

ARTS AND FEATURES

Latin Americans dance 'to get away from it all'

By Josh Boyer
Staff Writer

When you think of dancing, what comes to mind? Ballroom? Paula Abdul? For some UNC students it's any of the millions of strange dances done on Saturday nights at the Cat's Cradle. But Latin Americans are more likely to think of the rhythms of salsa, merengue, cumbia and lambada.

"(Latin American) parties aren't like American parties. Here people drink, and nobody dances," said Donna Vanderdijks, a member of the Carolina Hispanic Association. Vanderdijks is a sophomore journalism major from Curacao, a Caribbean island near Venezuela.

Nick Marin, a Nicaraguan and another member of CHISPA, agreed. Marin pointed out that in Latin American countries teens legally can drink. "It's not an issue."

"(Dancing) is a way to get away from it all," Marin said. "Whether things are good or bad, there is always going to be dancing."

Three of the most popular dances are the salsa, merengue and cumbia. Like

nearly all popular Latin American dances, they have African roots. Marin described them as street dances, saying that they would be the dances seen in clubs today.

"All the dances have something in common," Vanderdijks said.

Gigi Bonofacio, a sophomore medical technology major who is also in CHISPA, said, "You dance closer and hold each other."

Bonofacio, Marin and Vanderdijks said the American style of dancing on one's own with separate moves is very different from Latin American dancing.

Another aspect common to the dances is a strong rhythm. "Latin American music is defined by rhythm," said history professor John Chasteen. "We (in the United States) don't have an equivalent."

Rock and roll, for example, doesn't have one basic rhythm, he said.

Salsa is a Caribbean dance associated with Puerto Rico and Cuba, Chasteen said. "Some say it was invented in New York by Puerto Ricans."

He said the dance had a "subtle and complex rhythm" and involved compli-

cated footwork and turns. "It looks like the dancers are gliding around the floor with skates."

Merengue, a Caribbean dance from the Dominican Republic, has become internationally popular. "Merengue has a fast choppy beat," Chasteen said. Dancers move their legs alternately, and their hips move up and down on opposite sides.

A popular dance in Mexico is the cumbia. This dance involves a swaying motion of the hips. Although cumbia is originally Colombian, Chasteen said, "Mexicans think of it as being a Mexican dance."

Yadira Hurley, CHISPA co-president, said: "Cumbia is slower than salsa and merengue. It's the easiest to learn. It has a steady one-two-three beat."

And, of course, a Brazilian dance with which Americans are familiar is the lambada. The lambada is famous for its close body contact and fast rhythm, but Marin said it's not as scandalous as its reputation.

"People have the wrong idea about lambada," he said.

A dance that can be done without a partner is the samba. In this Brazilian dance, people dance solo or form chains. Samba song writer Martin Da Vila puts it this way:

"In other rhythms you can only do one kind of dance. But not in samba. It's much freer. You can dance samba your own way."

In contrast to the popular African dances are the more traditional colonial and Indian dances. "(These) vary from

state to state and from country to country," said Hurley.

Chasteen said these have never become popular outside the region like salsa or merengue.

Samba, along with the mambo and cha-cha, were popular with people in the United States around the time of World War II, Chasteen said. This occurred in conjunction with the United States' good-neighbor foreign policy toward Latin America. Nelson Rockefeller even headed an American cultural exchange agency, he said.

Chasteen added that Latin American dancing in the United States now is done almost exclusively by Latin Americans.

Bob Andersen, who teaches merengue and salsa at the Latin Corner in Raleigh, noted that about 80 percent of the dancers who go to the Latin Corner on weekends are Latin Americans.

In contrast, Marin said he thought Latin American dances were becoming better known by people in the United States because of the increasing number of immigrants.

Carlos Salamanca of Jacarandas Mexican restaurant in Durham, which schedules dances every third Saturday, agreed with Marin. "At least 50 percent (of the dancers) are not Latin Americans," Salamanca said.

Hurley said CHISPA had scheduled a dance workshop from 7 to 9 p.m. Oct. 24 in the Union Cabaret. This is an opportunity for students who want to learn more about another culture, or for anyone just wanting to get out and dance.

Society donates painting by wife of Fitzgerald to N.C. collection at Wilson

By Laura Guy
Staff Writer

The North Caroliniana Society recently purchased a painting by Zelda Fitzgerald, wife of American novelist and short story writer F. Scott Fitzgerald, and donated it to the North Carolina Collection at the University's Wilson Library.

Fitzgerald painted the watercolor of the grounds of Highland Hospital, including a path and trees, during her hospitalization there for schizophrenia, said H.G. Jones, curator of the North Carolina Collection. Fitzgerald lived at the hospital from 1936 until she was killed in a hospital fire in 1948.

The North Caroliniana Society wanted the painting, entitled "Hospital Slope," for historical purposes, said Jones, because of its connection to Asheville, home of renowned novelist and UNC-Chapel Hill graduate Thomas Wolfe.

The North Carolina Collection does not normally buy paintings, said Jones, but he said, "We knew this was something that would not come along again."

The painting is not the start of an

art collection and "will probably be displayed as part of an exhibition on North Carolina writers," said Jones. There are no current plans for the exhibition.

The North Caroliniana Society purchased the painting from poet Eve Braden Hatchett and her husband, William, of Memphis, Tenn., for an undisclosed amount.

Hatchett kept the painting as part of a collection of Thomas Wolfe letters and memorabilia, a collection which is now part of the North Carolina Collection.

F. Scott Fitzgerald lived and worked at the Grove Park Inn in Asheville during his wife's stay at Highland Hospital.

He died of a heart attack in 1940 at age 44, leaving his last novel, "The Last Tycoon," unfinished.

Zelda and F. Scott Fitzgerald were married in the 1920s after the publication of "This Side of Paradise," a popular and critical success.

The couple remained the nation's leading literary couple during the twenties.

However, during the thirties, F. Scott developed alcoholism and Zelda struggled with mental illness.

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Russian House fosters friendship, cultural diversity

By Stephanie Claytor
Staff Writer

The University has a relatively untapped resource nestled in the woods off Mason Farm Road.

Known as the Russian House, it is one of the University's newest organizations aimed at cultural diversity.

Kirk Kirkpatrick, a junior classics and Slavic languages major living in the house, said the Russian House was an effort to bring together Russian and American cultures in an atmosphere where students could live and learn with one another.

Five students live in the spacious, elegant house: three Americans and two Russians. The venture is similar to the foreign language floors in Carmichael Residence Hall, where students interested in Spanish, French or German cultures live together to learn more of

those languages and societies. However, this house is not to be confused with those floors.

The Russian House is a new organization but not a new concept. Two years ago a group of interested students tried to form a Russian language floor in Carmichael but met with failure.

"Carmichael turned us down because Russian students wouldn't have a place to stay over breaks, when Carmichael was closed. They offered to put us up at Craigie but no one wanted to do that, so everyone bailed out," Kirkpatrick said.

Now, after two years of searching for a house, the program has been established. "It was worth the wait," Kirkpatrick said.

The house is rented from the University for \$1,000 a month. This is a bargain, especially when split five ways among the residents, Kirkpatrick said.

All the residents have their own

rooms, and the University is cleaning out an apartment in the basement.

Most of the time, only Russian is spoken, but English is allowed since the Russian students are attempting to improve their English, said Jeff Cobb, a graduate student living in the house.

Alexander Zelenin, a Russian graduate student from Leningrad, said, "With the help of my friends who live here I'm sure I won't have any problems (learning the language)."

The residents expect the Study Abroad Office to send future Russian exchange students to live at the house, Kirkpatrick said, but Russian residents need not be exchange students. Only one of the current Russian residents is an exchange student. The other just "turned up on our doorstep," he said.

No activities have been scheduled so far, Cobb said. "We're planning to have symposia, but right now we're mainly

living and studying together." The symposia would feature regular events with the Russian department.

One obstacle is a lack of furniture, Kirkpatrick said. "The Russian department is dying to get in here but we need to get the place looking presentable first. We could start tomorrow if we had furniture."

He encouraged anyone interested in donating furniture. "It's a shame to have no furniture in this house," he said.

The house could hold seven students, Kirkpatrick said. Any students, male or female, interested in living in the house should contact Kirkpatrick. Interested students should be enrolled in a Slavic language or be Russian.

"We really want the University to take us seriously... to realize that we're not just some group of students calling ourselves 'The Russian House'," Kirkpatrick said.

Service

long enough," he said.

Once the service becomes more established, the price of course packs might decrease, he said. "At this point, though, it's hard to say about the price."

Adrianna Foss, director of corporate communications for Kinko's Copies, said the copy center hadn't made any

major changes because of the new service.

Kinko's employees have to obtain permission to reprint any articles, so they already have a thorough system in place, she said.

"It's a lot of work," Foss said. "The new service could possibly help us in

the future."

Increased costs in course packs would be negligible because Kinko's stores nationwide already spend about \$2 million in royalty fees each year, she said.

Shumake said the service has different goals than the copy centers. "Their main goal is to get as many different publishers registered with their services as they can," she said. "When that happens, they will be wonderful for copy stores."

Copytron sends requests for copyright permission to publishers and to the CCC in order to receive permission sooner, Shumake said. "It's a little more work, but I get things a bit quicker."

Campus Calendar

FRIDAY
Noon: A workshop on memory skills will be held in 104 Phillips by Christine Kelly.
The CGLA Lesbian Lunch will be held in 218 Union.
2 p.m. An information session about the UNC Year Abroad in Scotland will be held in 12 Caldwell.
2:30 p.m. Auditions for a student film will be held in 213 Union. Call 933-7291 for an appointment.
Come out and cheer for the women's soccer team. Carolina Pepp Band members need to be at Fetzer Field ready to play. Go Heels!
7 p.m. the catalyst, a journal of social and political commentary, will hold a layout session on the second floor of the Campus Y.
7:30 p.m. Carolina Pepp Band members need to be at Fetzer Field. Go Heels! Beat Vanderbilt!

SATURDAY
1 p.m. IM-REC Rugby Club will be at Guilford; Water Ski Club will be at Lake Gresham.
6:30 p.m. SEAC and the Campus Y will sponsor a panel discussion with 20 toxic waste experts from

around the world in 121 Hanes.

SUNDAY
11 a.m. IM-REC Women's Soccer will be at home.
12:30 p.m. IM-REC Football Club will be at UNC-Wilmington; Water Ski tournament at Lake Gresham.
5 p.m. The Black Interdenominational Student Association will have worship services at the Wesley Foundation (behind the Carolina Inn) followed by feast and fellowship.

ITEMS OF INTEREST
Student Health Services is now forming a Diabetes support group. Call 966-6562 for more information.
Carrboro Parks and Recreation and Lloyd Street Studios are sponsoring a hands-on course in 16-track recording. Questions? Call 968-7703.
Register to Vote in the Pit between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. until Oct. 4. Bring a picture ID with your birth date and proof of local address (phone bill).
Class Schedule Packets: If you have not received your fall '91 class schedule packet, please pick it up from 8-9 a.m. or 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays (except Thursday) in 105 Hanes.
Child Abuse Prevention Program (CAPP) will meet at 6 p.m. Sept. 23 in the Campus Y lounge.
Host Family orientation program will be held at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 24 at the Battle House. Call Meg Moran at 929-7593 for more information.

Four sets of twins born in 24 hours

WICHITA, Kan. — Four sets of twins were born at HCA Wesley Medical Center in Wichita Tuesday.

"I can tell you that we've had 46 sets of twins this year — that's right around six a month," said Deb McArthur, head nurse of labor, delivery and recovery.

Tyler Dean and Brett Ray Langston, Obria Alison and Joelle Brianna Smith, Heather Lynn and Stephanie Jo Lauderback, and Alexander Marshall and Jacob Kyle Germann were born between 12:01 a.m. and 11:21 p.m. All were in stable condition Thursday.

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