Choreocopia
A festival of food, song, and dance
418 Project, Santa Cruz, Sundays May 7 and May 14, 2017, 5:30 PM

Choreocopia, a festive dinner show brimming with food, dance, and song, will be presented two Sunday evenings, May 7 and 14, at 5:30 PM at the 418 Project in Santa Cruz. The performance features dances choreographed by Karl Schaffer and performed by dancers of MoveSpeakSpin, songs performed by the women’s vocal ensemble Zambra, and a full dinner prepared by India Joze master chef Jozseph Schulz, all blended together to create a feast for the senses!

Audience members will enjoy light, luscious internationally-inspired courses created by star Chef Jozseph paired in surprising ways with imaginative and humorous dance pieces. Zambra will draw from their global repertoire to provide accompanying songs on the seasonal themes of springtime, food, love and mothers (May 14 is Mother’s Day). The evening will culminate with a competition among three dancers that is a take-off on the TV cooking show, “Chopped.”

New dance works include
“Chopping Block,” a rhythmic kitchen quartet.
“Top This Too,” a vaudevillian duet with kitchen flair.
“Recital of the Quantum Dots,” a dance of patterns and light.
“Blacks and Whites,” about difference and symmetry.
“Whisked,” a choreographic competition that is a take-off on the TV series “Chopped.”

Celebrate with your mother! Tickets for either Sunday show will feature a Mother’s Day discount of $5 for your mom's ticket.

Because this is a custom dinner event, tickets must be purchased at least two days prior to the show.

MoveSpeakSpin dancers in the show are Jane Real, Saki, Lila Salhov, and Laurel Shastri. Guest artist Maria Basile, co-director of SjDANCEco will also perform. Other music compositions by Eathan Janney, Ray Lynch, and Victor Spiegel.

Zambra performers in the show are singers Janet Herman, Kathy Hopkins, Julie Horner, Susan Krivin, Kathleen Loveless, Laura Reeve, Jennie Siegmund, Kathryn Veditz, Ann Louise Wagner, with John Hopkins playing Guitar.

Date and time: Sunday, May 7 at 5:30 PM and Sunday, May 14 at 5:30 PM
Place: 418 Project, 418 Front St., Santa Cruz, CA
Tickets: choreocopia.brownpapertickets.com/
Price: $35 General; $30 Seniors, Moms, and children under 12; $30 each for groups of five or more, will be seated together. Ticket includes dinner prepared by Jozseph Schultz.
More info: http://www.movespeakspin.org/, 831-246-2112, karl_schaffer@yahoo.com, Facebook link

The concert is partially funded by a grant from the Arts Council Santa Cruz County.

Background and Bios

Karl Schaffer began dancing with Southern Danceworks in Birmingham, Alabama and has a Ph.D. in mathematics from UC Santa Cruz. His 2014 dance concert The Daughters of Hypatia celebrates women mathematicians throughout history, and his 2013 concert Mosaic deals with peace, justice, culture and conflict in Palestine, Israel, and the Middle East. He created A Pythagorean Trio at the Djerassi Resident Arts Project in 2015. He teaches mathematics at De Anza College, and dance on tour and as an independent artist.
MoveSpeakSpin and the Dr. Schaffer and Mr. Stern Dance Ensemble, co-founded by Karl Schaffer and Erik Stern, began in Santa Cruz, California in 1987 with the production 4-Footed Hamlet, a simultaneously spoken and danced version of Shakespeare’s work, and the company has been touring throughout North America since 1989. They have received dozens of grants, including six from the National Endowment for the Arts. Their concert Dr. Schaffer and Mr. Stern, Two Guys Dancing About Math, revealed the wonderful connections between mathematics and dance and was performed nationally over 500 times. In 1994 they created The Secret Life of Squares with puzzle-master and artist Scott Kim. They have performed at the Kennedy Center Imagination Celebration and are Teaching Artists with the Center’s Partners In Education Program, sharing their extensive work on how to connect mathematics and dance in the classroom. Recently they performed at the Gwacheon National Science Museum in Seoul, the National Museum of Mathematics in New York, the Univ. of Buffalo, the Wisconsin Science Festival, and TEDx Manhattan Beach, and have taught workshops on mathematics and dance throughout the United States.

Zambra is a small woman's vocal group that sings original arrangements of global music with a radiant harmonic blend. Based in Santa Cruz, Zambra has performed throughout the Monterey Bay Area and collaborated with Karl Schaffer and MoveSpeakSpin, National Public Radio “Math Guy” Keith Devlin, the Cór Áingli Irish Gaelic Christmas Choir, Shelley Phillips and Community Music School of Santa Cruz, and the Moroccan master musician Fattah Abbou. Zambra has two CDs, most recently Her Feet in the Sea, featuring songs in Hebrew, Ladino, and Yiddish. For Choreocopia they will be drawing on music from Scandinavian, Anglo-Celtic, Jewish, and American traditions. Zambra has a website at: www.zambra.org.

Joseph Schultz. The recipient of numerous local and regional awards, Joseph Schultz is a master chef and the owner of India Joze restaurant in Santa Cruz since 1972. He has taught culinary anthropology at UC Santa Cruz, culinary arts at Cabrillo College, and lectures widely on traditional and ethnic foods. Long before "ethnic cooking" was an industry buzzword, award-winning India Joze Restaurant unfolded the cuisines of Eurasia with its own special slant. Schultz developed cooking styles that met the need for speed and flexibility with fresh ingredients. From the lavish spiciness of ancient Rome to the pastries of Austria and France, from the aromatic splendors of regal Java, Bali and Thailand curries, to the fragrant lightness of Mediterranean cuisine, Joze has been a pioneer in high intensity world-ranging cooking. Everything in the restaurant is made from scratch, from drinks to relishes to desserts. India Joze hosted the original International Calamari Festival for seventeen years, as well as the Chickpea Festival and Mushroom Festival for nine and five years respective, and is famous for other special culinary events, including Persian New Year Celebration, Deem Sum food parades and classes in the many cuisines for which they are famous. See IndiaJoze.com.

Dancers in Choreocopia:
Jane Real has an MA in Dance and a MS in Elementary Education, been Rehearsal Director and performer with Bill T. Jones/ Arnie Zane and Co., Director of the Dance Network of Brooklyn, NY, and has recently performed with Tandy Beal and Company. She has performed with MoveSpeakSpin for six years.
Saki (uses first name only) has danced and taught with Dr. Schaffer and Mr. Stern Dance Ensemble, Tandy Beal and Company, Starstuff Productions Circus and Dance, Moving and Storage Dance Company, SoVoSo, SPECTRA, Pisces Moon Educational Theater, and Bandaloop. She has a BFA in Modern Dance from the University of Utah, has taught dance to all ages through the SPECTRA arts in the schools program, and coaches and teaches gymnastics. She has toured with, been rehearsal director and administrative assistant for, and taught math/dance with Dr. Schaffer and Mr. Stern and for MoveSpeakSpin for seventeen years. She has performed recently in Hawaii, Maine, New York, and Ohio with Dr. Schaffer and Mr. Stern, in Tennessee with Bandaloop, as well as starring in Tandy Beal’s Mixed Nutz.
Lila Salhov received her BFA in dance performance from The Boston Conservatory and danced with the Boston Baroque dance company and Windhover Dance Company. She has been on faculty at Ballet Hispanico, The Marymount School and The Chrystie Street Ballet in NYC and now performs and teaches in the Bay Area, especially with the Dancenter in Capitola. She has performed with MoveSpeakSpin for six years.
Laurel Shastri served 17 years at Ballet Tennessee in Chattanooga, as Associate Director, company dancer, and faculty. She has an MS in Geology, and is a teaching artist specializing in dance integrated curriculum based lessons. After moving to California recently she joined the roster of teaching artists for the SPECTRA arts in the schools program in Santa Cruz, and has performed with MoveSpeakSpin for three years.

Guest Artist Maria Basile, co-artistic director and co-founder of the premier San Jose contemporary dance company sjDANCEco, has also danced with Limon West, Spector Dance, MoveSpeakSpin, and many others. She has choreographed for Cabrillo Music Festival, San Jose Opera, and the Midsummer Mozart Festival, was a recent Isadora Duncan Award nominee for the best dance performance in the Bay Area, and won a Blessay Award for Performance and Acting. She teaches dance at San Jose State Univ. and De Anza College. See sjDANCEco.org.