphabet.
- Our participation in the ICKL Congress with a paper about Trajectory of Language of Dance in Mexico, in July 2019.

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