



May 2011

Welcome to Greater Hartford's Dance Umbrella! In the Region

Charter Oak Cultural Center

21 Charter Oak Avenue, Hartford CT

860.249.1207, www.charteroakcenter.org

Friday April 22nd and Saturday, April 23rd at 7:30 p.m.

Allongé Dance Variations presents

Once. Again. Now. A Reflection & Celebration



In celebration of Allongé Dance Variations' 5th Anniversary, this concert will highlight an eclectic retrospective of dance and music that embraces Community and Collaboration! ADV's past works as well as new premieres that range from Classical and Contemporary to Spanish Flamenco and Ska, will be showcased by over 30 talented professionals and emerging artists from the Greater-Hartford dance community, as well as founding and new Company members. Blackledgemusic, Inc. will be the special musical guest. **Tickets are \$18 General Admission; \$10 Seniors, Students, Charter Oak and Let's Go Arts! Members.** For upcoming events and more information, please visit: www.allongedance.com. *Photo courtesy of Ron Compton.*

Lincoln Theater on the University of Hartford's West Hartford campus

860.768.4228 or 1.800.274.8587;

www.hartford.edu/hartt

Friday, April 22nd at 7:30 p.m. and

Saturday, April 23rd at 2:00 p.m.

and 7:00 p.m..

Hart Dances

Hart's spring main stage concert presents the works of five stellar choreographers, two of them offering world premieres created on Hart's dancers. The repertoire spans more than 175 years of dance, from August Bournonville's *La Sylphide* (1836), the epitome of Romantic Ballet, through José Limón's grand tribute to his mentor Doris Humphrey in *Choreographic Offering* (1964), Pascal Rioult's powerful *Wien* (1995), and finally Emery LeCrone and Shannon Gillen, who both are extending the line of tradition into the future with their new creations for The Hartt School's Dance Division. **Admission is \$20, with discounts for Seniors, Students, and Groups.** Admission is free for University of Hartford students, faculty, and staff with current University ID. *Photo courtesy of John Long.*



PLAYHOUSE ON PARK

244 Park Road

West Hartford, CT 06119

860.523.5900 x 10, <http://playhouseonpark.org>

April 27 through May 1, 2011

SWING SET: stop/time



In their new production "SWING SET", Playhouse on Park's resident dance company **stop/time dance theater** will present their take on the swing era, including a mix of traditional swing, tap and even hip hop. "Swing Set" is conceived and directed by Darlene Zoller. **Tickets: Tier 1 \$22.50; Tier 2 \$20.00; Tier 3: \$17.50. Seniors, Students and Let's Go Arts! Members save \$2.00.**

The Hartt School Community Division of the University of Hartford Presents

Hartt Dance Concert

Featuring

- The Hartt School Community Division Dance Department
- The Hartt School Collegiate Dance Division
- Full Force Dance Theatre
- The Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts

Saturday, April 30th 2:00pm

Performance Location

Mandell Jewish Community Center
335 Bloomfield Avenue • West Hartford

Ticket Sales

Office: 35 Westbourne Parkway • Hartford
Call: 860-768-6000
Email: dancedesk@hartford.edu

Mandell Jewish Community Center

335 Bloomfield Avenue, West Hartford

Saturday, April 30th at 2:00 p.m.

The performance features members of **Hartt's Community Division's Pre-Professional/Intensive Dance Program** and includes selections from *Le Corsaire* and *Giselle* staged by guest artists Alexandra Koltun and Alex Lapshin of Boston Ballet; *Outback*, choreographed by Katie Stevinson-Nollet; and *Czardas*, a Hungarian folk piece choreographed by Giovanna Carrain. Special guests from CREC's Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts, The Hartt School's collegiate Dance Division, and members of Full Force Dance Theatre also perform. **Admission: \$10 General; \$5 Members of the Mandell JCC.** Tickets are available at the Handel Performing Arts Center at Hartt.

Charter Oak Cultural Center

21 Charter Oak Ave., Hartford CT
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Thursday, April 28th and Friday, April 29th at 7:30 p.m.

Dance Connect's Kindness: A Dance Concert

Kindness. Humor. Connection. Joy. To celebrate our 5th anniversary season at Charter Oak, Dance Connect explores these experiences in several dynamic premieres and an old favorite "Some Blues," which is set to infectious blues music. As a collaborative, Hartford-based, contemporary dance company, we seek to spread our joy in and passion for dancing through a humanistic view. Celebrate and connect with us!



Photo courtesy of Arthur Fink

Tickets are \$20 General Admission, \$10 Seniors, Charter Oak and [Let's Go Arts! Members](#), \$5

Students.Mortensen Hall - The Bushnell

166 Capitol Avenue Hartford, CT 06106
860.987.5900, <http://www.bushnell.org>

April 26th through May 1st

The Public Theater's new Tony®-winning production of HAIR

is the most electric celebration on Broadway! This exuberant musical about a group of young Americans searching for peace and love in a turbulent time has struck a resonant chord with audiences young and old. HAIR features an extraordinary cast and dozens of unforgettable songs. While many find this show suitable for young adults (13 and older), parental discretion is advised. Tickets are: \$17.00 to \$70.00. Photo features Gavin Creel, Will Swenson, and the 2009 Broadway Cast of HAIR.



Photo by Joan Marcus.

Mortensen Riverfront Plaza

300 Columbus Boulevard, Downtown Hartford
Saturday, May 7th, 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Samba Fest! Join us for a brand new event to the Riverfront this summer! The 5th Annual Samba Fest is co-produced by Trinity College and Riverfront Recapture. Celebrate Brazilian heritage with various musical performances and cultural activities. This family-friendly event



features Berimbrown, Brazil's Afro-Fusion Band, José Paulo and his Band, Trinity Samba Ensemble and Afro-Brazilian dance with Ginga Brasileira and Efraim Silva. Samba Fest also features family-friendly crafts activities and movement-based games for children (organized by Trinity College student groups), with the duo Juggle Joy teaching circus-oriented dexterity skills throughout the afternoon.

No Charge.

Charter Oak Cultural Center

21 Charter Oak Ave., Hartford CT
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Friday, May 20th and Saturday, May 21st at 8:00 p.m.

Scapegoat Garden: (re)Birth

(re)Birth is an intimate exploration of our human capacity for creativity and regeneration... a surreal baby shower. This final incarnation of (re)Birth completes a yearlong creative process, (re)conceiving and threading movement, song, and digital media together to shed light on the experience of a dream fulfilled, hope deferred, and a community rallied to support transformation.



(re)Birth was developed by Deborah Goffe, in collaboration with Jennifer

Cormier, Leslie Frye Maietta, Katie Jackson-Cook and Amy Nesbitt as part of the Workshops @ Billings Forge artists' residency program.

Tickets are \$20 General Admission, \$10 Seniors, Charter Oak and [Let's Go Arts! Members](#), \$5 Students.

Charter Oak Cultural Center

21 Charter Oak Ave., Hartford CT
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Thursday, June 9; Friday, June 10; and Saturday, June 11, 2011.

Curtain at 7:30 p.m.

Spectrum in Motion's Spring Concert

Karanungan: What We Know



Photo courtesy of Rich Davis

It is with joy that Spectrum in Motion completes its 29th anniversary season, dedicated to raising dancers and building a professional dance company. Their body of work speaks to our shared history, as well as our unique cultural traditions. The work has been inspired by the music by Bobby Mc Ferrin, Wayne Shorter, Nina Simone, and Duke Ellington.

Tickets are \$20 General Admission; \$15 Seniors, Charter Oak and; and [Let's Go Arts! Members](#), \$5 students.

Hartford Stage

50 Church Street, Hartford
June 15th, 2011 to June 26th, 2011

Limited Engagement!

Fräulein Maria celebrates Rodgers & Hammerstein's timeless songs from The Sound of Music as re-imagined by acclaimed choreographer Doug Elkins. Set to the 1965 movie soundtrack, Elkins' affectionate humor shines through his idiomatic tips of the hat to such dance legends as Martha Graham, Paul Taylor and Merce Cunningham. He merges modern and popular dance forms including hip hop and "voguing," reinventing this beloved classic into an edgy and fun cabaret romp. Recommended for everyone, including children 5 and older. Presented in cooperation with The Rodgers & Hammerstein: An Imagem Company. www.rnh.com.



greater hartford's

DANCE umbrella



Learning Opportunities



The Greater Hartford Arts Council's Neighborhood Studios is a nationally recognized education program that provides students with a hands-on arts intensive learning experience. For six weeks each summer, the program links participating high school students with cultural institutions throughout the city, introducing both parents and students to the City of Hartford in ways they may never have experienced before. Each organization provides specific training in a different artistic discipline and field, and students work as paid apprentices in daily workshops with Master Teaching Artists. In addition to their arts training, apprentices participate in weekly career skills seminars to prepare them for the workplace and increase their literacy and numeracy proficiency. Application deadline is April 30th. For more information and an application please visit: <http://www.letsgoarts.org>. The programs in dance are described below. Additionally, The Amistad Center for Art & Culture at the Wadsworth Atheneum will offer Snap! Photography Studio; and Real Art Ways will offer "Eye on Video" Digital Film Production.

Artists Collective Performing Dance Ensemble

Apprentices participate in intensive workshops in traditional West African, jazz, modern, tap, hip-hop and Pyrogramic Dance Technique, which was developed by Lee "Aca" Thompson and is based on his diverse background in training and performance, as well as dance research in Europe, Africa, South America and the Caribbean. This original dance technique covers creative traditional African dance styles and movements from North, South, East and West Africa. Students will also take master classes with guest artists and explore career paths as dancers, choreographers and performers. Apprentices develop stage decorum and performing skills. Dancers may also work with younger students in camp culture to develop leadership skills. Two public productions will be given in August, 2011. The Collective will also offer a Jazz Orchestra Apprenticeship.



Charter Oak Cultural Center



Instruments of Culture under the direction of Olivia Davis, Artistic Director, Spectrum in Motion Dance Theater Ensemble.

Apprentices build leadership skills through mentoring the youngest members of a 60-child summer program at Charter Oak, culminating in an original production. Students will be part of a team that guides younger children in the development, rehearsal and production of a full-length contemporary children's ballet. Apprentices will also attend classes to enhance and build their own dance skills and techniques. Throughout this program, apprentices will learn choreographic principles, processes and structures, apply analytical and evaluative thinking skills, explore dance in various cultures and eras, and make connections between dance, compatible artistic disciplines and everyday life. A presentation of the children's ballet in late July and a special performance by the Neighborhood Studios apprentices will be showcased to the public in early August. For more information please email: spectruminmotion@gmail.com.



Hartford Stage Breakdancing Shakespeare

Paid teen apprentices work under the instruction of theater education professionals to retell a classic play in a new way. One of William Shakespeare's great tales will be interpreted using breakdancing, hip hop and combined with stage combat. Students are safely taught the techniques of breakdancing and physical characterization while they develop an appreciation for classical literature. The showcase date will be in early August at Hartford Stage.



dancEnlight

offers its 3rd summer Intensive: Two week Intensive for teens, adults and professionals June 27th to July 9th Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. (no class on July 4); and a One week Intensive for youth at Connecticut Concert Ballet July 11th to July 15th Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. to Noon for Ages 6-12.

www.dancenlight.org



860.768.6000; dancedesk@hartford.edu

8th Annual Modern Dance Summer Intensive

July 11 to 22, 2011, performance on the 23rd at Handel Performing Arts Center, 35 Westbourne Parkway Hartford, CT 06112

News and Notes

The Hartt School, the comprehensive performing arts conservatory of the University of Hartford, is pleased to announce the appointment of **Samantha Dunster as Chair of the Community Division Dance Department**. Ms. Dunster recently served as Assistant to the Artistic Director/Ballet Mistress of Orlando Ballet (Florida) and taught at the Orlando Ballet School. She will begin her new role at Hartt in early July.



Hartt Community Division Director Hilary Respass states, "We're thrilled to have Samantha join our team. She has worked alongside some of the most renowned and influential leaders in the field and through those experiences, she has earned a strong reputation for both her artistic and leadership skills. Samantha's teaching excellence, her high energy and sense of commitment, and her sheer enthusiasm for delivering high quality dance education are a terrific fit with the values and aspirations of the Community Division."

Samantha Dunster began her professional training with Cristina Pora in Toronto, Canada. At the age of 17, she traveled to Havana, Cuba, to train with the National Ballet of Cuba. She continued dancing with the company of Centro Pro-Danza under the direction of Laura Alonso, where she also worked as regisseur. She earned her teaching diploma based on the Cuban Ballet training method.

Dunster has danced and taught in countries around the world such as Sweden, Canada, Brazil, and Argentina, as well as in the United States, serving as artistic director and principal dancer of Bale da Ilha in Brazil. She has set La Fille Mal Gardee on the National Ballet of Korea and she was commissioned by Orlando Ballet to create a world premiere production of Camelot. In 2010, Dunster served as the Canadian judge for the International Ballet Competition in Jackson, Mississippi.

Greater Hartford's Dance Umbrella

is a collaborative arts service organization providing advocacy, networking, marketing, audience development, administrative support and professional development for the not for profit dance community of Greater Hartford.

The Greater Hartford Dance Umbrella was created by dancers, dance organizations and dance venues for dancers, dance organizations and dance venues who share a common vision: a vibrant, diverse dance community.

All are committed to excellence in dance and dance education. On behalf of all we extend thanks to the staff and the supporters of the Greater Hartford Arts Council's United Arts Campaign and Hartford Foundation for Public Giving.



Allongé Dance Variations
Artists Collective
Asian Performing Arts
Ballet Theatre Company
The Bushnell Center for the Performing Arts
Caribbean American Dance Ensemble
Central Connecticut State University
Charter Oak Cultural Center
Equilibrium Dance Theatre
Full Force Dance Theatre
Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts
Hartt School Dance Division University of Hartford
Judy Dworin Performance Project
Playhouse on Park
Miss Porter's School
Sankofa Kuumba
Scapegoat Garden
Spectrum in Motion Dance Theater Ensemble
The Carol Autorino Center at Saint Joseph College
Trinity College
University of Connecticut
Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art
Wesleyan University
WORKS/Laura Glenn

Greater Hartford's Dance Umbrella

is under the umbrella of the



For More Information: GHDanceUmbrella@comcast.net
Or visit: www.LetsGoArts.org

Please send your News and Notes to
Carol E. Terry at GHDanceumbrella@comcast.net
Next Deadline: May 15th