

Features

Concert benefits Manna Food Bank Local bands with eclectic style

Rebecca Travers
Staff Writer

UNCA introduces its first-ever faculty, staff and student oriented dance performance, Food For Thought, Nov. 10 at 8 p.m. in Lipinsky Auditorium.

This show is a combination of art and charity. UNCA members and Warren Wilson students will perform an array of dance pieces for the Manna Food Bank.

You can buy yourself a seat with three canned goods, or \$5. All proceeds will go to Manna Food Bank. Manna will then distribute the donations to day-care centers, after school programs, institutions and families.

Food For Thought is a combination of various efforts and intentions.

Friday's performance will be an example of "dancers coming together, sharing their gifts with audience members, while benefiting the community," said Connie Schrader, a UNCA health and fitness lecturer, as well as the coordinator of Food For Thought and UNCA's future dance program.

The project was first thought of last spring, but Schrader was wary of the idea at first.

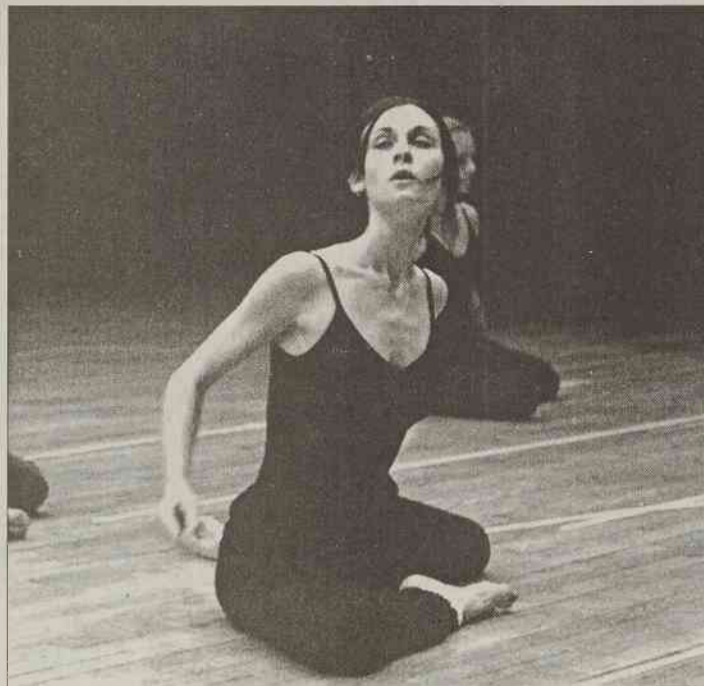


PHOTO BY WALTER FLYER

Dancers from UNCA and Warren-Wilson will participate in the benefit concert

"I have always avoided the idea of getting a concert/dance company together, mostly because in every other venue, I have seen that be a nasty, political favoritism kind of thing," said Schrader.

As UNCA students began showing heightened interest in dance, a result of limited exposure to the

medium from other academic classes, the idea of a dance concert as well as a dance program developed.

The purpose of both the Food For Thought concert and the upcoming UNCA dance program is to provide a genuine outlet for those interested in dance.

Schrader aims to stray from the

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John Locke
Staff Writer

Three local bands performed at the Asheville Music Zone on Nov. 2, along with a band from Greenville, NC.

In all, I was impressed by the local bands. Asheville seems to get an undeserved reputation as a musical monoculture, where banjos are king and drum circles are omnipresent. The variety of genres juxtaposed and the innovative instrumentation and effects used by several of the bands seemed to point to a resurgence of local music of all conceivable types.

Opening up was The Heist, a local band featuring several UNCA students. The Heist played a sort of robotic music that, according to one observer, made Radiohead's most recent release sound "fuzzy and personable."

The Heist was also reminiscent of Timinaction, a local band of regional repute who sounds like a version of Mr. Bungle's "Disco Volante" album.

Clearly in the avant-garde of the electronic genre, The Heist's vocals were virtually inaudible, although that might have been by design.

Another Asheville band, the Makeout Room performed a piquant potpourri of abrasively melodic post-rock that ran the gamut

from Emerson Lake and Palmer to the Dictators to The Velvet Roadkill.

The Makeout Room featured cameo appearances by a violinist and somebody in an executioner's mask, introduced as "The Carnomancer," who played the "prepared glockenspiel." This instrument appeared to be merely an amplified glockenspiel played with various types of meat, including chicken, alligator, and "long pig."

The glockenspiel, by the way, is a German percussion instrument similar to the xylophone. It is used in both religious and secular settings, and a version is often used in military bands.

Piedmont Charisma played next, featuring the unique vocal stylings of Charles Corriher, described by one onlooker as "the love child of David Byrne and Wesley Willis." Their guitarist played with a screwdriver at one point, which was a good thing. The art of doing unfortunate things to a guitar is an eternal one, resistant to trends and to good sense. They also had a keyboard player, playing a Casio, which contributed to the overall girth of their sound.

The Death Heart closed the show. They were, unfortunately, anticlimactic. The bass player sounded good, with a sort of flat-wound-string sound. In general, they had excellent equipment, which I would

like them to give me immediately. Or, if not to me, then to anyone who has something else to do with it other than create easy-listening indie rock.

They had a sound that made me think initially that each of their songs was a cover. Not a cover of anything in particular, instead, they just all sounded like something I had heard quite a few times before.

The Death Heart was extraordinarily bland, featuring the usual mumbly characteristic of this sort of band. Perhaps they might be better on album. By the time they played, most people had left, or were sitting around twiddling their thumbs. This may have been some manifestation of the inexplicable "look how much fun I am not having" attitude some people affect when they are secretly enjoying themselves, but want to look cool.

Although conspicuously casual glances at one's watch may just be a prerequisite to the jaded hepster image, The Death Heart were clearly not exempt from blame. They had this sort of low-key, self-effacing quality, which, coupled with their blandness, made them sound like they were playing somewhere down the street instead of right behind me. The only memorable thing about them, really, was how forgettable they were.

The Asheville Music Zone is a fairly new venue which has already hosted an eclectic variety of music, from Elliott Smith to Leon Redbone.

Review

Preview

Rabi Maharaj, a former Hindu Yogi will present "Encounters with the Supernatural" on Nov. 13 and "Krishna, Buddha, Muhammed or Christ?" on Nov. 14. Both lectures will be held in Lipinsky Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. A free lunch in the Laurel Forum followed by a question-and-answer session will be held on Nov. 14 at 12 p.m. The events are sponsored by Illumination and the Veritas Forum.



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Graduate School Day!

Tuesday, November 14
2 to 5 pm

Highsmith Lounge

- 2 to 3 pm, **Old PDR**: Hear from a panel of UNCA faculty and staff and get advice on applying to graduate school!
- 3 to 5 pm, **Highsmith Lounge**: Meet with a variety of graduate and professional programs!

Refreshments will be provided!