



THE COYOTE MOON

September 1997

Second Issue

"The Supreme heaven shines in the Lotus of the heart." They enter there who struggle and aspire.

Kavaiya Upanishad

Dear Friends of Coyote Dancers: Our second newsletter finds us enthusiastically counting our blessings; so many beautiful opportunities are coming forward. My recent work with Sharon Gannon and David Life of Jivamukti Yoga, directing their AsanaDance demonstrations, led to their invitation to join the teaching staff of their renowned and wonderful school. This is a great honor! Jivamukti Yoga brings together a community of souls who seek higher consciousness. I am eternally grateful for this collaboration.

The first Jivamukti class was a two day workshop on Saturday and Sunday, August 9 and 10. The workshop included a modern dance class designed for all levels, including those who haven't danced before; this was accompanied by inspired live musicians. The class explored my understanding of the convergence of modern dance, at its roots, with yoga. An AsanaDance previously choreographed for Sharon and David was taught at the workshop.

Beginning Tuesday, September 2, and every Tuesday following, we will have a weekly AsanaDance class from 2:45 till 4:15 which will include both our dance class to live music by Carl Landa and the creation of new

choreography for an AsanaDance which will be performed at the annual Jivamukti celebration of the Winter Solstice.

This summer Sharon and David asked me to direct a new AsanaDance to Sting's beautiful song, "Fields of Gold," which they will offer as a gift to Sting and his wife Trudie. Sharon and David will perform this piece in the "Dances With Coyotes" series at the Neighborhood Playhouse on September 13 and 14.

My most recent choreographic effort is a dance to an original score by Carl Landa. This dance is inspired by the ancient belief that the reflected light of the sun, gathered by the chalice of the moon, nourishes and uplifts the soul.

Many individuals have recently volunteered to help Coyote Dancers with the details of running our organization. I thank Amy Harrison, Liana Hawes, Molly Sigman, Valerie Wagenfeld and Jason Klampert for their generous gift of their time and energy. Finally, I ask you to consider making a contribution to Coyote

Dancers. Many people have told me that they can't give much so they choose to give nothing at all. We welcome any gift! If twenty people give us five dollars each, we have one hundred dollars! Please feel free to offer even a small amount. Thank you.

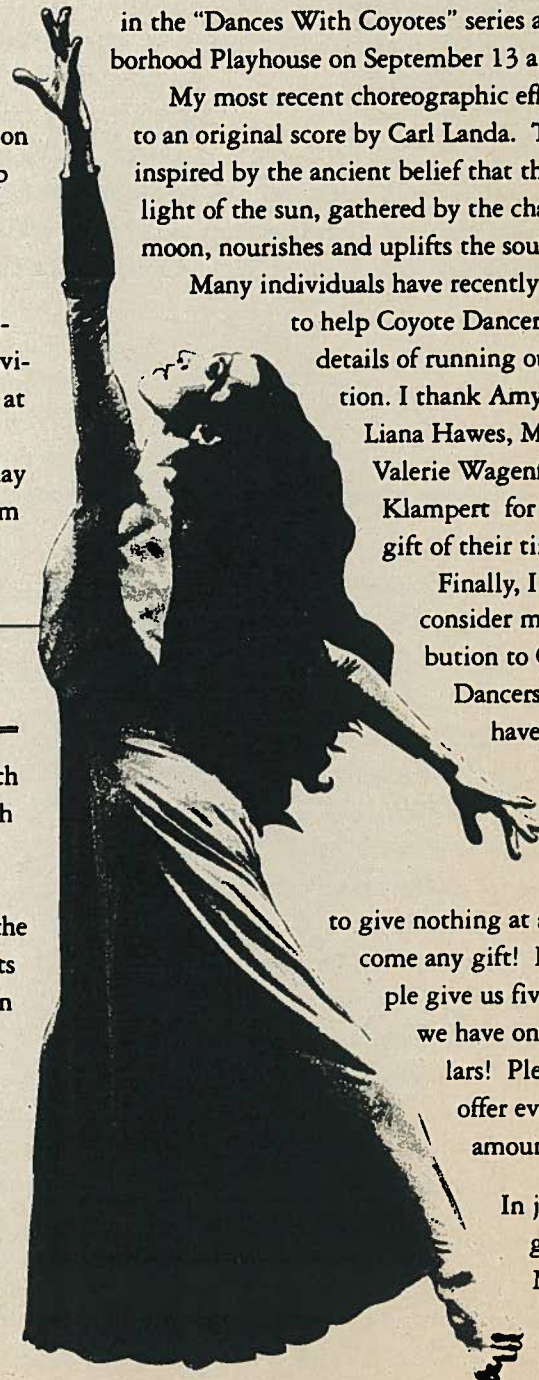
In joy and gratitude,
Maher
Benham CM

Concert Information

Join us for our second performance of "Dances With Coyotes", a subscription series, on September 13th and 14th, 1997 at 8 p.m.!

On June 15, 1997, Coyote Dancers inaugurated "Dances With Coyotes", a subscription series, hosted by the Neighborhood Playhouse School of the Theatre. Due to its huge success, we have added an additional performance on Saturday, September 13th at 8 p.m. You can help continue the success of this series by joining our family. Act now and you can join our subscription series and SAVE! You can see the remaining three performances for only \$20! If purchased at the door, each performance is \$10. Let this encourage you to join the Coyote family.

To take advantage of this opportunity, return the coupon on Page 3 to Coyote Dancers. For reservations call (212) 533-2205; for more information, contact Coyote Dancers at (212) 505-2525. CM



Maher Benham, 'Devachan' / Photos by: Nan Melville

Coyote Dancers Fall 1997 Calendar



Photos by: Donald Greenhaus

Maher Benham "Devachari"

August 9 & 10

Maher Benham was a guest artist at the asanadance workshop held at Jivamukti Yoga.

Beginning September 2

Maher Benham will be teaching AsanaDance classes, accompanied by live musicians, at Jivamukti Yoga on Tuesdays from 2:45-4:15 p.m. throughout 1998. Jivamukti Yoga, 149 Second Avenue (bet. 9th and 10th streets), NYC, (212)353-0214.

September 13 & 14 8 p.m.

"Dances With Coyotes" Second Subscription Series performances held at the Neighborhood Playhouse School of the Theatre, 340 East 54th Street (bet. 1st and 2nd Avenues).

Beginning September 20

Maher Benham will teach children's classes on Saturday mornings and advanced teen classes on Saturday afternoons at the Martha Graham School for Contemporary Dance. Tadej Brdnik will teach beginning teens on Saturday mornings and Maher Benham will teach beginning teens on Tuesday afternoons at the Martha Graham School for Contemporary Dance, 316 East 63rd Street (bet. 1st and 2nd Avenues) NYC, (212) 838-5886.

Honoring our heritage

The relationship between Coyote Dancers and Martha Graham's vision is demonstrated by the involvement with and dedication to the Martha Graham School and Company by so many Coyote Dancers

Maher Benham continues to teach as a member of the faculty of the Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance. Beginning September, Maher once again will be teaching the children's classes, as she did while Martha was living. Classes will meet Saturday mornings beginning September 20. Martha taught the first children's classes at school and continued to do so for many years. In Maher she found a teacher who carried on the tradition by encouraging the children's creativity and offering them an experience of the expression of the Self through dance.

Maher will also be teaching the advanced teenagers

on Saturday afternoons. Their classes include both technique and composition. Maher's purpose in the teen program is to nurture the young artists and build their strength, focus and technical abilities. In addition, she will encourage spontaneity and urge them to express their individual creativity.

Another member of Coyote Dancers, artistic associate, *Tadej Brdnik*, will teach in the beginning teen program. Maher and Tadej will share responsibility, with Tadej teaching on Saturday mornings and Maher on Tuesday afternoons. Tadej and Maher will collaborate on the production of the end of the year teen studio performance.

Coyote Dancers celebrate the gift of their connection with Martha Graham tradition. CM

Subscriber Testimonial

Maher

Your dances are so beautifully couched to tell your tales. I am happy for them and all of us who will see and feel your works. The winning choreography was so very splendidly real and personal. What an honor to see their fine work. Honest theatre is great for the soul.

Tricia Kaye

MAY all
BEINGS
EVERY-
WHERE
BE HAPPY
and FREE!
MAY all
BEINGS
EVERY-
WHERE
BE HAPPY
and FREE!

Jivamukti
Yoga

Kill
therefore
with the
sword of
wisdom the
doubt
born of
ignorance
that lies in
thy heart.
Be one in
self-
harmony, in
Yoga, and
arise,
great
warrior,
arise.

Bhagavad
Gita

"DANCES WITH COYOTE" A SUBSCRIPTION SERIES

June 15, 1997
December 14, 1997

September 13 & 14, 1997
March 15, 1998

All performances start at 8:00PM

at The Neighborhood Playhouse School of the Theatre
340 East 54th Street (between 1st & 2nd Avenues)

Please reserve _____ subscriptions at \$20 each = \$ _____

Total \$ _____

I would like to contribute an additional tax deductible gift towards the support of Coyote Dancers!

- Up to \$25— Friend \$100— Angel \$1,000— Archangel
 \$50— Supporter \$500— Saint \$2,000 and above— Bodhisattva

First Subscription:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Second Subscription:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Please make checks payable to Coyote Dancers Inc. and mail to Coyote Dancers at 131 Thompson Street, #7A, New York, NY 10012. Subscribers may pick up their tickets at the door. A heartfelt thanks to all who have and continue to support Coyote Dancers. For further information, contact Coyote Dancers at 212•505•2525.

Please cut along the dotted line

Coyote Dancers Wish List

As Coyote Dancers grows, so does our need for administrative equipment. To move into the future, we need the following items. All donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

Fax Machine
Copier
Camcorder

Special thanks to.....

Sue Bennett
Edward T. Cone
Jo Davis
Lawrence DeMann
Diane & Robert Heinz
Sheryl Hughes
Thomas V. Sleeth
Delores Strauss

for their recent and generous financial support.

The *Neighborhood Playhouse* students who volunteer their time and effort with all of our showings.

To *Jennifer Heinz* for her recent and generous volunteer work.

Imagination
is more
important
than
knowledge.

Albert
Einstein

The
mightiest
lover of
Cosmos,
and the
most
sacred, is
the heart.
Its
conscious-
ness fills
space, its
light
illuminates
Cosmos.

Helena
Roerich

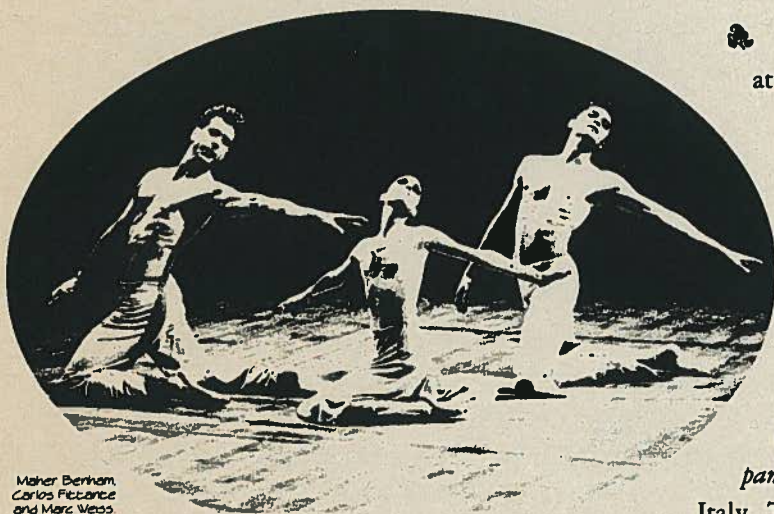
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Coyote Dancers, Inc.
131 Thompson St., Apt. 7A
New York NY 10012

Coyote happenings...

by Adam Lobato



Maier Berham,
Carlos Pizarro
and Marc Weiss
"The Crossing"
Photos by:
Nan Melville

🌿 This summer, *Penny Diamantopoulou* will teach at the *Usdan Center*. She will be assisting *Joyce Herring*, former *Martha Graham* company member, in an intensive workshop. The workshop will consist of ballet and modern class daily for two months. Penny is also a member of the *Martha Graham Ensemble*, which completed its New York season in June. A North American tour is planned next.

🌿 *Erica Dankmeyer* and *Tadej Brdnik* completed touring with the *Martha Graham Company* in July. The company toured the Southwest and Italy. The Company begins rehearsals in August for a new work, choreographed by Susan Stroman. Erica is also looking forward to returning to her alma mater, Williams College, in

Massachusetts, to teach a workshop as part of their dance retreat.

🌿 *Erin Boyle* recently performed with *Gotham CityDancers* in Philadelphia and New York City.

🌿 *Carrie Olsen* and *Ari Mayzick*, completed their New York season with *Pearl Lang* at the *Danny Kaye Playhouse*. Ari and Carrie are also members of the *Martha Graham Ensemble*, which completed its New York season in June. A north American tour is coming up next!

🌿 *Quentin Chiapetta*, Musical Director of *Coyote Dancers*, spent a month in Indonesia this summer, touring with a Gamelan orchestra.

🌿 *Pilobolus'* New York season at *the Joyce* was performed with *Coyote Dancer Trebien Pollard*. The one-month engagement was in July. Next Trebien is rehearsing for "Urban Art Work #5." His own choreography will be presented by the *American Dance Ensemble* at *Urban Art Work* on September 26, 27, and 28.

🌿 *Adam Lobato* is rehearsing for "The Colors of Love," a theatrical invention presented as part of the *New York Fringe Festival*, August 16-22. In September, he will be "In the Company of Men" at *Pace University*, choreographed by *Bartholomew Baptista*. CM

What is Form? Form is the memory of spiritual content. When do form and content meet? Form and content meet in action.

Martha Graham