

SoMar Dance Works

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December 2012 Newsletter

Season's greetings friends,

It's been a while since our last newsletter. You may not have heard from us lately, but we at SoMar Dance Works have been as active as ever. So active, in fact, that publishing our newsletter, updating our webpage, or posting photos on Facebook is often put on the proverbial back burner. There is, consequently, plenty of news to share. Since our last correspondence, we've been involved in a number of projects that has had us performing in Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Michigan, Maine, and Austria. Yes, that's right, Austria.

This past summer we traveled to Austria to participate in the **Young! Tanzsommer** dance festival. We created two new pieces for the occasion and performed in Lienz, Innsbruck, Elisabethinum, and St. Johann. Austria is a beautiful country and the audiences were so supportive, we were truly sad when it was over, but oh so happy we had the experience.

When we returned to the states, we immediately got to work on a concert we presented in Maine. This was our second full concert in the quaint town on Lovell (near the New Hampshire border). It's such a nice place that the last time we performed there our musician friend/collaborator from Erie, decided to stay. This time there were five dancers and yet another musician/collaborator. Although we all had a great time, we didn't leave anyone behind.

Our other out-of-state engagements included a performance at the **American Dance Festival** in Durham, NC and a full-evening concert at Grand Valley State University that also involved a weeklong residency of choreography and master classes.

Locally, we've performed at the *Erie Festival of Dance*, *Celebrate Erie*, and recently with the Erie Philharmonic Pops for their Halloween show. We've also been involved in a number of concerts at our host institute, Mercyhurst University. These include: *Project Abolition*, *In Her Shoes*, *Beyond Words*, *Beyond Words II*, and a collaboration with the Cavani String Quartet at the Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center.

In the spirit of the season, we feel so blessed to continue doing what we love and sharing our art with our community. We wish you peace and hope to see you at one of our upcoming shows.











A mid-SoMar Night's Dream

Shakespeare? No, not exactly. However, like in the forest where dwell Puck, Titania, and Oberon, we present a dream world where just about anything can happen and set out to see how foolish these mortals be.

In the past, SoMar has explored themes of nature, mental health, human tragedy, personal freedom, and of course, human relationships. Our new concert, *A mid-SoMar Night's Dream*, will take a peek into those hidden corners of the dreaming mind where desires and fantasy reside.

Dreams have been the source of intrigue for poets, playwrights, and artists of all stripes. They have also captured the attention of philosophers and psychologists. Some say dreams are merely a random firing of neurons. Others say in our dreams we reveal who we really are. Either way, they are great fodder for choreography.

Join us this spring and discover if "all that we see or seem is but a dream within a dream."

When: April 20, 2013 at 8 p.m.

April 21, 2013 at 2 p.m.

Where: Dafmark Dance Theater

1033 State Street Erie, PA 16501

Info: 824-2176

Tickets available at the door.

Adults \$15.00 Students/Seniors \$10.00 Children (10 and under) \$5.00







Remembering Jenni-Lyn

As many of you know, two years ago we lost one of our dancers, Jenni-Lyn Watson. This tragedy brought immeasurable sorrow to those who knew her and national attention to Mercyhurst University, where she was a student. As time has passed, the pain has eased but the sense of loss remains. This is, in part, the reason for our laps of communication. It has taken this long to be able to write about these events. We are, however, grateful that Jenni-Lyn's incredible family came out to see her perform in our *Movers & Shakers* concert a week before she was taken from us. We cherish the brief time she danced with our company and hold in our hearts her playful spirit.

Mark your calendars

January 26th SoMar will once again be appearing in the **Erie Festival of Dance** presented by the Erie Dance Consortium. Come on out to the Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center and enjoy performances by Erie's best dance companies and special guest Duquensne University's Tamburitzans.



BACK ROW: Linnea Stureson, Eileen McDonnell, Alexa Bradley, Kelsey Chamberlain, Jessica Stachelrodt, Solveig Santillano, Mark Santillano. **FRONT ROW:** Marchetta Genis, Elena Cvetkovich