



REVOLUTIONARY! ISADORA DUNCAN

ABOUT THE COLLABORATORS



Cynthia Word, M.F.A. is the Artistic Director and Founder of Word Dance Theater. She received her B.S. in Special Education from the University of Texas/Austin. A scholarship to the Department Of Theater and Dance at The George Washington University brought Ms. Word to Washington D.C where she achieved her Master of Fine Arts. With Washington DC as her base, Ms. Word has created seven major evening length pieces exploring the weaving of theater, music, and dance. The most recent, *Preludes: Duncan, Sand & Chopin*, was premiered at prestigious Lansburgh Theater, Washington

D.C and named as “the most significant historical dance event of the season” by Sarah Kaufman of the Washington Post. In 2005, Word was nominated for a Dance MetroDC “Best Emerging Choreographer” Award for her original dance/theater piece entitled *States of Mind*. Ms. Word has performed as a soloist throughout the United States and internationally including Austria, England, Scotland, and Iran. Most recently she toured Greece as a featured dancer with the Isadora Duncan International Institute. In 2010 Word was awarded the prestigious Maria Theresa Duncan Award presented only once before by the Isadora Duncan International Institute.



Jeanne Bresciani, M.A., I.M.A, Ph.D., a former Kress and Fulbright scholar, is Artistic Director and Director of Education for the Isadora Duncan International Institute, and is recognized internationally as a solo performer, choreographer, educator and scholar of unparalleled authority in the Duncan oeuvre. Her lineage encompasses years of study and performance with Maria-Theresa Duncan, Kay Bardsley, Hortense Kooluris and Julia Levien of the Isadora Duncan lineage as well as childhood preparation with Anita Zahn of the Elizabeth Duncan School. Her performances as Duncan soloist include

Lincoln Center, The British Museum, United Nations General Assembly, and theaters, museums, festivals and archeological sites on four continents. Ms. Bresciani, the subject of articles in *Dance Magazine*, *Dancer Universe* and *Conscious Dancer*, directs three professional programs in Isadora Duncan Studies based among IDII's Hudson Valley home, Tempio di danza, Skidmore College and The Harkness Center of the 92nd St. Y in New York City, where she also directs the 'Isadora for Children' Performing Group, The 92Y Isadora Teen Ensemble and the IDII Dancers.

Stephen Jarrett, Director, includes nine production of New York directing credits, among them the first NYC revivals of Frank D. Gilroy's *Who'll Save the Ploughboy?* (Equity Library Theatre), Lawrence and Lee's *The Gang's All Here* (Riverwest Theatre), and *The Ballad of Baby Doe* (Bronx Opera). Other career highlights include twelve years of production stage managing in New York and elsewhere, managing a US Army theatre in Germany, and the running both Staging and Production for the annual Hispanic Heritage Awards at the Kennedy Center. Jarrett was the founding Director of Performing Arts at the BlackRock Center for the Arts in Germantown, Maryland. His most recent Washington D. C. directing assignment is American Century Theater's highly praised *Cops*, this past January.



Sarah Pleydell, Actress and scriptwriter, is a writer, actor, and teacher based in Washington D.C. She is on the Honors faculty at the University of Maryland and a founder of the Luce Institute for Arts Integration. She is an award winning writer of books for children and adults. Ms. Pleydell performed the one woman play by Sibble O'Sullivan- *THE BODY* – at the Clarice Smith Center for the Performing Arts. Her fiction was most recently published in *Electric Grace*, an anthology of Washington Women Writers.



Ingrid Zimmer is the Associate Director of Word Dance Theater. She received a B.A. in Dance/Theatre from Pomona College where she was trained in the Limon Technique. Upon graduating, she moved to Europe where she toured, performed and studied dance at the Folkwang Hochschule in Essen, Germany under the artistic direction of Pina Bausch. Ms. Zimmer has been dancing professionally, teaching and choreographing in the Washington, D.C. area for the last 14 years. She has danced with local companies Bowen McCauley Dance and Rincones and Company. Ms. Zimmer has performed in national and international venues including the Kennedy Center, Jacobs Pillow, Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris, France, and the Gran Festival Internacional de Danza Contemporanea in Monterey, Mexico. Ms. Zimmer is currently in the Certificate Program at the Isadora Duncan International Institute where she is learning Duncan's original choreography and pedagogical techniques.



WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT: REVOLUTIONARY! ISADORA DUNCAN

"The dances, -- skips, hops and runs -- were at their best in the hands of Cynthia Word, artistic director. She delivered the steps with the natural, unstudied grace Duncan was known for. She shined in "Ave Maria," a solo set to the Schubert score.... For most of the dance, her feet remained planted and the only movements were slow tilts of the head and deliberate, unhurried lifts and drops of the arms. To take such spare, minimal movement and imbue it with emotional intensity is a major triumph" *Sarah Halzack, The Washington Post, Dance Place, 6/2010*

"The climax of the play arrives when Duncan shares the story of discovering that her two small children have died. Here Playdell and the dancers are at their best. Describing the pain of such loss... Tears spilled down faces in the audience as Jeanne Bresciani took the stage to dance *Mother Etude* followed by the even more powerful dance, *Ave Maria*... And if for those moments alone, the show is worth seeing — where, like the company's name, word and dance become theater." *Kinsey Gidick, Charleston City Paper, Piccolo Spoleto, 5/2010*

"equally as innovative" as modern dance's "firebrand, Isadora Duncan" *Stephanie Kaye, NPR Arts Beat, 3/2010*

"*Revolutionary! Isadora Duncan* is a wonder to behold. From the excellent narrator who tells of her captivating spell on the world, to the three nymph-like dancers who exemplify her style of simple naturalism in movement *Revolutionary!* Is as close to seeing Ms. Duncan on stage as you're going to get...Seeing work of this caliber...is the ultimate Fringe experience. Go, dance, fly." *Debbie Jackson, DC Theater Scene, 7/2009*

"A production filled with bohemian ardor; militant ecstasy; fervent; lissome and informative; earnestly rendered, embodying Duncan's iconoclasm." *Celia Wren, The Washington Post, 7/2008*

"Elegant; masterful gestures; thoughtfully measured delivery; vibrant; the accomplishment of ever-elusive ideals in movement, gesture and the human form" *The Washington City Paper, 7/2008*

"the dancers show us that Duncan dancing is an endpoint in itself; staunch "Revolutionary Etude" with its muscular attack; churning, roiling turmoil unleashed in "Flames of the Heart"; steadfast timelessness in "Ave Maria" poignant and profound." *Lisa Traiger, DanceViewTimes 7/2008*

"The Dances of Isadora Duncan" provided a rare treat for Washington audiences: the chance to see live the work of one of the founders of modern dance. The works, mostly solos, were brilliantly performed by three experienced and knowledgeable Duncan-style dancers -- Cynthia Word, Valerie Durham and Ingrid Zimmer." *Barbara Allen, Washington Post, May 2008*

FURTHER INFORMATION: For additional information on opportunities to support Word/Dance/Theater, please contact Cynthia Word at 301.785.9970 or Cynthia@WordDance.org.

STAGING INFORMATION FOR **REVOLUTIONARY! ISADORA DUNCAN**

RUNNING TIME

Approximately 1 hour with no intermission

PLAYERS

- 1 actress as Isadora Duncan
- 3 dancers OR 1 dancer in 11 original dances of Isadora Duncan (solos, duets, trios)
- 1 stage manager

REQUIREMENTS

- Performance space: minimum 25 ft. wide X 20 ft. deep
- Marley, linoleum/vinyl or wood floors
- Basic lighting plot with side lights
- Basic sound system
- Body Microphone depending on size of house
- Call for a more complete list of technical requirements
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FEES

	Package Description	Fee Range
Production Performance	2 Shows in its entirety	Upon Request
Residency Activities	Master classes, Community workshops, Lectures and Demonstrations for schools Plus Production Performance	Upon Request
Multi-Production Package	Revolutionary: Isadora Duncan and Preludes: Duncan, Sand & Chopin may be presented as a package.	Upon Request

BOOKING INFORMATION

Cynthia Word

4838 Hampden Lane #405

Bethesda, MD 20814

Cynthia@WordDance.org

301.785.9970

WORD DANCE THEATER
has performed
Revolutionary! Isadora Duncan
at the following venues:

2008

Forum of the Shakespeare Theatre's Harman Center for the Arts

In conjunction with the Capital Fringe Festival, Washington D. C.

July 10, 12, 13, 20 (SOLD OUT), 24 (SOLD OUT), and 26 (SOLD OUT)

*****The best-selling event of the Festival***

2009

The Mountain Theater

In conjunction with the Capital Fringe Festival, Washington D.C.

July 9, 10, 12, 15, and 25

2010

The Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, University of Maryland

Presented by the Take Five Series

March 31 (SOLD OUT)

The Circle Theater

Presented by **PICCOLO SPOLETO, Charleston, S.C.**

June 1, 2 (2PM SOLD OUT and 8PM SOLD OUT),

June 3 (2 PM SOLD OUT and 6PM), and 4

Dance Place

Presented by Dance Place, Washington, D.C.

June 26-27