

Prometheus Dance

APOKALYPSIS



presented by the
Boston Center for the Arts'
Spotlight on Dance Series

February 14-23, 2003

A P O K A L Y P S I S

Between blood and bone
lives the memory
of human existence
beauty and horror
one in the same transformed.
Between blood and bone
exists the memory
of tenderness and suffering
imbedded deep within,
inherited from the past
embraced and endured
impermanent and transient
but never forgotten.

Choreography, staging and costumes by
Diane Arvanites-Noya & Tommy Neblett

Original music composed and performed by John Kusiak
Additional music and audio mixes by
Eleni Karaindrou, Giuseppe Verdi, Caleb Sampson,
John Kusiak, Richard Malcolm, Miguel Noya

Lighting design by Linda Taylor
Lighting Assistant / Board operation by Paul Marr

Environmental design collaboration with Beth Galston
Trees provided by John Steele

Wall design and construction by Amanda Wagner
Stage management by Jayne Murphy

Cast:

The Prometheans:

Bryan Steele, Andy Taylor-Blenis, Bonnie Spillane-Gaztambide,
Jason Dionne, Kathleen Jonic, Ashley Williams,
Ivan Korn, Callie Chapman Korn

The Elders:

Eleanor Duckworth, Karen Klein, Susan Lane,
Stella Penzer, Sylvia Pope, Anne Tolbert

The Youth:

Emily Beattie, Devon Fitchett, Alanna Gluck, Susan Graham,
Vanessa Gutierrez, Mary Hamilton, Annie Kloppenberg,
Heather Rose, Adam Moshier Shenk, Stephanie Sherman, Isaiah Young

Prometheus Dance

Prometheus Dance is an ensemble of nine dancers performing the works of Artistic Directors Diane Arvanites-Noya and Tommy Neblett. Founded in 1987 by Ms. Noya, Prometheus Dance has become one of Massachusetts' most outstanding and established modern dance companies. Developed through a highly-charged and theatrical choreographic style, the dances of Prometheus are intimate, articulate and provocative ruminations about social issues and psychological intricacy.

Prometheus Dance has been produced in New York City by Lincoln Center Out-of-Doors, Downtown Baca, La Mama and NYU; in Connecticut by the New England Artists' Trust Congress and the International Festival of Arts and Ideas; and in Boston by Dance Umbrella, Crash Arts, the FleetBoston Celebrity Series, the Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, First Night, Emerson Stage, The Boston Conservatory and the Walnut Hill School.

Internationally, Prometheus Dance has performed in Europe and South America annually since 1994. The company has been presented in Spain at the Teatro Galan, the En Pe de Pedra festival and the Festivale de Danza en Galicia; in France at the Theatre de l'Olivier and at the Overture Danse 4 Festival; in Venezuela at the Festivale de las Artes Internacional; and in Ecuador at the Festivale No Mas Luna en el Aqua.

In addition to its evening concert series', Prometheus Dance presents free mini-performances designed specifically for outreach audiences. The Artistic Directors believe that creating choreographies which address current social issues is both essential and educational. Exploring the human condition and illuminating individual strife, creates respect, tolerance and value for every life in the community. The company has performed at MCI/Framingham (maximum security women's prison), Rosie's Place (battered women's shelter), the Jane Doe Walk for Women's Safety, the Boston Alzheimer's Center, the Somerville Senior Citizens Center, World AIDS Day, and at many community benefits.

The company also tours *Opposites*, its acclaimed K-5 in-school performance throughout the public education systems of Metro-Boston. Recently Prometheus Dance initiated a free, after-school Technical Theatre and Design Program for hearing impaired and at-risk teenagers, teaching them the skills of lighting design, set design, and stage management.

Ms. Noya and Mr. Neblett have twice received Artists Grants in Choreography from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, collaboratively in 2000 and individually in 1994 and 1996. They received their first grant from the National Endowment for the Arts for the restaging of Apokalypsis. Dedicated to training young dancers, Ms. Noya and Mr. Neblett are also on the faculties of The Boston Conservatory, Walnut Hill School, Emerson College and The Dance Complex.

The Collaborators

John Kusiak (music) has composed music for visual media for 25 years. His largest audience to date is estimated at one billion people worldwide – the viewers of the 2002 Academy Awards. John wrote the score for a four-minute film by documentary filmmaker Errol Morris that opened the Awards ceremony. Having mainly written for film and television, John was excited by the opportunity to collaborate with Prometheus Dance on music for Apokalypsis. Reflecting on the experience, John said, "Working with Prometheus has been one of the high points of my musical journey. Researching the piece introduced me to the incredibly varied and beautiful world of Balkan Music. I was challenged and inspired at every turn." John's route to Prometheus has been circuitous. He grew up in Massachusetts and moved to the Midwest as a teenager. A stranger in a strange land, he filled his idle hours practicing the guitar. By age 16 he was playing professionally at clubs in St. Louis. He performed in many rock bands, including the Boston-based Pousette-Dart Band, before devoting his energy to music composition. He has composed music for hundreds of projects, including television documentaries (NOVA and American Experience), large-screen installations (Yellowstone National Park and Mt. St. Helens) and feature films (collaborating with Caleb Sampson on "Fast, Cheap and Out of Control" and "Mr. Death"). Recent projects have included two seasons of *First Person*, a television series directed by Errol Morris for the Independent Film Channel and chosen by *Time* as one of the 10 best television series of 2000, "Surviving Everest," a feature-length documentary for National Geographic to be broadcast this spring, and commercials for United Airlines, Cantor Fitzgerald and Quaker Oats.

Beth Galston (environment) is a sculptor who builds architectural-scale environments based on the interplay of light and space. Trained at MIT, she has exhibited her installations widely, including the Institute of Contemporary Art, ME; Rose Art Museum, MA; Lehman College Gallery of Art, NYC; Yeshiva University Museum, NYC; Socrates Sculpture Park, NYC; Currier Gallery of Art, NH; MIT Museum; Mass College of Art; Nelson Atkins Museum, MO. Awards include: Bunting Institute Fellowship, NEA InterArts, Massachusetts Artists Fellowship, and residencies at Yaddo, MacDowell, and Sculpture Space. In April she will be a Fellow at the Groton School, where she will exhibit, "Luminous Garden," an environment made of cast resin and colored LED's. She is also working on "Color Walk", a sculpture made of colored glass for an eighty-foot-long corridor at the new Mesa Arts Center in Arizona.

Linda Taylor (lighting) graduated in 1990 from Boston University with an MFA in Lighting Design. She has been company designer for Prometheus Dance for eleven years and also designs for Anna Myer and Dancers and the Commonwealth Ballet Company. Linda is the resident lighting designer for Concord Academy's theatre and dance departments, working with choreographers Amy Spencer and Richard Colton and director David Gammons. Linda regularly lights concerts for The Dance Complex and the Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, as well as freelance work with many Boston area choreographers and college theatres.