2003 Mosaïc Dance Theater Company

2020 Annual Report

Mourn

2020 has dealt all of us personal loss since the coronavirus pandemic took hold of the year and destroyed the normal way of life we all took for granted. For Mosaic Dance Theater Company, the loss came in the form of immediate cancellation of every activity on the calendar. It’s difficult not to lose heart and hope when faced with nothing. However, as much as it was over-used within the performing arts industry, the word “pivot” perfectly described the action necessary to move forward, an action accomplished through four steps: mourn, process, create, and thank. And to everyone who was there for Mosaic, thank you — we could not have continued without your help and support.

I give you Mosaic 2020.

Best regards,

Morgiana Celeste Varricchio
Producing Artistic Director

Mosaic Dance Theater Company is dedicated to developing and presenting original dance, theater and educational programs celebrating the rich diversity of cultures and folkloric traditions of the Mediterranean region of North Africa, the Middle East, and Southern Europe.

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On March 12, 2020, we decided to cancel our big event that had been scheduled for March 20, 21, and 22. Linked by Tradition, was to be a celebration of dance from India, Spain, and the Near East, with two guest artists and their companies joining us in presenting master classes for New Jersey high school dancers, community dance workshops, and a stage concert. Rescheduling the series was completely dependant upon the venue, and the possibility of that happening was getting dimmer and dimmer as the number of COVID cases and tragic deaths were growing.

A light began to shine when the various dance and performing arts’ organizations to which MDTC belongs immediately began offering weekly Zoom calls sharing tech tips on how to re-position in a virtual arena. You had to “listen and learn” before you could “pivot.” And we did. We had a plan to re-think Linked by Tradition, and everyone was on board.

The light grew brighter with news that we were selected to participate in the Making Moves Dance Festival in Jamaica, Queens. As the festival moved from an outdoor to a completely virtual platform, our production plans expanded, and we were on our way to a busy summer of preparation.

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And so we did! We were ecstatic to announce our fall season, which included the two programs that featured “dancing during the time of COVID-19,” and a brand new production, *Mosaic: A World in Motion*, a monthly mini-documentary series specially created for this new virtual theater space. Here is a look at our endeavors.

**Beyond the Image Suite** for the Jamaica Center for Arts and Learning’s Making Moves Dance Festival opened the season in September. A warm Labor Day weekend on the asphalt - lights, camera, dance!

![Setting the stage](Image)

*(Click on image to watch the video)*

**Linked by Tradition** “Zoomed” us everywhere — from virtual classrooms and backyard stages, to living rooms all over the world.

![Linked by Tradition](Image)

Master Class with Samara for high school dancers

**World in Motion** took MDTC (and our online audiences from all over) around the Mediterranean as we began the series in September, and are continuing throughout 2021.

![World in Motion](Image)

**Mosaic: A World in Motion**

*Fall 2020 programming*

- [Ayoub Kaflah - our performance for December](Image)
  *(Click on image to watch the video)*

- [Juntos - finale for Linked by Tradition](Image)
  *(Click on image to watch the video)*
How could we have made it through 2020, and kept going into 2021 without the generosity and support of our donors? We gratefully acknowledge the individuals and organizations who have championed Mosaic Dance Theater Company’s mission and artistic vision through their generous financial contributions. We thank you again -- and again.

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