

New York • New York • New York • New York

THE DANCE SCENE

It is no secret that dance has become the most "in" thing for cultivated people to be interested in during the past few years. There was a time not too long ago, however, when it was predictable who would be performing in New York City, since the same faces showed up everywhere. Not only is that not the case anymore, it would be impossible for one person to see everything that is going on.

First of all, dance events were numbered only by the handful in the course of a month up until about ten years ago, when the dance explosion began to mushroom and get out of hand. Now there is a veritable carload to choose from. Second, the number of people interested in dance used to be not only small, but almost everyone was concerned about and attended a broad spectrum of presentations. Only appearances by large ballet companies at places like the Metropolitan Opera House or performances by obscure ethnic groups drew upon substantively different populations at the box office. Nowadays, there is more of every sort of dance available during a typical week of the season than there was back then during a month or two, and their publics are widely different.

At this writing (in the middle of October), the season has just begun by the old reckoning. If I try to

plan what I will see during the week that runs from Tuesday, October 28th, to Sunday, November 2nd, there will be more than 18 different attractions to make a selection from. By the time April comes around, and all the furious activity of the winter months will be on display, it will be nearly impossible to even tabulate the number of events that can be chosen from.

To the best of my ability, I have attempted to assemble information on all the live professional performances I know of during that period. They will take place all over the city, in large theaters and small studios, uptown, downtown, in lofts and on Broadway. The only way to convey the wealth of this cornucopia is to list them and tell something about what might be expected.

The events are listed alphabetically by type, title, and initial day of performance during the week.

Also shown are the number of performances (in par-

entheses), the price of tickets, and where it is significant, what kind of performing space or series is involved. In the case of more than one attraction appearing in the same place, it is described at the first citation.

Ballet

The Joffrey Ballet. City Center (Broadway area). Tuesday through Sunday (8). \$ 22 to \$ 3. The popular company returns to New York City after a long absence in the first week of its four-week season. Featured are new works by company directors Robert Joffrey and Gerald Arpino, as well as those of others, plus important revivals.

Makarova and Company. Uris Theater (Broadway area). Tuesday through Sunday (8). \$ 30 to \$ 12. This is the final week of the debut season of a new all-star company whose repertoire, a mixture of old and new, centers around the abilities of the former Soviet ballerina, Natalia Makarova.

Washington Ballet, B.C.B.C. (Brooklyn College). Saturday, Sunday (2). \$ 7 and \$ 6. Two performances in its New York debut by a company that boasts of having as its resident choreographer Choo San Goh, who is considered to be among the most promising young talents in ballet. The-

re are two series in Brooklyn this season, in which small and large ballet companies from all over the United States are appearing, many for the first time in this city.

Dance-opera

The Shining House. Theater of the Open Eye (uptown, east side). Wednesday through Sunday (6). \$ 6 and \$ 5. In the refurbished community hall of a church, Jean Erdman, a respected choreographer and performer of many years' experience, is presenting an evening-length production that "exalts the loves and passions" of the Hawaiian volcano goddess, Pele.

Ethnic Dance

Limborá Slovak Folk Ensemble. Theater of the Riverside Church (uptown, west side). Thursday, Saturday, Sunday (3). \$ 4.50 to \$ 3. Over 20 dancers and musicians, wearing authentic costumes and playing authentic instruments, will interpret Slovakian culture. This group is New York based, as are most of the companies that appear in this important dance series that runs from October to June.

Modern Dance

Jim Self and Dancers. Dance Theater Workshop (downtown, west side).



New York • New York • New York • New York



Robert Yohn in his Pilgrimage.



Robert Yohn and Kristin Peterson in their jointly choreographed Point of Contact.



Muna Tseng as Hopoe, Spirit of the Lehua Grove (left), and Jean Erdman as Pele, volcano goddess, in the Shining House.



Denise Jackson of the Joffrey Ballet in Robert Joffrey's Postcards (Satie).

Tuesday (1). \$ 4. This is one of the most important places to view new dance in the city. A young choreographer, formerly with Merce Cunningham, is being seen as part of its Tuesday Project, with four performances being allowed him during the month.

Diane Gray. Theater of the Riverside Church. Wednesday, Friday, Sunday (3). A noted member of the Martha Graham Company, Diane Gray is presenting four of her own works for herself and a small company.

Abby Lappen and Jacqueline Mendl. Westbeth Theater Center (Greenwich Village). Wednesday, Thursday (2). \$ 4. Two young choreographers are sharing a program in a new series being given in a large space located in a building housing the "co-op" apartments and studios of all kinds of creative artists.

Martha Bowers. Dance Theater Workshop. Thursday through Sunday (4). The accent is on humor in this choreographer's dances. She is being presented as the sixth event in DTW's Fall Events series.

Edouard Lock and Dancers. The Kitchen (Soho). Thursday through Sunday (4). \$ 4 to \$ 2.50. One hour and a quarter is being given as only one of the many performance events at this self-proclaimed center of the avant garde.

The Solomons Company/Dance. Emanu-El Y (East Village). Thursday through Sunday (4). \$ 5. In the converted gymnasium of a YM&YWHA, a two-part program of trios features an ensemble of male and female dancers, all of whom are at least 6'4" tall.

Michael Sullivan. Downstairs, Theater of the Open Eye. Thursday through Sunday (4). \$ 5. The only information I received is that the work to be shown is called "Full Cincinatti," which is a misspelling of that city's name.

Two's Company. The Performing Garage (East Village). Thursday through Sunday (5). Two different programs are being given: a solo one by Laura Glenn on Friday evening and Saturday afternoon and one by her and Gary Lund on the other days the latter feat-

uring a duet by a former member of the popular Pilo-bolus company.

Robert Yohn and Dancers. Stuyvesant Adult Center (downtown, east side). Thursday (1). Free. A former member of the Erick Hawkins Dance Company is performing several dances from his repertoire, including a premiere, in a high-school auditorium as a service to the community.

Richard Morse Mime Theater. R.M. Mime Theater (Greenwich Village). Friday, Saturday, Sunday (6). \$ 7.50 to \$ 4. Three different programs, at 2:00 p.m. for children and for adults at 8:00 and midnight, are being given as part of a season that runs from early October through mid-January.

Keri Stewart and the Olive and Raisin Co. Westbeth Theatere Center. Friday through Sunday (3). \$ 4. The choreographer is originally from Scotland and will present a full-length work that combines ballet and modern dance.

Mary Spalding Dance Company. Merce Cunningham Studio (Greenwich Village). Saturday, Sunday (2). \$ 4. The studio of the fa-

mous choreographer, located in the Westbeth complex (see above), is used for dance presentations as well as for classes and rehearsals. This concert marks this company's first major New York engagement.

Nandances. 92nd St. Y (uptown, east side). Sunday (2). \$ 5 and \$ 4. Nancy Wanich is the choreographer of this program in the auditorium of the 92nd St. YM&YWHA, which, during the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s, was the home of some of the most exciting dance activity in New York City.

A total of 68 dance performances is six days, matinees and evenings, is almost too much to imagine. There is no other place in the world that can boast of activity of this kind in an art form that used to be considered frivolous by most people. The following week, the New York City Ballet is scheduled to open its season at Lincoln Center, and even more theaters and performing spaces will be occupied by dance attractions, making the total for that period even greater.

Several years ago, there