



## **Synergic Theater**

in David and Suzanne White Manning's  
***Editing Eurydice***

8 p.m. Friday, February 19, 1993 Hartwell Dance Theater

## **EDITING EURYDICE**

**A Work in Process**

**SUNY College at Brockport  
School of Arts and Performance  
the Department of Dance  
and DANCE CLUB**

**PRESENT**

**THE CULMINATING CONCERT OF  
DANCE AWARENESS WEEK**

## **SYNERGIC THEATER**

**in**

### **"EDITING EURYDICE"**

**World Premiere**

**by**

**David and Suzanne White Manning**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH**

**8 PM**

**HARTWELL DANCE THEATER**

**Written, designed and co-directed by David H. Manning  
Directed and co-designed by Suzanne White Manning  
Realized in collaboration with the Company**

**In Greek mythology, Orpheus, a fabulous musician and son of Apollo and Calliope, married Eurydice, but she was killed by a snake. Orpheus descended into Hades to find her. His playing of the lyre so delighted the inhabitants that he was permitted to take Eurydice back with him, provided that he did not look at her until they reached the upperworld. When they were nearly there, however, he no longer heard her behind him and looked back. Eurydice returned to Hades. EDITING EURYDICE offers an original, contemporary adaption of the myth.**

#### **COMPANY MEMBERS:**

**Orpheus: Peter Coster  
Eurydice: Lisa Eisland  
Memory: Ciane Fernandes  
Hermes (tape): Tom Fountain  
Hermes (on-screen): Neal Montanez  
Lighting Operator: Mayumi Ohshima  
Production Stage Manager: Heather Zeitz**

**SOUNDSCAPE COLLAGE, including voices of Peter Coster, Lisa Eisland, Tom Fountain; music (excerpts) of John Gromada, Van Dyke Parks, Eric Salzman, Edgar Varese, various national folk music, among other sound/music sources**

**SUZANNE WHITE MANNING** has, in addition to her work with the Synergic Theater, presented/been presented through the Chamber Dance Group, The Cubiculo, San Francisco Bay Area Dance Coalition Choreographers' Concerts, NC Dance Showcase, and Compania de Avelina Arguelles. She has been on the faculties of Pace University Department of Theater and Fine Arts; the Ernie Martin Studio Theater, Movement for the Actor; the NYC Laban Institute of Movement Studies, Special Programs; Duke University Dance Program; Bay Area Institute of Movement Studies, founding faculty; and served year-long appointments with the Instituto del Teatro/Escuela de Dansa de Barcelona and the UNC-Greensboro Dance Department. She is a certified Movement Analyst and has an MA in Dance from UCLA. She first worked with Jacquie Davis and Irma Pylyshenko at Wayne State University in Detroit and is enormously pleased to continue that seminal creative and artistic relationship here in Brockport.

**DAVID MANNING** is a writer and media designer, in addition to co-directing the Synergic Theater. He has written/produced/edited/directed professionally for film, broadcast, A-V, theatrical and print media. Among other work, he is the author of "Self-Image," which was produced by the Radio Repertory Company for national distribution; collaborated with composer Michael Ching on a narrated musical satire commissioned by the U.S. Olympic Festival; wrote the "NC Arts Festival Planning Guide;" has written numerous short stories, commentaries, articles and several novels; and has worked with the American Dance Festival, NC Folklife Festival, Balasaraswati School of Indian Music & Dance, and is currently Public Affairs coordinator at Wave Hill, a NYC-owned public estate in the Bronx. He has a BA in History from Duke University and is an alumni adviser in arts careers.

**PETER COSTER** (Orpheus) moved from London to New York five years ago. He has studied Drama and Movement at Hofstra University and continued his training at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts, where he was introduced to the Laban and Delsarte movement techniques which have helped him to define and solidify the characters he portrays. He

graduated from the AADA in 1991 and was invited to continue for their third year Company; his favorite role was Shelly in Brenton's **BLOODY POETRY**, in which he very much enjoyed working with Lisa Eisland. Most recently, he played Alan in the Wings Theater production of **RUBY SLIPPERS** and spent last fall touring with the National Theater as Romeo.

**LISA EIESLAND** (Eurydice) is pleased to be working with the Synergic Theater for the first time. A graduate of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts and an invited member of their third year Company, where she was introduced to Laban and Delsarte movement techniques. Her favorite roles at the AADA were Claire Clairmont in **BLOODY POETRY** and Lilina Stanislavsky in **CHEKHOV IN YALTA**. From there she went on to dance and sing her way around the U.S., originating the role of the narrator in **DINOSAUR EXPRESS** with American Family Theater. Other New York credits include **THE CANTERBURY TALES** with the American Academy Company and musical director for **THE WIZARD OF OZ** with New York Youth Theater. Lisa can also be seen in **CONNECTIONS OF THE HEART** at the Courtyard Playhouse in March in NYC.

**CIANE FERNANDES** (Memory) was born in Brazil in its capital Brasilia where she received degrees in Nursing and Fine Arts, specializing in art therapy. From 1988 on she incorporated her body as part of her art works, also taking ballet and dance theater classes. She came to the U.S. in 1990, studying conceptual and performance art in Pratt Institute's Graduate Fine Arts/New Forms Program. She received her MA in Arts and Humanities for Performing Arts at New York University last summer with the support of the Brazilian Ministry of Education, developing her thesis on Pina Bausch and the Wuppertal Tanz Theater. She is currently working on her Ph.D. in the same field at NYU.

**TOM FOUNTAIN** is pleased to be "appearing" in his fourth Synergic Theater Production. He is a graduate of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts.

**NEAL MONTANEZ** (Hermes) first encountered the Synergic Theater as a workshop participant in 1987 and is making his second appearance with the company. He graduated from Bronx Community College where he was active as a student choreographer and performer. Neal has taught dance and is currently a dance major at Lehman College, where he also has performed.

**MAYUMI OHSHIMA** (Lighting Operator) is a native of Chiba, Japan, and has been working with the Synergic Theater since 1989. She has designed a number of productions for Theater 22, including **Ten Blocks From Camino Real**, **Orestes**, **Italian American Reconciliation**. She has studied lighting, set and costume design with Christopher Thomas, Dennis Parichy and Vanessa James, and she continues her drawing classes with Milet Andrejevic at the New York Academy of Arts. Mayumi also works on neon projects.

**HEATHER ZEITZ** (Production Stage Manager) grew up in a theatrical household, her childhood and adolescence absorbed with mime, acting and dancing. As an adult, she's made the transition from on-stage to back-stage, working as a production and lighting assistant and sound operator for the Portland Repertory Theater (Equity). She moved to New York City more than a year ago to pursue her other interest -- fashion design.

#### **SPECIAL THANKS TO:**

Beverly Brown  
Kent Paul  
Chris Thomas  
Pace University Department of Theater and Fine Arts  
and especially to the faculty and staff of the  
SUNY College at Brockport Department of Dance

**The Synergic Theater** has been under the continuing direction of dancer/choreographer Suzanne White Manning and writer/media designer David Manning since its premier performances in 1974 with the US/USSR Summer Arts Festival in Durham, NC. Currently based in New York, they have also worked extensively in San Francisco and NC; performing at the Herbst Theater, Project Artaud, Julia Morgan Center, Margaret Jenkins Performance Space, Reynolds Theater, Page Auditorium, Stewart Theater and the Ark; as well as the Marymount Manhattan Theater, Scaerle Studio Theater and Schimmel Center for the Arts in NYC. Their workshops at Duke University in the mid-1970s paved the way for the American Dance Festival's move there in 1978. Since 1987, they have been presenting semi-annual workshops and home season productions in a facilities-use residence at Pace University. The co-directors have also been in-residence with Duke's Institute of the Arts, presented their workshop at SUNY-Stonybrook, and the company was in-residence working on the shadow screen trilogy, **TERRA INCOGNITO**, at Cedar Crest College, July 1991. **EDITING EURYDICE** will premier in the **TWEED New Works Festival** at the Ohio Theater in Sotto this spring.