

Los Angeles Choreographers & Dancers

NEWSLETTER 2011/2012

Los Angeles Choreographers & Dancers' mission is to create high-quality, innovative concert work for Los Angeles artists, communicate to a diverse audience by using LA cultural influences, and to enlarge an educated dance audience in populations typically underexposed to the arts, especially youth. While involving audiences with participatory activities we explore humanistic themes. In this way, **LA C&D** is committed to using dance as a unifying force that crosses cultural, generational, language and socio-economic lines. Founded in 1979, **LA C&D**, a non-profit organization, has presented

multiple educational programs and created many new works. Two professional companies, **Louise Reichlin & Dancers** (modern) and **Zapped Taps™/ Alfred Desio** (electronic and acoustic tap) made up **LA C&D** until Desio's death in 2007. The mission for each of our dancers echoes that of our company: to focus but remain adaptable, to have persistence, to present inspiration, excellence and quality coupled with dependability and consistency, examining and deepening the connection with each other and our world.

2011–A Rewarding Year

By Louise Reichlin, Director

When I was a teen-ager, time used to move very slowly. I felt I was always waiting to do what I really wanted to do (always dancing) but was stuck going to high school in a very small town of 5,000 people, none of whom were very interested in the arts. Luckily, my family had always sent my brother and I to do many extra classes ranging from weaving, drawing, and piano, to trombone, drama, and dance. We both became professionals in our main interests (he on trombone, me with dance) and have been fortunate to always make these areas both our means of earning a living, and a reason to enjoy that living. Today, I am amazed to look back on just this past year, and see how much had happened, and how rewarding a year it has been - not especially on a financial level, but on a creative and teaching level.

In January, we were already laying the foundation for the new **Baggage Project**, with a new dance **Mourning Light** where only one of the people is alive - the others are vibrant non-corporal beings carried around as **Baggage** by the people that they were closest to (*continued p.2*)

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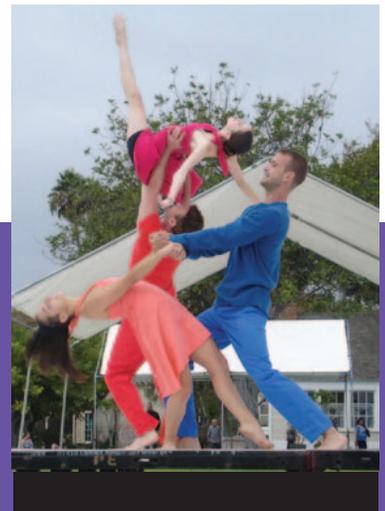
Woman Sleeping, reworked for the **Baggage Project**, photo by Paul Wasserman;

The Patchwork Girl of Oz photos top right and next page by Sallie DeEtte Mackie.

Cover: Students become the logs that 'build' the Stone House Photo by Jesus "Chuy CS" Rangel, Julian Franco.

The Patchwork Girl of Oz in LA & NY

This January we are taking our highly praised production first developed in 2001-02, *The Patchwork Girl of Oz*, to the Long Island Childrens Museum. Serving more than 265,000 people each year, the museum is the largest attended museum on Long Island. We are especially excited as it is at the same time as the annual Arts (*continued p.2*)



In the Community with Free Performance

We again curated the **TriArt Festival Dance**, this year in the Ports O' Call Village, and this new location for the free outdoor festival, now in its 5th year, was packed. Ten professional dance companies were selected, and the quality was high and program varied, ranging from modern, tap, Folklorico, Chinese traditional, to jazz, contemporary, Broadway and ballet. Three pre-professional groups were also introduced to the mix. Our own unique production, also in its fifth year, **Dance At the Stone House**, is on Nov. 16 this year at 10:30 am and 12 noon, also free. Please see our web site for more background. Photo: Reichlin's 'Brandenburg' at the TriArt shows Angelina Prendergast, Zsolt Banki, Steven Nielsen and Jen Hunter