

NEWS RELEASE



UMass Amherst Fine Arts Center

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 27, 2007

WHAT: UMass FINE ARTS CENTER Center Series
The Limón Dance Company

WHEN: Friday, October 12, 8 pm

WHERE: Fine Arts Center Concert Hall
University of Massachusetts Amherst
Call 1-800-999-UMAS or 545-2511 for tickets or
go online to www.fineartscenter.com/tickets

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(Renowned Limón Dance Company features UMass Faculty Member in Concert at FAC)

Hailed as "one of the world's great dance companies," The Limón Dance Company is the keeper of one of the truly great American artistic legacies of the 20th century. For over sixty years, Limón's choreography has continued to bring a dramatic vision of dance to audiences around the world with a signature technique that underscores the body's natural rhythms of fall and recovery. The company's guest artists for this performance will be UMass dance faculty member Paul Dennis. The company will perform Friday October 12 at 8 pm in the Fine Arts Center Concert Hall. The audience is invited to come a half-hour early for a tour of the exhibition currently on view at the University Gallery. There will be a Talk-Back with the company immediately following the performance.

Founded in 1946 by Mexican-born dancer Jose Limón, the company receives praise world-wide for its lyricism, fluidity, innovation, technical mastery and expansive movement. For 25 years, as director and co-founder of the company with Doris Humphrey, Limón honed his technique and choreography. Limón's company has achieved international acclaim through tours and festival appearances that have taken the dancers around the globe: in 1950, they were the first American modern dance company to perform in Europe. Today the dancers are led by Carla Maxwell, who worked closely with Limón before taking over as Artistic Director in 1978.

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An alum of the Limón Company, Paul Dennis earned his BFA at The Juilliard School and his MFA with a certificate in Arts Management at Purchase College, SUNY. Paul has restaged seminal masterpieces of José Limón and Doris Humphrey most recently with director Carla Maxwell for The Company's '06 New York City Season and on students at various colleges. He has been a guest artist/faculty at Mount Holyoke College, Amherst College, Ridgefield Dance Conservatory and Trinity College and is the Guest Festival Director of The White Mountains Summer Dance Festival. Paul is on the faculty of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and The Five College Dance Department.

The Limón technique is divided among various physical extremes: fall and recovery, rebound, weight, suspension, succession, and isolation. These ideas can be illustrated in the way a dancer uses the floor as a place from which to rise, return to and then rise from again. There are many words and ideas that are immediately associated with the Limón technique, i.e. its humanism, its use of breath, musicality, lyricism, and its dramatic qualities; however, the overwhelming consensus is that through the movement is always demonstrated some physical expression of the human spirit.

Tickets are \$35, \$25, and \$15, Youth 17 and under are \$12 and Five College Students are \$15, \$10, and \$7. For tickets and information, call the Fine Arts Center Box office at 413-545-2511 or 1-800-999-UMAS, or go online to www.fineartscenter.com/centerseries. Global Gourmet, a prix fixe menu at the University Club, is available prior to this performance. Call the box office for menu and reservations. This performance was made possible by the National Endowment for the Arts American Masterpiece: Dance initiative, administered by the New England Foundation for the Arts. The performance is sponsored by El Planeta, WFCR, 88.5 FM and Bank of America

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