

SpectorDance

Carmel Magazine December 2006



Fran Spector Atkins,
Artistic Director

photos by William Roden



Marisa Fernandez
student



Pam Keindl
Opus XVII

Alexandra Gardner, Rhea Morais, Kelsey Forbush, Anna Bigelow
Ocean, Bird, Sky



The stated mission of SpectorDance is "to heighten awareness of the beauty and vitality of contemporary dance. Our unique programs provide excellence in dance training and performance. With our state-of-the-art venue and diverse creative collaborations, the vision of SpectorDance, provides artistic access and excellence for all, and establishes the Monterey Peninsula as a new, West Coast center for dance."

SpectorDance Programs

School

The School offers quality dance training for all ages and levels of experience in a variety of dance styles. In addition to technical skill, our training nurtures discipline, self esteem, and other positive character attributes. SpectorDance students have been accepted to professional training programs such as Julliard, Alvin Ailey, San Francisco Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet and Boston Ballet. SpectorDance School presents performances that provide additional growth opportunities for young dancers.

Company and The Heritage Project

SpectorDance performs an impressive body of signature multimedia works inspired by and relevant to our region. SpectorDance is compiling these works into **The Heritage Project**. These works have received significant national awards for "excellence in the performing arts" (from the National Endowment for the Arts - *The Big Read* and *Ovations TV*).

Some of our current projects include:

- *Ocean, Bird, Sky* (1997) inspired by the poetry of Robinson Jeffers and the natural beauty of the Monterey coast
- *The Red Pony* (1999) inspired by Steinbeck's novel and the difficult life lessons young people must face
- *Sweet Thursday* (2000) inspired by John Steinbeck's novel about the characters on Cannery Row
- *The Violence Project* (2002) with recorded interviews with teens from the Boys and Girls Club of Seaside about their experience with violence
- *Figures in the Dust* (2003) inspired by John Steinbeck's novel *The Grapes of Wrath*
- *Common Ground* (2006) about California agriculture today
- *The Myth Project* (2007) about the timeless wisdom of myth
- *Maize: the Golden Thread* (2008) about corn from its ancient Latin American origins to its pervasive role in America today
- *Opus XVII* (2009) inspired by the original composition of London-based composer Christiane Boesch

SpectorDance is a 501© 3 non-profit organization. EIN# 93-1203319.
Donations are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by California law.

Outreach

SpectorDance offers free or low cost performances of **The Heritage Project** for artistically underserved audiences. With current economic realities, there is an even greater need to broaden and diversify audiences, and to work with other organizations to stretch the limits of each dollar. SpectorDance has built collaborative relationships with Sunset Center, Stanton Theater, First Night, the National Steinbeck Center, and Monterey County Free Libraries to accomplish this goal. If you are interested in partnering with SpectorDance please contact at 831.384.1050 or SpectorDance@earthlink.net

The Emerging Choreographers Showcase

The Emerging Choreographers Showcase, presented annually by SpectorDance since 2000, offers performances and master classes by visiting guest artists. The Emerging Choreographers Showcase attracts dancers nationally and internationally, and provides local audiences a unique occasion to see cutting edge contemporary dance.

SpectorDance Studio

SpectorDance Studio is a state-of-the-art dance facility, featuring 8,500 square feet of marley covered sprung floors, 22 foot high ceilings, and beautiful natural light. With two studios, a 200 seat performance venue, and easy access from anywhere on the peninsula, there is nothing quite like it in Monterey County. This space is a wonderful resource for the entire community. (Available for rent)

Artistic Director And Founder

Fran Spector Atkins, Artistic Director, is the primary teacher and choreographer at SpectorDance. Her credits include a B.S. in Occupational Therapy from Boston University, an M.F.A. from Mills College in Dance and Choreography, and Certification in Laban Movement Analysis from the Laban/Bartenieff Institute of Movement Studies. She has been a guest teacher at Oberlin College, Brown University and in Denmark, Egypt, England, Israel, Taiwan and the Island of Guam. Carmel Magazine honored Artistic Director Fran Spector Atkins as local "Visionary, making Monterey at better place." In 1999, Spector Atkins received the prestigious Dewar's Young Artists Recognition award for choreography in California. In 2008, SpectorDance Company was chosen as a National Finalist for the Ovation TV award for "Excellence in the Performing Arts." In 2007, The Arts Council cited SpectorDance as "Outstanding Arts Organization."

Major Donors

James Irvine Foundation, Susan and David Gill, Community Foundation for Monterey County, Packard Foundation, Harden Foundation, Arts Council for Monterey County, Monterey Peninsula Foundation, Rumsey Foundation, Chapman Foundation, Dunspaugh-Dalton Foundation, Big Sur International Marathon, Pebble Beach Company Foundation, Anne Enders, James Tunney, Blaine Family Fund, Yellow Brick Road, Hal Eastman, Bruce Delgado, and other local businesses and individuals!

Dennis Nagtalon
Common Ground



Laurel Nelson,
Kelsey Forbush
Opus VII



Kelsey Forbush
The Little Match Girl



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Katie Grove, Pam Keindl, Barbara Guisti, Kelsey Forbush, Jerene Aldinger
Maize: The Golden Thread



Alexandra Gardner, Laurel Nelson, Kelsey Forbush
The Red Pony



photos by William Roden