

ContributorsRonne Arnold

Born 5 March, 1939, Philadelphia, U.S.A. Completed B.A. degree and is currently a candidate for a Master's degree in the Anthropology of Dance and Human Movement studies at University of Sydney. Presently tutoring Laban movement-writing students at the University of Sydney's Music Department with Dr. Drid Williams, he is undertaking courses in Social Anthropology, Aboriginal Studies, Basic Linguistics and Anthropology and Theories of the Dance. He is teaching part-time for the Aboriginal/Islanders Dance School, and is preparing to write a thesis on Wanam dances from western Cape York Peninsula next year. Well known in Australian dance circles for his teaching, performing and choreographic talents, Arnold may be remembered by many for his choreographed version of Negro Spirituals, and for his acting role in La Cage Aux Folles as Jacob. He has distinguished himself in many ways as the recipient of grants pertaining to education and performance. He is now enthusiastically looking forward to a teaching and writing career in which he hopes to make a contribution to the academic studies of the dance that will equal his contribution as a performer and choreographer.

Diana Hart Johnson

Born 1952, Lansing, Michigan, B.F.A. (Juilliard) in dance, M.A. (New York University) in Anthropology of Human Movement. Has been soloist with Martha Graham Dance Company (1973-78) and Assistant Professor of Dance at University of Massachusetts, Amherst (1978-79). Also has been guest artist in residence at several colleges and universities, including University of Wisconsin (Madison), Ithaca College (New York) and Interlochen Arts Academy. Has been performing arts specialist and co-director of School-Age Child Care at P.S. 314 under the auspices of the Center for Family Life in Sunset Park, Brooklyn, New York, since 1983. There she produces shows with 250 elementary school children and teens, coordinates a Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) program and makes use of her knowledge of American Sign Language and Spanish.

JoAnne Page

Born August, 1956, in Melbourne, Australia, Ms. Page studied and taught Ballet and jazz dancing before she commenced studies for a Diploma of Arts degree. She has been intensely interested in Dance Notation and followed her interest through her career at V.C.A. Her studies were completed at the Benesh Institute in London, after which she returned to Australia to upgrade her qualifications to a B.A. (Dance), while teaching secondary and tertiary dance students movement notation.

Interested in pursuing hard-core academic studies in anthropology, notation, linguistics and theories of movement, she undertook a Preliminary year's course aimed at a Master's Degree. At University, she quickly found a place for her interests in movement literacy, signs, symbols and images of the body. She has nearly finished her Master's thesis, entitled, 'A Comparative Study of Movement Writing Systems: Laban and Benesh Notations', and is completing two major articles on the subject for an academic Journal. Ms. Page brings a unique perspective to the study of signs and body imagery: that of a scholar who has had a wide range of performance experience.