



## SoMar Dance Works

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## August 2014 Newsletter

### We Get By With A Little Help From Our Friends

No man is an island, so they say. Everybody needs a little help now and then. But even if that weren't true, isn't life sweeter when it's shared with friends? We certainly think so, and that was the motivating force behind our new concert, *SoMar and Friends*. Last year, when we began planning future projects we thought it'd be fun to work with some of the friends we don't normally get to dance with. We sent a few emails, made some calls, coordinated schedules and began rehearsals. And now it's show time. We've had a lot of fun so far and we can't wait for the performance.

We are so pleased to be working with our friends from Pittsburgh, Cleveland, and Erie: Jo Alspaugh, Dafna Rathouse-Baier, Jean-Marc Baier, Falon Baltzell, Teena Marie Custer, Carla Hughes, Sara Lawrence-Sucato and Lani Weisbach. One of the things that made the process so fun is that the backgrounds of these dancers could not be more

diverse: from Classical Ballet to Modern, and Tap; from Butoh to Hip Hop. One of the bonuses of working like this it makes you look at your art from a different perspective, a fresh angle. Collaborating with these dancers has certainly done that and the results are quite refreshing. We've pushed each other's boundaries and in the process, had a good time.

What can you expect at this concert? The unexpected, of course, and music by Toby Twining, The Dresden Dolls, Felix Mendelssohn, and Ravel's iconic Bolero (to name a few). You can also expect some dirt, a wedding dress, and a highly toxic salad. We'd tell you more, but that would spoil the fun.

So bring along some friends and come on out and see us with our friends and together we will all get by just fine.



### When/Where/Why not?

August 23<sup>rd</sup>

7:30 pm

**ONE NIGHT ONLY!!!**

At the Dafmark Studio Theater  
1033 State Street  
(at the corner of 11<sup>th</sup>)  
Downtown Erie, PA

\$15.00 general admission  
Tickets available at the door.

Call: 814.824.2176



## Last October was truly Beyond Words

Last fall, SoMar was fortunate enough to have a concert sponsored by Mercyhurst University's Dance Department. This was the third year Mercyhurst has presented us and each year it gets better and better. The Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center is, by far, the best venue in town for concert dance, and we've always taken advantage of the technical capabilities the theater provides. This past concert was no exception. SoMar offered four pieces on the concert. The first was a dance montage called *Not a Pipe* inspired by the surrealist painter Rene Magritte with music by the Tin Hat Trio. Also on the program was the quirky trio *Tippy Tops*, which premiered a couple of years ago on tour in Austria. Next was a restaging of *Slippery Slope* in honor of the winter Olympics. Lastly, was the multi-media work *Happiness Is...* in response to the universities academic theme which commented on consumerism, workaholics and the arms race. As always, SoMar is forever grateful for its on-going relationship with Mercyhurst.

### MAKE A DONATION

Help us bring the best possible concert dance to our community. SoMar Dance Works has been at it for fifteen years. We've created dozens and dozens of pieces in that time which we've shared with audiences of all ages, locally and around the world. Your contribution makes it possible for us to continue doing what we do: presenting original dance works that enrich, enlighten and entertain. Thank you for your kind support.

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

SoMar has three projects on the horizon and you're invited to them all.

- First up is a concert with JazzErie. We're scheduled for October 17<sup>th</sup> at the Walker Recital Hall on the campus of Mercyhurst University.
- Second is the Erie Festival of Dance on Valentines Day, February 14<sup>th</sup> at the Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center.
- And lastly, *Beyond Words IV* on February 20<sup>th</sup> — 22<sup>nd</sup> featuring a collaboration with award-winning Erie Children's book author, Mary Arete Moodey. **SEE YOU THERE.**



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