



## DANCE AND DRAMA WORKSHOP LEADER & WORKSHOP INFORMATION

### DRAMA Workshop Leader

**Annie Millard** is a drama teacher at The New International School of Thailand. She's from New Zealand and has worked in theatre for about 20 years. She studied theatre at Victoria University to Masters Level. She also worked as a teacher in High Schools and a tutor at Victoria University. She's an actor, a published playwright and a director.

"I am passionate about everything to do with theatre and I believe that it supports us in so many other areas of our lives. While theatre is undoubtedly hard work, it must also be fun, for the actors, the crew and the audience."

#### Workshop: Suitcase Theatre

Theatre has many purposes; to challenge, to reveal, to touch, to change and, of course, to entertain. Suitcase Theatre is transportable theatre which relies on the actors more than the set, costume, external sound or lights, to set the mood and drive the story. It is devised theatre which is based on truths rather than pure imagination. Theatrical conventions are used to strengthen moments and draw the audience in. Over the course of the workshop we will explore the devising process and explore the use of conventions in theatre to tell stories and present issues and explode myths. This will culminate in a short piece of theatre devised in small groups and woven together as a whole. It will be fun and it will be active so bring your blacks, a large drinking bottle and a ton of energy.



### DANCE Workshop Leader

**Cyrus Parker-Jeannette**, Chair of the Department of Dance at California State University, Long Beach, combines years of experience as a professional dancer and choreographer with works spanning the spectrum from concert modern dance to musical theatre and jazz. Her work has been seen regionally and nationally. Professor Parker-Jeannette teaches Improvisation, Composition, Dance History, Dance in World Cultures, Choreography, Modern Dance Technique and Dance Pedagogy. She holds a MFA in Choreography from the University of California, Irvine.

As a dance historian, Cyrus is particularly interested in 20th Century dance in America. She is compiling oral histories of women who performed with modern dance pioneers Doris Humphrey, Charles Weidman, Helen Tamiris, Martha Graham and Katherine Dunham in the 1930's and 40's. Under the umbrella project Dialogue with Dancers, documentation includes an in-progress DVD, panel and conference presentations, a reconstruction of Hilda Hoppe's *Shadows of the Warsaw Ghetto* (1945), and a documentary film in collaboration with Allegra Fuller Snyder. The Library of Congress recently published an article on her research of early 20th Century ballet dancer and choreographer, Adolph Bolm. She has been a featured speaker at the Orange County Performing Arts Center, most recently in the 2007 Fall for Dance series, and moderating *Inside the Choreographers' Studio*, onstage interviews of internationally acclaimed choreographers such as John Neumeier, Charles Moulton and Annabelle Ochoa Lopez. She presents pre-performance talks including the National Ballet of China's production of Zhang Yimou's *Raise the Red Lantern*, Ballett Hamburg's *Death in Venice* and *Lady of the Camellias*, and Ballet Flamenco Jose Porcel.

She presents pedagogical workshops regularly and is the recipient of the 2003 California Dance Educator of the Year presented by the California Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (CAHPERD) and the 2004 Director's Award for Outstanding Contribution in Dance Education presented by California Dance and Movement.

Cyrus is honored to participate in this year's IASAS and looks forward to the exchange of artistic ideas.

#### Modern Dance for All

This session will be a dance technique class designed for all levels of dancers. The class will encourage each dancer to explore his/her own range and abilities. We will foster clarity of movement, work on sequence and balance, and inform the dance exercises and sequences with emotion to enhance artistry and performance. The session will be fun, demanding and will be a good workout as well.

#### Dance Improvisation Made Friendly

Stir up your creativity, deepen your knowledge of yourself as a dancer and find ways to express your creativity through improvisational activities that will enhance your problem solving skills and help you connect with other dancers. This session will be great for dancers of all levels.

#### Improvisation to Choreography

This session will provide dancers with an opportunity to explore movement from a variety of perspectives. After a few dance improvisation exercises, students will string together movements created in class to make a dance.