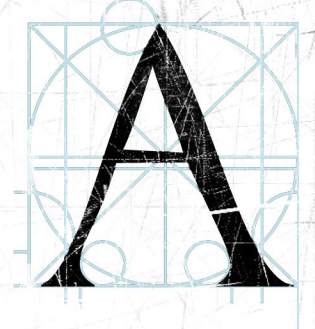


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**ARCOS DANCE WORLD PREMIERE REPERTOIRE CONCERT  
AND VIP OPENING NIGHT PREVIEW**

**October 14-15 and 21-22, Opening Night Preview October 13  
At The Performance Space at 1583 Pacheco St. in Santa Fe**



*Company Member Cora Cliburn*



*Company Member Nicole Corpio*

SANTA FE, NM. **ARCOS Dance** presents its **World Premiere Repertoire Concert** Friday and Saturday, **October 14-15** and **21-22**, at **The Performance Space at 1583 Pacheco St.** in **Santa Fe**. Featuring new works and existing choreography by **Artistic Director Curtis Uhlemann** and **Associate Artistic Director Erica Gionfriddo**, the performance includes 19 ARCOS Dance members from the Northern New Mexico region and Colorado. The company also cordially welcomes VIPs and press to a special **invitation-only Opening Night Preview Thursday, October 13th**, followed by a question-and-answer reception with choreographers and dancers for discussion of the works and their experiences as members of ARCOS.

New world premiere choreography by Uhlemann and Gionfriddo, 'The Raven' is danced to **Edgar Allan Poe's** classic poem read by **Basil Rathbone**. Performers move on, around, and over a solitary wingback chair center stage, and don various cuts of costuming and fantastical headdresses. "For us, this piece is about stepping in a new direction. Most choreography relies heavily on music for effect. Instead, with 'The Raven' we're focusing on subtlety of the spoken voice and its intonations to help create the mood," said Uhlemann.

Aggressive, high-energy 'Liquid Days In Four Parts' is also world premiere choreography by Uhlemann and Gionfriddo, and presents four movements in which dancers sling bucketsful of dirt, water, and ice across the theater against tracks from **Philip Glass's** album 'Songs From Liquid Days.' One section features three vignettes of commentary on love and relationships, with satirical scenes set in a living room, bedroom, and dining room.

Gionfriddo also premieres 'Dream a Little Dream of Me' with music by local violinist **Karina Wilson**. Wilson improvises on melodies and Gionfriddo rearranges segments of this **The Mamas and The Papas** classic, creating a unique format for a group of female dancers to explore the concept of strong female presence. Dancers appear in expressionless masks, changing the impact of the well-known tune through visual appearance. "'Dream' is dark, confrontational, and aggressive both in execution and movement vocabulary. It's about strong, tough women, and challenging the ideas society holds about young women," said Gionfriddo.

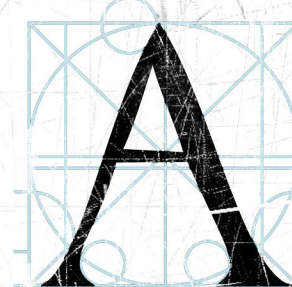
Uhlemann and Gionfriddo's joint choreography, such as 'The Raven' and 'Liquid Days,' "envelops the intimate theater in its entirety, manipulating the studio as a whole rather than limiting the works to a more traditional rectangular stage format," said Uhlemann. In addition to creating new works which expand upon the space of their venue for the ARCOS premiere, choreographing collaboratively is new to Uhlemann and Gionfriddo as well. Uhlemann said, "Input from multiple artists on choreography results in a wider vocabulary for the dancers and a richer experience for the audience in comparison to an evening of single works by single choreographers, conceived independently of one another. We're trying to cross the lines."

*(Continues)*

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The company is comprised of 21 pre-professional and professional performers from across Northern New Mexico and Colorado, ranging in age from 14 to 25. Dancers come to ARCOS from **Boulder Ballet, Columbia University, New Mexico School for the Arts, National Dance Institute of New Mexico, Charisma/Belisima, Moving People Dance, Dance Arts Los Alamos, the University of New Mexico**, and include college dance majors and graduates. Gionfriddo remarked, "With diverse backgrounds in all types of training from ballet and modern to jazz and musical theater, all the members of ARCOS took to our signature visceral, fast choreography right away. Not all dancers can handle the intensity; this is a really strong cast who will rise to the occasion for our first performance. The challenge is for us as choreographers to rise to the performers' abilities and truly test their skills."

**ARCOS Dance is a new contemporary dance company in Santa Fe offering world class choreography and performance opportunities to both pre-professional and professional performers. Created specifically for dancers in their teens and early twenties, ARCOS provides a much-needed bridge for young artists between scholastic training and professional careers. ARCOS allows dancers to advance and prepare for the demands of a professional audition, rehearsal, touring, and performance schedule.**

***ARCOS Dance World Premiere performances will be held Friday and Saturday, October 14-15 and 21-22, at 7:30pm at The Performance Space at 1583 Pacheco St. in Santa Fe. Invitation-only Opening Night Preview October 13. Tickets available at [www.arcosdance.com](http://www.arcosdance.com). Email [info@arcosdance.com](mailto:info@arcosdance.com) or call 505-473-7434 for reservations. \$20 adults, \$15 students. For more information, visit [www.arcosdance.com](http://www.arcosdance.com).***

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**Next Audition:**

ARCOS will hold auditions on **Saturday, October 29, 2011 from 4-6pm at The Performance Space at 1583 Pacheco St. in Santa Fe**, for additional company members to participate in the Multi-Media Project (performance calendar and descriptions below). Dancers with a strong background in ballet and modern technique are welcome to apply. Applicants should be at least 14 years of age, bring a head shot and resume if available, and be prepared for ballet, modern, repertory and improvisation components in the audition. **Dancers must RSVP for by October 28 at [info@arcosdance.com](mailto:info@arcosdance.com) or call 505-473-7434 to participate.**

*(Continues)*



*Photos by Kate Russell*



2357 Fox Rd. Suite 300 Santa Fe, NM 87505  
505-473-7434  
[www.arcosdance.com](http://www.arcosdance.com)



**2011 - 2012 Performance Calendar**  
**All Performances at The Performance Space at 1583 Pacheco St.**  
**In Santa Fe Unless Otherwise Noted**

10/14/11 - 10/15/11	Premiere: ARCOS Dance Repertoire Concert
10/21/11 - 10/22/11	Second Weekend of Premiere
10/27/11	ARCOS Dance at Taos Center for the Arts
2/03/12 - 2/05/12	ARCOS Dance Multi-Media Project
3/16/12 - 3/17/12	ARCOS Dance Repertoire Concert
3/23/12 - 3/24/12	Second Weekend of Repertoire Concert
6/8/12 - 6/10/12	ARCOS Dance Live Musician Collaboration
Summer 2012	International Tour, Dates TBA*

\*Dancers participating in three or more ARCOS productions are eligible to audition for International Tour.



Photo by Kate Russell

**Performance Descriptions**

**ARCOS Dance Repertoire Concert:** ARCOS Dance presents two different repertoire concerts in Santa Fe annually. These concerts include existing company repertoire as well as world premiere works created specifically for new ARCOS dancers.

**ARCOS Dance at Taos Center for the Arts:** ARCOS Dance will be presented in Taos by Taos Center for the Arts on Thursday, October 27, 2011 at 7pm. The TCA recently received a grant allowing them to present companies in their theater and contacted ARCOS to secure a headline performance and a school show, lecture, and demonstration for local students the following morning. The performance will feature repertoire from the ARCOS Repertoire Concert as well as older repertoire. TCA is located at 133 Paseo del Pueblo Norte, Taos, NM 87571. Call Dancer Dearing, TCA Director of Programming, for more information at 575-758-2052.

**ARCOS Dance Multi-Media Project:** As part of its annual season, ARCOS Dance presents a mixed media showcase highlighting local pre-professional and professional artists in photography, film, music, and theater. For this performance created around a central theme, the artists of ARCOS Dance collaborate closely with multi-media students to present an evening length world premiere work.

**ARCOS Dance Live Musician Collaboration:** Once a year, ARCOS Dance invites pre-professional and professional musicians to take part in the creation and development of an original live music dance concert. The choreographers of ARCOS Dance and the musicians involved create world premiere works for this performance.

**International Tour:** During June and July, ARCOS Dance participates in Interdansa ([www.interdansa.org](http://www.interdansa.org)) as well as independently booked performances overseas. The 2012 tour includes Spain and France as part of Interdansa, as well as independently booked performances in Germany.

**ARCOS Dance Staff:**

Curtis Uhlemann, Artistic Director  
Erica Gionfriddo, Associate Artistic Director  
Dave Jansen, Executive Director  
Tracie Jansen, Operations Director  
Echo Gustafson, Artistic Consultant

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