



November 2012

MESSAGE FROM NANCY PEARLMAN, Executive Director of Educational Communications



WORLD ETHNIC MUSIC

Even if you didn't have a chance to see these groups live, their albums are worth getting and listening to. And you can try to catch them next time they are in your town. Every August the Skirball Cultural Center in the Sepulveda Pass off of Mulholland at the 405, between West Los Angeles and the San Fernando Valley, hosts free Thursday night music concerts from internationally-acclaimed artists from around the world. In addition to hearing great ethnic music, many in the audience dance to the rhythms in an area in front of the stage, in the aisles, and at their seats. The museum is free that evening so you can also enjoy the superb exhibits, especially featuring Jewish treasures from Europe and Northern Africa. Food is available both at the restaurant or at the take out cafe (tables are provided). Even if you missed these 2012 artists you can check them out at other concerts and on their websites.



Samba Mapangala & Orchestra Virunga — Acclaimed Congolese singer Samba Mapangala shared his unique blend of rumba and Congolese dance music known as soukous with earthy Kenyan and Tanzanian styles. The group's Lingala and Kiswahili lyrics give homespun advice and social

commentary but, even if you don't understand the words, you can enjoy the delightful melodies. The arrangements are exuberant and you can dance along or watch the talented young ladies dance throughout the hour-and-a-half set. His former band, L'Orchestre Les Kinois" and their album Lokoki became major hits in East Africa and should be in the West as well. The name of his current group is for the volcanic mountain range in central Africa and their hit Malako has helped Mapangala obtain legendary status. Having settled in the United State since 1997, he performs now throughout Africa, Europe, and North America.

The Alaev Family — Hailing from Tajikistan and now based in Israel, the Alaev Family represents three generations of an immensely talented musical family. The eight member troupe (Allo, Amin, Alan, Zvika, Ariel, Amir, and Aviva Alaev with Uri Kleinman) performs an ancient, rhythmic, and highly percussive musical blend of Central Asian, Turkish, Persian, Russian and Jewish traditions. They play on such percussive instruments as the doyra, darbuka, alofon, drums, cajon, as well as Turkish clarinet, accordion, qanun (plucked zither), violin, Bukharan and Armenian clarinets, and bass guitar. The eighty-year old patriarch Allo has deep roots in the music of Tajikistan and the Jewish music of Bukhara, Uzbekistan. This festive music is also available on the self-titled 2011 album produced by Tamir Muskat.

Eric Bibb's String Band Featuring Dirk Powell and Cedric Watson — Bibb is from a musical family of jazz and folk artists and has developed his own style of blues, Cajun, and Appalachian music.

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IS IT FOLKSY TO BE SQUARE?

Preston Ashbourne



There is a social dance formation done in European and American dance called a "square" or a "quadrille." Normally this is a set of 8 dancers (ie: four couples) who interact in various patterns. When Europeans immigrated to America, they brought what they remembered of their set dances. But often people remembered different steps, or even different dances. They often relied on someone to cue the steps they were going to do by yelling or "calling" them out. Thus was born the very American dance form called Square Dancing, where figures are cued by a Caller.

Here's the dilemma: is this Folk Dance? Many states have declared it to be their state's official folk dance.

Let's define Folk as an idiom. (Or try to) Folk music should be traditional, no authors known, played on home-made (not factory-made) instruments. Accordions are NOT folk instruments! Folk dances should likewise be traditional, that is, evolved in a village environment, not choreographed by professionals. Also they should not be taught by professionals, you learn by watching your elders. Anyone of any age can do the basics of a folk dance. (Young hotshots can improvise elaborations.) Of course, nowadays almost no folk dancing meets all the requirements 100%.

Modern American Square Dances are done in organized clubs with rules, dress codes, and lists of steps or figures graded by levels of difficulty. People

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John Bilezikjian

by Carolyn Harper

In late September, I had the opportunity to see John Bilezikjian at a concert in San Diego. During the break we had the opportunity to chat about his current schedule. The following is the result of our conversation.

Q John, you have had an amazing career considering you play an ancient folk instrument called the Oud. Is there anything you would have done differently?

A Not at all. It is as if I re-lived a life that I had in another time. It started before I was even five years old. In 1952, at the age of 4 years old, a man approached my mother and father and asked if I would play a ukulele in his musical group. All of us were children and in the age group of from 4 to 8 years of age. We would perform at hospitals for patients. The idea was to cheer them up and we did. The ukulele was my first instrument.

Q So, do you feel you were destined to be a musician or do you think your family influenced you?

A I feel I was destined to be a Musician and wanted nothing else. My dream was to be another Jascha Heifetz, who I feel is the greatest Violinist that ever lived. At five years of age, I wanted to play the violin like my father, Andrew. The next day I had a violin in my hands and began violin lessons with my father. My first memories were of my father playing classical violin. Also, the fact that music was a main stay in our home, a way of life, from the 78 recordings of the great violinists of the day, to the live music performed by my family members together after dinners prepared by my Mother Alice and Grandmother Nectar.

Q You've played for the King and Queen of Spain at the Sephardic Temple, Tifereth Israel in Beverly Hills, California, when King Don Juan Carlos and Dona



Isabella came to apologize to the Sephardic Jews for his great ancestors exiling the Jews from Spain in 1492. You've toured with Leonard Cohen, and composed and performed background music for countless movies and TV soundtracks in Hollywood, California. Today, you continue to play and perform even though you have suffered some serious health problems. It seems that nothing stops you. Most obvious to everyone is the cast on your left leg. What happened?

A In high school at Grant High in Van Nuys, California, I was a football player on the Varsity School team. During one of the games, I broke my left ankle after catching a football thrown by the quarterback to me. I landed on my left ankle instead of the flat of my foot. I heard it break. I still played out the game. The doctors who reviewed my ankle said that they could not repair the damage at the time due to the way the ankle was broken.

Over the years, it got increasingly worse to the point, where I was walking on my ankle and not on the flat of my foot. I met an orthopedic surgeon for the Chicago Cubs who said he could repair the damage. That is what I am undergoing now.

Q I have seen you at many wedding receptions recently and you are doing

concerts, one is coming up. Anything else you have on your plate?

A I am up for an NEA Grant (National Endowment for the Arts). I continue to practice and work on composing music and creating transcriptions of the great Classics that I so enjoy performing. I promote a book I wrote, "Methodology for the Oud", published by the Hal Leonard Music Publishing Company, the largest seller of educational music books in the world. A very talented lady from

UCLA, Alyssa Mathias, a Ph.D. candidate in music, obtained a grant to write my life story, a biography of my life. And yes, I have a concert with my wife coming up on Saturday, November 10, 2012 at the Folk Music Center in Claremont, CA.

Q You have a Foundation in your name and I saw your benefit concert last year at the La Mirada Performing Arts Center in August, 2011. Wow, it was great. Your non-profit foundation also gives away scholarships. What is your purpose and how do we participate?

A The purpose of the John Bilezikjian Foundation is to preserve the legacy of my music, to continue my research into the Ottoman composers whom many were of Armenian origin, to further future generations of players to take up the Oud, and to document the 78 recordings made by original immigrants at turn of the 20th Century.

Those wishing to donate to the John Bilezikjian Foundation can do so by sending their donation to:

The John Bilezikjian Foundation
PO Box 3204, Laguna Hills, CA 92654
Phone 1-855-Ouddist (1-855-683-3478)

For more information, visit
JohnBilezikjianFoundation.com



November is Peanut Butter Lovers Month

PRESTON'S (INFAMOUS) TACOS

by Preston Ashbourne

Some items of cuisine have romantic names like “pate de foie gras” or “crepes suzettes”, but how about something more prosaic, somewhat less foreign? Would you believe “Peanut Butter Tacos?” It’s a favorite snack/meal of mine. Easy and cheap! The word “taco” originally means “plug” or “tag” because of its shape, I guess. It is used now to mean “snack” and what in Mexican cuisine is typically a snack? Stuff rolled into a tortilla! Any stuff. Any tortilla. The things we call “burritos” are tacos, too. (My ex-wife was shocked when she came from Mazatlan as a kid and heard we ate little donkeys “oh, the poor little donkeys!” They didn’t have burritos in Mexico then.)

Mandatory:

get out a jar of peanut butter, a bottle of salsa, a package of corn tortillas

Optional:

chop onions, bananas, avocados or anything you like
bottle of Dos Equis

—Turn on a burner on the stove, very low flame. Very low.

—Warm up tortilla (can do two if you want a heavier taco) by heating it one side then the other, turning it by careful flipping with your fingers. No kidding. A few seconds on one side then flip. Do several times. (Got a new-fangled electric stove? I can’t help you there)

—Put hot tortilla on plate, put a one-inch wide blob of peanut butter from near one edge of tortilla to about 2/3 across.

—Put a little chopped anything in.

—Add one teaspoon or so of salsa.

—Fold up the side that doesn’t have the ingredients on it then roll tortilla up.

(The idea is to keep salsa from running out)

—Eat taco, Drink beer. Repeat.

TEA IN HAWAII

by Bob Jacobson,

President Hawai'i Rainforest Tea, and President, Hawai'i Tea Society

Because Hawai'i has such a richness of diversity, one can experience the finest teas in the world in some of the most diverse physical and cultural settings. One can enjoy a formal traditional British high tea served complete with multilayered plates of sweets and goodies in Manoa or watch a traditional Japanese dance troupe express their art at a gourmet food and tea tasting overlooking the ocean. One can grind one's own matcha tea in a Japanese mill before enjoying green, oolong, and black teas from utensils, pots, cups, trays, and other brewing ware made on that farm or enjoy a tea wine, very much like a tea honey mead at a farm where they grow tea as well as grapes. I've enjoyed tea in the College of Tropical Agricultural Human Resources (CTAHR) experimental fields at Waimea and in Puna and at the University of Hawaii Hilo Pharmacology Department research facility. One of my favorite spots is in a friend's garage with a tire supporting the piece of plywood that serves as a table overlooking a beautiful tea plantation.

I began my own journey into the tea world as I traveled in parts of the tea growing world. After moving to Hawai'i, I was convinced that our native rainforests could be preserved if tea could be planted as an understory crop on small family farms. When I served as a Hawaii County Councilmember, I helped tea growers who sought help to propagate plants and form a non-profit. After I retired from nursing and politics, a friend gave me a dozen good tea starts that immediately thrived. This increased my interest in growing tea. I bought a few more starts that also thrived and then helped one of our skilled propagators for a day making cuttings for our propagation program. A couple days later someone called and offered me cuttings. With propagation help from my wife and a visiting agronomist, suddenly I had cuttings

continued on page 4, column 2

As always, don't forget the hungry.

www.freerice.com

Play a free game and rice will be donated to those who need it!

FreeRice is a non-profit website run by the United Nations World Food Programme.

Have a good (or bad) food memory, recipe or restaurant? Write to us at: culturallspeaking@earthculturesproject.org and you may see it published.

WORLD ETHNIC MUSIC*by Nancy Pearlman**continued from page 1, column 2*

Powell is a multi-instrumentalist with roots in the sounds of his Appalachian heritage; he is Artistic Director for the Festival of American Fiddle Tunes and with his wife founded the Cajun group Balfa Toujours. Watson is a four-time Grammy-nominated fiddler, singer, accordionist, and songwriter specializing in Cajun, Creole, and Zydeco music. Grant Dermody also joined the group as a harmonica player but he is also a singer, songwriter, and teacher whose release "Lay Down My Burden" features 26 guest stars.

La Santa Cecilia — This Los Angeles-based band exemplifies the modern day creative hybrid; they creatively combine mariachi, rancheras, up-tempo South African rhythms like cumbia and bossa nova, bolero, tango, Afro-Cuban percussion and rock with jazz inflections. Members include La Marisoul (vocals & jarana); Gloria Estrada (guitar/guitarron); Miguel Ramirez (percussion/conga/tumba); Jose "Pepe" Carlos (accordions/requinto); Alex Bendana (bass); and Caitlin Moss (drums).

De Temps Antan — The dynamic trio of Eric Beaudry, Andre Brunet, and Pierre-Luc Dupuis performs time-honored melodies from the stomping grounds of Quebec's musical past. (In French, "de temps en temps" means from time to time while "antan" means yesteryear). Using the fiddle, accordion, harmonica, guitar, bouzouki, foot percussion, and much more, the three virtuosi blend boundless energy with joi de vivre and humor and create a vibrant sound that has you out of your seats stomping the rhythms with them. This fantastic French-Canadian group was superb even with borrowed instruments and boards (for stomping) because the airline lost their luggage. The show went on as though nothing had happened and the great music prevailed.

**TEA IN HAWAII***by Bob Jacobson,**continued from page 3, column 2*

that grew like wildfire. After clearing invasive weed species out of an acre and a half of native rainforest at my farm, I put 6,000 starts into the ground among the ohia trees and a little more than two years later I began to produce small amounts of white tea.

I produce a white tea because that is my favorite type of tea. I felt that trying to make one type of tea that pleases me and to learn about one type of tea was a manageable task. White tea is tasty and seems to offer ample health benefits in terms of antioxidant qualities as well as a quality mix of caffeine and theanine. I produce two types of white tea, one that conforms more to the definition of white tea as

the youngest most immature buds and leaves and another that corresponds to the definition of the least oxidized tea. The second has a higher antioxidant level because it includes the top five leaves that remain tender during the flush. Recent research done in Hawai'i has revealed that the lower leaves have vastly higher concentrations of antioxidants. Because of the high rainfall, warm temperatures and forest cover in my native rainforest under-story plantings, I can harvest the lower leaves without the astringency and toughness encountered in older leave grown elsewhere in full sun.

The factors that make Hawai'i Teas unique include: the multitude of micro climates in our islands, different soils, elevations, variety of cultivars, hard work, creativity and knowledge of our growers and processors, microbe inhabiting the soils, and that special something that makes all of our agricultural products renowned across the world. Teas produced in Hawai'i are now well regarded as a specialty tea among internationally-recognized tea tasters.

Most recently the CTAHR helped the Hawai'i Tea Society (HTS) propagate plants for farmers from plants already found in Hawaii brought by immigrants and some other varietals that were introduced from both China and Japan. I have six varietals of camellia sinesis or camellia assamica on my farm. Most seem to enjoy the climate at my farm. Some tea is growing on each of the major islands and there are now established farms on Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai. Some of our growers have relied on seeds for their plantings. HGS is focused solely on camellia sinensis teas. The native Hawaiians did not cultivate camellia sinensis but had other infusions such as mamaki and other herbal and medicinal plants associated with Polynesian culture. The tea industry in Hawaii is in its infancy but it is vital and growing. I'm proud and excited to be part of this very healthy movement.

**Bob Jacobson****www.hawaiiiteasociety.org****P. O. Box 900, Kurtistown, Hawai'i 96750****(808) 966-8831****jacobs@hawaiianisp.com**

UPCOMING EVENTS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

John Bilezikjian is "America's Oud Virtuoso." Mr. Bilezikjian may be the most prominent Oudist of his generation. He is a master Oudist who has elevated this instrument to the concert stage as well as continues to perform as a folk musician. He has performed for some 51 years on this ancient eleven stringed Persian fretless instrument dating back some 2,000 years. The Oud is performed with an eagle's quill.



JOHN AND HELEN BILEZIKJIAN IN CONCERT

Saturday, November 10, 2012 at 7:30 pm

Doors open at 7pm • \$12 per person

Folk Music Center

220 Yale, Claremont, CA 91711

(909) 624-2928

CDs available for purchase at concert

<http://dantzrecords.com>

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General Admission \$10

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Student/Senior \$5

TICKETS AND INFORMATION: (855) 575-0005

www.vtopera.org

GYPSY FOLK ENSEMBLE



The Gypsy Folk Ensemble is a world dance performing company based in Los Angeles, California which was formed in 1978 to preserve, perform and teach traditional folk dances from countries around the world. See website for workshops and assemblies available.

www.gypsyfolkensemble.com

ANITA AND THE YANKS



Anita and the Yanks broke into the Celtic rock music scene in 2008 and have built an impressive fan base in and around the Los Angeles area. Lead singer, guitarist Anita Mansfield and Bryan Dobbs mandolin player started out as a duo and they picked up Ryan Dean (drums) Damon Stout (bass) and Pat D'Arcy (uilleann pipes) along the way, featuring special guests Rachel Grace and Chris Loken on violin.

GALLAGHER'S PUB & GRILL (trio)

Sun, Nov 11, Sun, Dec 9 3 - 6 PM

300 Pacific Coast Hwy

Huntington Beach, CA 92648

BRIXTON (SOUTH BAY)

Fri, Nov 16 8:00 PM - 1:30 AM

100 Fishermans Wharf, Suite J

Redondo Beach, CA

FINN MC COOL'S IRISH PUB (duo)

Tue, Nov 27 9 PM - 11:55 PM

2702 Main St,

Santa Monica, CA 90405

IRELAND'S 32

Fri, Nov 30 9:30 PM - 1:30 AM

13721 Burbank Blvd

Van Nuys, CA 91401

www.anitaandtheyanks.com

Always check with venues to confirm dates, times, and locations.

IS IT FOLKSY TO BE SQUARE?

by Preston Ashbourne

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take classes to learn. The highest levels of square dancers know about 1000 calls used by the Caller of a square dance. Music may be live or recorded and use both traditional and popular tunes. And the supposedly Cowboy look? That's a product of the 1940's and 50's. Square dancing used to be done in suits and nice dresses! Ergo, square dancing is social dancing (like folk and ballroom) but doesn't meet all the criteria for a folk status. It ain't folksy!

(Want to argue? Contact the editor - see email address at end of this newsletter - with your opinion on this!)



The 13th Annual NATIVE AMERICAN ARTS AND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL Nov 1, 2, 3, 4 2012

South Point Hotel and Casino
Las Vegas, Nevada.

Starts at 5:30pm Thursday, Nov 1 with a red carpet vip welcome and reception, with Hollywood and Las Vegas celebrities, politicians, and Native Americans dressed in full regalia walking the red carpet (as well as the public, with purchase of ticket). Live entertainment, award ceremony, silent auction, food, vendors, and of course a world premiere film immediately following the vip reception, with vendors, food, live entertainment, and films from 10 am to 10 pm for the following 3 days. Fun for the entire family.

For more information write to :
randalmassaro@gmail.com

MORE UPCOMING EVENTS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC

100 Aquarium Way, Long Beach, CA 90802

Info/Tickets: 562-590-3100 or www.aquariumofpacific.org

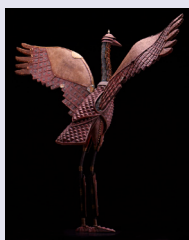
General Admission--\$24.95 adult (12+), \$21.95, senior (62+), \$13.95 child (3-11), free for children under age 3 and Aquarium members.

Saturday & Sunday, November 3-4, 2012

AUTUMN FESTIVAL

9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Delve into the arts, cuisines, cultures, and marine environments of Asia during the Aquarium of the Pacific's eleventh annual Autumn Festival. The Autumn Festival highlights the traditions and cultures of Japan, China, Korea, and the Philippines through a weekend of learning opportunities and family entertainment celebrating the rich diversity of Asian and Asian American cultures. The festival will feature traditional crafts, music, dance, demonstrations, cultural arts exhibits, ethnic cuisine, storytelling, and much more. Move to the sounds of taiko drumming, watch dancers, acrobats, and martial arts demonstrations. Try your hand at origami, and purchase hand-made crafts.

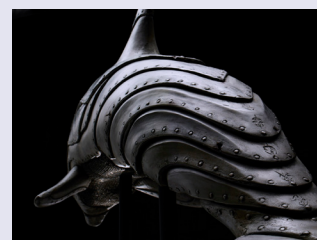


Red Crowned Crane

THE MESSAGE IS SIMPLE:

THEY CAN'T PROTECT THEMSELVES

photos by Matt Cobleigh



Bottlenose Dolphin

From September 15 to November 15, the Aquarium of the Pacific is hosting the Surfrider Foundation's inaugural Ocean Armor art exhibit to educate visitors and raise awareness about coastal issues affecting the world's coastlines. The Surfrider Foundation, in conjunction with Saatchi & Saatchi LA, worked with artists Bruce McCloskey, Greg Aronowitz and Paul Rice to create a collection of life-sized ocean - Ocellaris Clownfish, Common Bottlenose Dolphin, Alaskan Sea Otter and the Red-Crowned Crane - meant to inspire viewers and preserve the ocean and the creatures that call it home.

Sunday, November 4, 2012 at 7 PM

The Museum of Making Music presents the Global Spotlight Concert Series featuring instrument innovator and internationally renowned slide guitarist

PANDIT DEBASHISH BHATTACHARYA.

Guitar maestro Pandit Debashish Bhattacharya is one of the world's phenomenons who created a unique Trinity of Slide Guitars. Each takes the slide guitar to new heights of sublimity. First of his invention is the Chaturangui, a 24-string hollow neck guitar, followed by the 14-string Gandharvi, which holds the longest glissando and the Anandi, a 4-string slide Ukulele, played at the end of a performance. All three combine aspects of the western guitar with elements of traditional Indian instrument

Museum of Making Music, 5790 Armada Drive, Carlsbad, CA 92008

www.museumofmakingmusic.org

61st ANNUAL KOLO FESTIVAL - SAN FRANCISCO - NOVEMBER 23-24 - WELLNESS CTR, SF CITY COLLEGE

Dance classes by Jelko Jergan, John Filcich, Jerry Duke - Advance registration - <http://balkantunes.org/kolofestival>

Always check with venues to confirm dates, times, and locations.

MORE UPCOMING EVENTS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

GOOD ENOUGH TO EAT: THE FUSION OF FOOD AND CRAFT

An Exhibition in Three Servings

The Craft in America Study Center at **8415 West Third Street** proudly inaugurates a three-part series of exhibitions focusing on the intersection of contemporary craft and food.

Food as impetus for craft: November 17, 2012- January 19, 2013

Food as subject for craft: February 2, 2013 - April 6, 2013

Food as medium for craft: April 20, 2013 - June 22, 2013

Food was a motivational font for craft from its earliest origins. Objects have facilitated and elevated the act of cooking and consumption throughout history, from woven baskets to clay storage jars, blown glass vessels and metal utensils. A lecture and workshop schedule is forthcoming: Laura Wood, "Love-Hunger," Katherine Gray, "Decanter Tower," Kristin duCharme, "Figure" in chocolate

Craft in America is a Los Angeles-based non-profit organization dedicated to promoting and advancing original handcrafted work, through educational programs in all media, accessible to all.

The Study Center is open Thursday - Saturday from 12:00 - 6:00 pm. For more information: info@craftinamerica.org or (323) 951-0610. Contact: Emily Zaidenm (323) 951-0610m emilyzaiden@craftinamerica.org

Donna Sternberg & Dancers

BEAUTY AND DESIRE dives into the topic of beauty, with personal stories and poetry intermixed with scientific evidence that suggests common standards of beauty transcend cultures. An informal discussion of how scientific theories of beauty and desire were used to inform and inspire the choreography will accompany the performance. If you've ever wondered how dances are made this is your chance to engage in conversation with Donna and the dancers as they talk about their craft. Join us on Saturday, November 10 at 8:30 P.M. Brasil Brasil Cultural Center, at 11928 Washington Blvd., Los Angeles.

310-260-1198

www.dsdancers.com
dsdancers@earthlink.net

GOOD FOOD FESTIVAL & CONFERENCE

Saturday November 3, 2012

LACMA, Bing Theater,

5905 Wilshire Blvd, LA, Ca. 90036

<http://2012goodfoodla.eventbrite.com/>

Tickets - \$45 (includes museum admss.)

\$35 for LACMA members,

seniors 65+ and students with ID

www.goodfoodfestivals.com/LA

GREEN ART LIVE!

launching the

GREEN ART MOVEMENT

with artist Cassandra Tondro

Sunday, November 11, 2012

1-4pm

Live painting from 1:30-3pm

Raffle drawing for the
demonstration paintings at 3:30pm
Proceeds from raffle benefit YWCA

Santa Monica YWCA gym

2019 14th Street

Santa Monica, CA 90405

310.452.3881

Parking available in YWCA lot —
entrance on 14th Street, and also on
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Eleve Ballet Academy

www.eleveballet.com/instructors.html



ASSIEH "LA MORA"

Born and raised in Iran, Assieh started her Flamenco dance training in LA and later in Madrid, Spain at Amor de Dios Flamenco Dance Academy with master teachers like La Tati, Ciro, Carmela Greco, La Truco, Manolete and in Sevilla at Manolo Marin Dance Academy. She has also studied under private training of Angelita Vargas and Pepa Montes. She teaches at Gypsy Camp in LA. Call for class schedule: (310) 558-0746.

DANCE MOVEMENT WORKSHOP

with Olivia Regalado

Wednesdays until Dec 12 - \$20/class

10-11:30am at Gypsy Camp in LA

(310) 482-7251

olivia.regalado@rocketmail.com

METHODOLOGY GIRARD ACTING STUDIOS

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Hollywood & Palm Springs

YIDDISH DANCE CLASS

at Workmen's Circle

Thursdays 7-9:30pm

Oct 18th—Dec 6th,

(no class Nov 22) Cost: \$180

renowned Yiddish dance master

Bruce Bierman

December 6th, will be a special
Chanukah Freylekh with latkes, vodka
and klezmer dance. All levels welcome.

www.circlesocal.org

1525 S. Robertson Blvd. LA

Always check with venues to confirm dates, times, and locations.

WORTH WATCHING ON YOUTUBE

FLASH MOBS

Amsterdam

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XAXAs03xsI8&feature=related>

Madrid

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iop2b3oq100>

Russia

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gc4xbmFpDRA>

MUSIC NEWS

The very first performances anywhere in the world of **S. POLONSKI'S COMPLETE SET OF SONGS** by forces organized by the Arbeter Ring (Workmen's Circle) in Los Angeles (2008) and Tucson (2009), drew a wildly enthusiastic and appreciative response, given that only one song in this collection, "A krenetse/A Well," ever became widely known in the West.

The Songbook we uncovered for these performances is a rare item few scholars even knew about. Your contribution to The Sholem Educational Institute, Inc., a nonprofit 501c3 corporation (Federal Tax ID Number 95-2112000), is tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

Donations of any size are welcome. The faster we raise our production budget, the sooner we can get on to producing the CD. All contributions of \$54 or more (Triple Khay) will be acknowledged in print in the accompanying CD booklet (unless you wish to remain anonymous).

Please make checks payable to (and be sure to mention "Polonski Project"):

**Sholem Educational Institute, Inc.
P. O. Box 4508
Culver City, CA 90231**

CALLING ALL CALIFORNIA STUDENTS!

You are invited to enter the
California Coastal Art & Poetry Contest!

Let our coast and ocean inspire you!

Win great prizes! Have your work featured online and exhibited throughout California!

The California Coastal Commission invites California students in kindergarten through 12th grade to submit artwork or poetry with a California coastal or marine theme to the annual Coastal Art & Poetry Contest. Up to ten winners will be selected to win \$100 gift certificates to an art supply or book store, and each winner's sponsoring teacher will receive a \$50 gift certificate for educational supplies, courtesy of Acorn Naturalists. All winners and honorable mentions will receive tickets for their families to visit the Aquarium of the Pacific, courtesy of the Aquarium. Students may have their work featured on Commission web pages and materials, and winning entries will be exhibited throughout the state.

Entries must be postmarked by January 31, 2013 to be eligible for the upcoming contest. For rules and entry form (and helpful links for teachers and students), visit our website, email coast4u@coastal.ca.gov, or call (800) Coast-4U. You can also download a contest flyer.

The 2012 contest is currently on exhibit at Crystal Cove State Park cottage #46. Visit it there until the end of December, when it travels to its next location at Channel Islands National Park Visitor Center in Ventura Harbor.

Visit the California Coastal
Commission's Public Education
Program on the web at:
www.coastforyou.org

**California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont St
San Francisco, California 94105**

LITERARY & POETRY NEWS

"HEALTHY AND SUSTAINABLE SCHOOL FOOD" JOURNALISM AWARDS

WASHINGTON – Earth Day Network has joined forces with author and food activist Michael Pollan, the UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism, and Alice Waters' Edible Schoolyard Project to launch the first annual Healthy and Sustainable School Food Journalism Awards. Aimed at high school students ages 13 to 18, the competition seeks to bring the hard facts about school food to entire school communities and mobilize a healthy school movement across the nation. Submissions must be received by February 28, 2013. Finalists will be selected by March 31, 2013. Winners will be announced on or around Earth Day, April 22, 2013. To learn more about the Healthy and Sustainable School Food Journalism Awards, go to www.earthday.org/journalismaward.

FIFTH ANNUAL PETS ADD LIFE CHILDREN'S POETRY CONTEST SEPT. 1 - JAN. 31

American Pet Products Association (APPA) encourages students grades 3rd-8th to submit creative poems for a shot at scholarship dollars and other pet prizes.

(Greenwich, CT) – Bob Vetere, APPA President, is pleased to announce that beginning September 1, 2012 the organization will be accepting submissions for its 5th Annual Pets Add Life Children's Poetry Contest. Students are encouraged to write unique poems about the joys and benefits of owning pets for a chance at top prizes. One student from each grade level (6 total) nationwide will win a \$250 gift certificate for pet products, and a "by-line" in a nationally circulated publication. In addition, the six winning students' classrooms will each win a \$1,000 scholarship to spend on pet-related education or to support a pet in their classroom.

To learn more about the Pets Add Life Children's Poetry Contest, read previous winning poems, upload your submission, or download a printed submission form, please visit www.petsaddlife.org or contact Brooke Gersich at The Impetus Agency, 775.322.4022 or Brooke@theimpetusagency.com

November is . . .

International Drum Month

Native American Heritage Month: <http://nativeamericanheritagemonth.gov/>

WEBSITES AND RESOURCES OF INTEREST

MUSEUMS

The Autry National Center
www.theautry.org

Bowers Museum
www.bowers.org

Craft & Folk Art Museum
www.cafam.org

The Getty
www.getty.edu

Metropolitan Museum of Art
(search the database for works of art, costumes & more)
www.metmuseum.org/works_of_art/

Museum of Latin American Art
www.molaa.org

Museum of Making Music
www.museumofmakingmusic.org

Museum of Tolerance
www.museumoftolerance.com

Pacific Asia Museum
www.pacificasiamuseum.org

ONGOING ACTIVITIES IN THE LOS ANGELES AREA

Current Cultural Happenings Around Los Angeles by Fran P.
groups.yahoo.com/group/caltechfolkdance

Olvera Street in Los Angeles
<http://olvera-street.com>

Folkworks (click on "calendar")
www.folkworks.org/

FOLK DANCE & FOLK MUSIC INFORMATION

Dick Oakes' Folk Dance Pages
www.phantomranch.net/folkdanc/folkdanc.htm

Folkways (ethnic music)
www.folkways.si.edu/index.aspx

ARC Music (ethnic music CDs)
www.arcmusic.co.uk

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

BYKI
 Free language software downloads
www.byki.com/

FREELANG
 Free bilingual dictionary downloads
www.freelang.net/

ARTS AND CULTURES

Smithsonian Magazine Arts & Cultures
www.smithsonianmag.com/arts-culture

Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage
www.folklife.si.edu/

BBC - Holidays Around the World and so much more!
www.bbc.co.uk/naturehumanplanetexplorer/events_and_festivals

Pulse of the Planet
www.pulseplanet.com

SOME CULTURAL CENTERS

Acadian Cultural Center
www.nps.gov/jela/new-acadian-cultural-center.htm

Croatian Cultural Center
www.croatianamericanweb.org/index.php

Hibulb Cultural Center
<http://www.hibulbculturalcenter.org/>

Ilanka Cultural Center
www.ilankacenter.org/

Indian Pueblo Cultural Center
www.indianpueblo.org/

Levantine Cultural Center
www.levantinecenter.org

Polynesian Cultural Center
<http://www.polynesia.com/>

Skirball Cultural Center
<http://www.skirball.org/>

West Virginia Division of Culture and History
www.wvculture.org/

FOR KIDS

Yahoo's site for kids to learn about the world's countries
www.kids.yahoo.com/reference/world-factbook

CHILDREN'S BOOKS BY DK PUBLISHING

www.us.dk.com

Complete Flags of the World
My World, My Story:
Life Stories from Teens from Around the World
Homes Around the World
Children Just Like Me
A Life Like Mine

CHILDREN'S MUSEUMS

<http://kidspacemuseum.org>
<http://www.bowers.org/kidseum.php/>

(These links are for reference only and are not necessarily endorsed by Educational Communications)

Support the Arts & Education!



DONATION & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



Your donation will help bring the arts back to education under the Earth Cultures Project, or help fund other projects of Educational Communications. Volunteers are always needed in the office. If you are interested in volunteering please call (310) 559-9160.

This is Culturally Speaking, the monthly electronic newsletter of the Earth Cultures Project, one of Educational Communications' many projects which focuses on cultures of our planet and "Education through the Arts." Educational Communications is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded in 1958, dedicated to improving the quality of life on this planet.. Volunteers and donations are always appreciated.

EARTH CULTURES PROJECT

www.earthculturesproject.org
 (310) 559-9160
 email:

info@earthculturesproject.org

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 351419
 Los Angeles, CA 90035-9119

Email regarding this newsletter or requests to be put on our mailing list for a free email subscription:
culturallyspeaking@earthculturesproject.org

Email regarding design or content, please write to designer/editor:
nickieh@earthculturesproject.org