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FIRST 2002 EVENTS

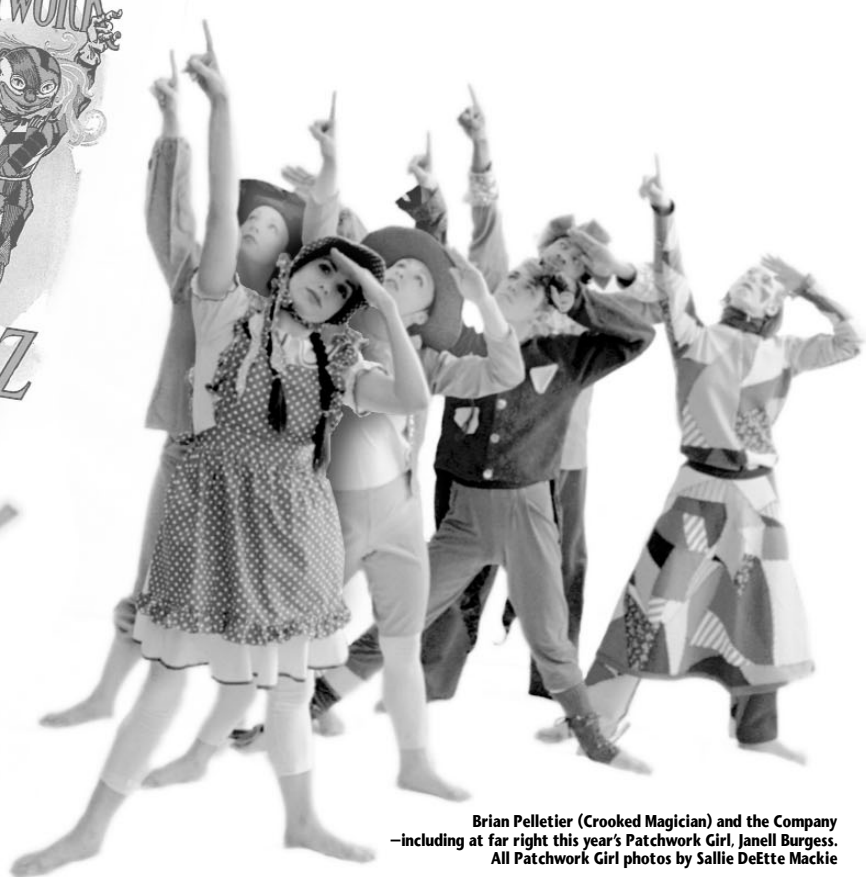
Apr. 7: Louise Reichlin & Dancers
3:00 PM. Alfred Newman Recital Hall
USC, University Park, Los Angeles

Apr. 21: Louise Reichlin & Dancers
3:00 PM. Los Angeles Theatre Center
514 S. Spring St., Los Angeles

Louise Reichlin & Dancers
Zapped Taps™/Alfred Desio



Patchwork Girl
illustration by
John R. Neill



Brian Pelletier (Crooked Magician) and the Company
—including at far right this year's Patchwork Girl, Janell Burgess.
All Patchwork Girl photos by Sallie DeEtte Mackie

Los Angeles Choreographers & Dancers

Newsletter
SPRING 2002

Los Angeles Choreographers & Dancers' mission is to create high quality, concert work opportunities for Los Angeles artists, to present works that communicate to a diverse audience by infusing dance with the cultural influences found in LA and to enlarge an educated dance audience by reaching out to segments of the population that are typically underexposed to the arts. By directly involving audience members in concerts with participatory activities and indirectly involving them through the utilization of varied, cultural elements used to explore humanistic

themes, the organization aims to demystify dance while preserving the artistic integrity of the medium. In this way, **LA C&D** is committed to using dance as a unifying force that crosses cultural, generational, language and socio-economic lines. Since its inception in 1979, LA C&D, a non-profit organization, has presented multiple educational programs and created many new works through its two professional dance companies **Louise Reichlin & Dancers** (modern) and **Zapped Taps™/Alfred Desio** (electronic and acoustic tap).

PLEASE JOIN US IN OUR 22ND SEASON

THE PATCHWORK GIRL LEAPS FORWARD

Louise Reichlin & Dancers, a performing company of Los Angeles Choreographers & Dancers, presents *The Patchwork Girl of Oz* Parts 1 and 2, a multi-media dance performance piece based on Reichlin's adaptation of L. Frank Baum's *The Patchwork Girl of Oz*. Reichlin extends Baum's text, first published in 1913, into the present, and creates a magical modern day fable that uniquely incorporates multi-media screen projections, animation, spoken word, music, and dance.

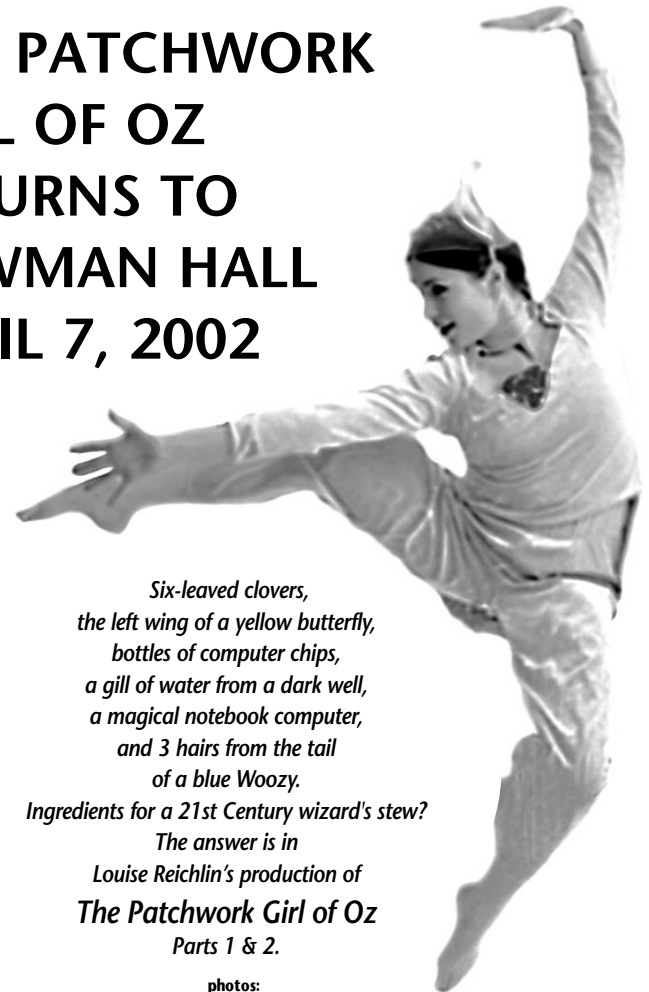
Reichlin, director of Louise Reichlin & Dancers, and faculty member of USC's Thornton School of Music, writes, choreographs and directs. Part 1 was created in collaboration with Richard Wainess, Information Technology Program, School of Engineering, USC, as multimedia designer. Part 2 premieres at USC's Alfred Newman Hall on April 7, 2002. at 3:00 PM..

This season with *Patchwork Girl*, Part 2, Reichlin and her troupe continue the story of Ojo and the Patchwork Girl, whose journey takes them through a fantasy world where the trees and flowers and food are blue. The company will feature new characters from the Kingdom of Oz - Dorothy Gale, Princess Ozma, and the Wizard himself. One way this piece is being developed to include audience interaction is with new workshops at Vermont Ave. Elementary School. Reichlin and her

dancers are working with the students in developing a key scene in Part 2. The students will portray two diverse cultures having trouble coexisting, the One-Legged Hoppers and the Joking Horners. They are about to go to war when they're visited by the travelers from Oz who are on their quest. The students will perform with the Reichlin's dancers at Newman Hall.



THE PATCHWORK GIRL OF OZ RETURNS TO NEWMAN HALL APRIL 7, 2002



*Six-leaved clovers,
the left wing of a yellow butterfly,
bottles of computer chips,
a gill of water from a dark well,
a magical notebook computer,
and 3 hairs from the tail
of a blue Woozy.*

Ingredients for a 21st Century wizard's stew?

The answer is in

*Louise Reichlin's production of
The Patchwork Girl of Oz
Parts 1 & 2.*

photos:

left: Mandy Langen, original Patchwork Girl
above: Ellen Rosa, as The Glass Cat

THE PAST AND FUTURE OF THE PATCHWORK GIRL PRODUCTIONS

The *Patchwork Girl of Oz*, Part I, premiered at Zipper Hall last March, with additional free performances at Newman Concert Hall/USC, the Glendale Public Library in celebration of Dance Week, the City of Walnut Family Festival (outside), and finally at Cal State Northridge Performing Arts Center.

Reichlin visited an exhibition of Willard Carroll's collection of Baum's work highlighting the first book of the series, *The Wizard of Oz*, at the Los Angeles Public Library. She remembered how as a child she imagined herself as a character in the book, filling her dreams with their adventures. After viewing the library exhibit, Reichlin was struck by the dance nature of John R. Neill's illustrations, especially of *Scraps the Patchwork Girl*. The character leapt out of the pages in every book. Now Reichlin has created an updated version with her dance, and at the premiere of Part 1, Willard Carroll, author of *100 Years of Oz* and owner of that same exhibit at the public library that inspired Reichlin, was in the audience. He e-mailed her "I attended your performance yesterday at Zipper Hall and wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed it. It's refreshing to see someone take the Oz raw material and do something inventive and entertaining with it. I'm happy that the exhibit was something of an inspiration for you. The best of success with *PATCHWORK GIRL - Part 2!* All the best, Willard."

The complete work, including Part 3, will be performed in November 2002 at the Miles Playhouse in Santa Monica, CA. It will also tour the West in early winter.

TAKING THE LEAD IN ART AND TECHNOLOGY

Reichlin's adaptation updates the original story and blends new technology within the storyline. In the Prologue to *The Patchwork Girl of Oz*, Baum envisioned today's wireless technology by creating the wireless telegraph for Princess Dorothy to use to communicate with the Historian; Reichlin follows his lead incorporating computer chips, notebook computers and a Virus Alert.

photos:
 from bottom left:
 Ellen Rosa (Dorothy Gale)
 Sarah Jenkins (Scarecrow)
 Brian Pelletier (Wizard)
 top right:
 Will-son Williams & Adrienne Fisher (Ojo & Unc Nunkie)
 far right:
 Wil-son Williams (The Shaggy Man)

THE DANCERS AND ARTISTS THAT BRING IT ALL TO LIFE

The program features: Elizabeth Brookman, Janell Burgess, Adrienne Fisher, Sarah Sydney Jenkins, Brian Pelletier, Louise Reichlin, Ellen Rosa, Shannon Schwait, & Wil-son Williams. Linda Borough, Costumer, and long time collaborator with Reichlin, creates the costumes for *The Patchwork Girl of Oz*. Michael Masucci, the celebrated Videographer who collaborated with Reichlin on *The E-Mail Dances*, creates the Dorothy Gale video that opens Act 2. Bertran Harden returns as Multimedia Operator.

AND IF YOU SHOULD MISS IT---

The Patchwork Girl of Oz, Part 1, will be repeated at the Los Angeles Theater Center on Sunday, April 21 at 3 PM. It is produced by Los Angeles Cultural Affairs, and tickets are \$10. Call them at 213-485-1681. And remember, the entire (still to be created) piece will be at the Miles Playhouse in Santa Monica in November 2002 as part of their Fall series. Call us for more information: 213-385-1171.



TWO IN TAILS

ON THE FILM FESTIVAL CIRCUIT



How exciting to be able to attend some of the festivals where "Two In Tails" (Zwei Im Frack) a German film starring Alfred Desio and Sam Weber in the title roles, has been shown. Alfred Desio & Louise Reichlin were guests at both the Palm Springs International Short Film Festival and the Long Beach International Film Festival representing the work. The film, directed and written by Christian Stahl, is about two tap dancing brothers who have just lost their jobs after dancing in a small nightclub for nine years. Forced to move out of their apartment with only their tuxedos on their backs, the brothers Franz and Heinz embark on a series of adventures as their exquisite attire has them mistaken for everything from pall bearers to waiters to wedding guests. Other showings were at Sao Paulo (Brazil) International Short Film Festival, Festival des Films du Monde Montreal, Film Festival Maui (Hawaii), Unimovie 2001 (Italy), Denver International Film Festival, International Hofer Filmtage 2001 (Germany), I15th Leeds

International Film Festival (Great Britial), 28th Flanders International Film Festival (Belgium), V Internacional Festival of Film Schools (Mexico), Internationales Kurzfilmfestival Berlin, Filmforum Schleswig-Holstein (Lubeck), 14th Foyle Film Festival International (Great Britain), and the Max-Ophuls-Preis 2002 in Saarbrucken. The film was produced by Juri Wiesner.

(photo: Sam Weber & Alfred Desio)



EDUCATION

Members of Louise Reichlin & Dancers continue to partner with schools in the LA USD and introduce the new standards in dance to both children and their teachers. Last season's and this include

92nd St. Elem., Los Feliz Elem., Vernon City Elem., Selma Elem. (after school), Hooper Elem., Plasencia Elem., Weems Elem., Western Ave. Elem., Walnut Park, Walgrove Ave., Community Magnet, Utah Elem., Dixie Canyon, Broad Ave. Elem., Carthay Center Elem., Alexandria Elem., Lemay St., Elem., Hazeltine Elem., Alphonso Perez Special Ed., Welby Way, Cabrillo Ave. Elem., Langdon Ave. Elem., and White Point Elem. Other school performances or workshops included St. James, The Buckley School, and UC Irvine. Additional support for educational activities came from private funding last year including donations from the Hollywood Arts Council, Target, and the Milken Family Foundation as well as many individuals.



photos: oval above: Our dancers with a kindergarten class at Broad Avenue Elementary after performances. This photo: after-school program at Felton

photo:
Scott Nurmi /Remote Reality.com



TEACHING

Louise Reichlin teaches a class, Movement Training for Musicians, at USC for the Thornton School of Music. On Saturdays and Sunday's she has an open Int/Adv. class at. Call us for a schedule at 213-385-1171.

Alfred Desio continues to teach tap at the Colburn School of Performing Arts adding new adult beginning tap classes on Monday and Wednesday evenings. The advanced class continues on Monday's at 8 PM. Their direct number is 213-621-2200.

1995-2002 WEB SITE & STILL GROWING + A NEW PHOTO GALLERY

First published in the summer of 1995, the web site for Southern California Dance and Directory and LA C&D continues to attract many thousands each week. The USC server hosts the site published by Louise Reichlin that includes a directory of over 380 professional dance companies and services organizations on the World Wide Web. This special dance directory of Southern California can be found via modem at: <http://www.usc.edu/dept/dance/> This will take you to the home page of So. CA Dance and Directory created by Reichlin that lists, as a free service, as many professional dance companies as can be found in our area, each including phone, e-mail, and web links (if they have them). The home page of Los Angeles Choreographers & Dancers is found at: http://www.usc.edu/dept/dance/p2_la_cd.html and information is often added. Also visit our "Current News and Performances" with a new link to a photo gallery of images.

DREAMSCAPES TO TOUR

In 2000 Steve Reid approached Reichlin to choreograph an original production that included his band Bamboo Forest, aerial and magic artists, and Louise Reichlin & Dancers as performers. It was first performed in Orlando Florida, and now has performances scheduled beginning in July 2002 in New Mexico, Florida, New Hampshire, and North Carolina.



MORE ABOUT CURRENT EVENTS, PERFORMANCE AND OTHERWISE BY LOUISE REICHLIN

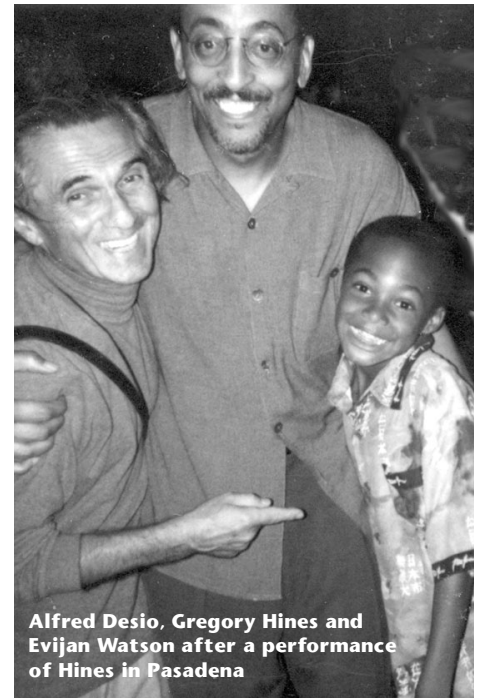
This has certainly been a not so typical year, and although we have been bounced around in our feelings as artists who are Americans who are in turn human beings by the recent events in the world, I remain optimistic that our individual and collective spirit will hold us on a track that runs on an upward spiral. We have presented a number of events this past season. The Patchwork Girl of Oz, Part I, was premiered at Zipper Hall last March, and additional free performances are in the "past and future" of parts of the patchwork article. Two In Tails and our educational activities also have their own articles. Some of our special projects have included sending some of our dancers to Santa Barbara and Taiwan. (See photo at right for our Taipei adventures)



In December, Desio and Reichlin designed and choreographed three pieces for the Taiwan Taipei International Moter Show. Pictured are dancers, Adrienne Fisher, Jennifer Flanagan, Kristen Wilkinson, Nick Bowman and Maderon (representing Yvonne Chien) who met them at LAX and was their constant guide

during their 9 day performance run. Almost all of the administrative and technical details were done through e-mail attachments including pictures, videos, music, etc. The project brought us to the realization that through the internet, (almost) instant communication is possible.

Alfred Desio participated in two standing room only concerts this year at the Colburn School's Zipper Hall. The first was directed by Desio in March, and on it he presented a program performed by himself and Colburn Kids Tap/L.A., a joint project of our company and the Colburn School of Performing Arts. The second was an LA Times Week-end Pick that featured Desio (tap dancer), Rick Naill (cello) and Donald Vega (piano) performing music from West Side Story on the Colburn School Distinguished Faculty Series.



Alfred Desio, Gregory Hines and Evijan Watson after a performance of Hines in Pasadena

RAINY, INTERNS, AND UPCOMING WORK OPPORTUNITIES

One of the ways that we manage to do some much with such a small office staff is through the assistance of interns and work-study students. Rainy Demerson was our first full time intern with the help of the Los Angeles County Arts Commission Internship Program. Rainy, presently a senior at UCLA majoring in World Arts and Culture (Dance, for those not familiar with the program) came in for 10 weeks last summer, and helped on a number of projects ranging from actually participating as a dancer in one of our staff development sessions for teachers at Dixie Canyon Elementary School to fundraising to preparation for the fall booking season. We took her to the Western Alliance Booking Conference, always an eye-opening experience even for those of us who have attended over the years. Hundreds of artists, managements, and

presenters gather in one place, this year San Jose, for an international view of the arts marketview.

Besides Rainy, part-time work-study students from USC this year have included Betty Yen, Leyla Guien, Patricia Ramirez, Rita Singer, and Thomas Lavane Bung.

Next summer we will again be participating in the County Program. Interested students (must be undergraduates) in school in Los Angeles County, or with a home address here, should call us for an application form. Job description: Special Administrative Assistant to the Director in the areas of marketing, fundraising (including both researching and writing), and cataloguing of the company video archives. Skills/knowledge Needed: Should be dependable, have excellent verbal and written skills, a maturity, interest in dance, a desire to learn. Computer (Mac) literacy

PLEASE BECOME PART OF OUR SUPPORT GROUP PLUS MORE FREE PERFORMANCES!

This year our city and county public funds are joined by a California Arts Council Organization Development Grant, and these funds total \$12,058 that needs to be matched. One of our most created activities this season centers around the development of The Patchwork Girl of Oz, Part 2. Please mark in your calendar April 7, 2002! Part of the new section will use children from Vermont Avenue School integrated into the cast to become villagers that our characters meet on their quest called the Hoppers (who only have one leg), and the Horners (who have one horn). I hope you will consider once again contributing to and becoming part of our support group. All donations are tax deductible. Your contribution will help us continue in our second twenty years new choreography, more touring and educational arts projects in schools in Los Angeles and widening into the West and to the East Coast, continued new works with live music and new audience participation activities.



photo: Shannon Schwait (Woozy) and Adrienne Fisher (Ojo)

Last season included multiple educational residencies for Louise Reichlin & Dancers, and touring, choreographing and teaching for her group, as well as

performances by Alfred Desio. Your gift will also help us present a low-cost public dance performance at Los Angeles Theatre Center for Reichlin & Dancers,

and 2 free performances for Reichlin & Dancers at Newman Hall, USC, and Cal State Northridge PAC. It will help our special project Colburn Kids Tap/L.A. continue to develop. Our tax ID#: 95-3509028, a California non-profit.

Please send a check made payable to LOS ANGELES CHOREOGRAPHERS & DANCERS, 351 S. Virgil Ave, Los Angeles CA 90020-1315.

Contributors of \$25 and over may request a premium, one of our beautiful high quality company T-Shirts. \$50 gets you a video of the company. Sponsors of \$100 and over will receive the complete set of 4 shirts. Please indicate your choice of style (LA C&D with Louise Dancing in black or white, Zapped Taps, or Colburn Kids Tap) in 5 colors on white, and size L, XL, or XXL. Sizes are limited in some of the styles, so give us some alternatives.

Our e-mail is louisehr@usc.edu. Our phone number is 213-385-1171. We would love to hear from you!

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK the following for their support in 2000-2001

and this season, including government, foundations, corporations, and individuals. We are pleased to have you as friends, and we hope you will continue to support our performances and outreach programs.

MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS

California Arts Council
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