

daci
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Photos by: Jens Hemmel

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Dear daCi Friends,

by Susan R. Koff, Chair Elect



I believe in the power of dance to transform lives, because we are capable expressive human beings. Through our expressive nature, we can actively engage with those around us, and with the environment in which we live. Dance brings us into verbal and non-verbal dialogue with others, regardless of our own background. So, through dance not only can we transcend difference, we can also recognize, respect and honor difference as the very fabric of our changing and global community.

We engage with these most wonderful capacities by immersing ourselves in dance from a very early age. This is the fundamental belief of daCi, dedicated to the growth and development of dance for children and youth, and the reason I am so passionately involved in daCi. We want to ensure that every child has the opportunity to dance, in all its forms and settings, so that every child has the opportunity to be a fully expressive human being.

This newsletter includes an overview of the wonderful Twist & Twin Congress in Copenhagen this past summer. You will read many different accounts of the exciting event, and then see what the plans are for the next conference, Adelaide, 2018. If you have been participating in these events, this will just give you an incredible reminder of all that you experienced. If you missed the summer in Copenhagen, I hope this Newsletter entices you to begin planning for daCi 2018. Regardless of your point of entry into daCi, I hope you will get a taste of what daCi has to offer you and that you can engage with daCi on whatever level works for you.

With you in dance and expression,

Susan



Dear daCi Friends,

by Maria Speth, Chair

Pictured: Maria Speth on far right with daCi friends



As it is my turn now to write the Chair's message I take the opportunity to welcome Susan Koff, as our new Chair Elect and the editor of the daCi newsletters. I certainly hope she will enjoy this as much as I did.

From this place I would like to honour our past Chair Adrienne Sansom, for her on-going and gracious leadership. It is a very reassuring thought that she will be there another year to share her wisdom.

This post-conference issue is filled with memories of the last daCi Congress "Twist and Twin, exploring identities", held in Copenhagen July 5 – 10/2015.

I am convinced that for those who were able to attend, some of these contributions will be nostalgic ones while others might bring back sweet memories.

For those who couldn't join us, I do hope you will enjoy all the stories and pictures that will be shared in this issue.

To me:

" dancing is feeling with your body, thinking with your body, knowing with your body, talking with your body."

All of this came alive when we gathered in Copenhagen, where everybody moved through dance in so many different ways.

The 'weather gods' were in a good mood, which made it possible for all young dancers to work on site-specific venues during their Meeting Point sessions, from lush green parks to industrial areas. On the last day of the Congress all participants could witness the outcomes in person. They were absolutely worth looking at!

Next to the many delightful performances, we also saw presentations of the outcomes of a new daCi initiative: Twin Labs. They were different and challenging, each in their own way.

Thinking and talking about dance was another nourishing experience. It is great to share and learn from each other in such an inspirational way.

Thanks to all Spring Boarders for their input, energy, ideas and critical remarks.
It is much appreciated!

I want to take the opportunity to thank the entire Danish Congress Team once again for their extraordinary efforts that allowed us to undergo such a wide range of experiences.

I am sure they will be remembered and cherished by many daCi members.

It was another confirmation of the many colours that appear when a daCi conference takes place.

Tak til Charlotte, Anna Katrine, Ulla, Susanne, Sheila and all those volunteers who represented such a warm host country!

I hope you will enjoy this newsletter.

With kind regards,

Maria Speth
Chair



Dear daCi Friends,

by Adrienne Sansom, Past Chair

The Danish experience-twisting and twinning: Reflections of a conference

Adrienne Sansom

An unprecedented heatwave greeted us in Copenhagen, Denmark as we gathered for the 13th Dance and the Child International, Congress, July 5-10, 2015. The glorious weather heralded what was to be for me both an exciting yet poignant experience. The experience was the culmination of my three years in my role as chair. My transition from my role as chair to past chair occurred during the congress and I look back with great pride on the years I have spent, not only on the Executive committee and Advisory Board, but also attending daCi conferences since 1978. The admiration I hold for all of those who a part of this wonderful organization holds no bounds and the Danish experience was no exception.

My schedule was full during the congress with commitments every day, from participating in a book launch, moderating sessions, presenting a paper, and attending various meetings. While there were many highlights throughout the week, perhaps one of the most memorable highlights for me was the opening of the congress, which was held in the Tivoli Gardens. I had the privilege, and indeed honor, to welcome everyone while standing on the stage of the famous Peacock Pantomime Theatre that represents artistic traditions dating back 200 years. I stood with Charlotte and Susanne in the wings, watching the ballet performance that was specifically presented for the opening of the congress before taking my place on the stage. What fun this was, while at the same time I was filled with nervous excitement. When it was my turn to go out onto the stage to welcome everyone to the congress I was greeted by an amazing sight of a sea of colors representing delegates from many countries who filled up the lawn; that is when I knew the congress was really happening! Twenty-five countries were represented at the congress. I don't think I could have ever imagined that I would be standing on this famous stage witnessing the multitude of dance groups spread out in front of me wearing colorful tee shirts and waving flags to represent their respective countries.

Copenhagen delivered a wide spectrum of events (as well as weather!) and despite a very full schedule, I enjoyed every minute of it. Something that has always been special when attending these conferences is reuniting with those I already know and meeting new people as the organization continues to expand and grow. I had stated in my address to the General Council Meeting that my involvement in daCi was serendipitous when I encountered the first Dance and the Child conference in Edmonton, Canada in 1978, quite by chance. But perhaps what was even more serendipitous was meeting a friend, Marit, at this congress 38 years after we had met in 1977 when we were both dancing in London. I was from New Zealand, she was from Norway. This is an example of the acquaintances and friendships that can be formed across the world through sharing mutual interests that can last a lifetime. And what a privilege it was to be able to visit Denmark, which is such a beautiful country while sharing a collective passion for dance. Every moment was precious and I am already looking forward to the next daCi conference in Adelaide, Australia, July 2018.



The Peacock Pantomime Theatre, Tivoli Gardens,
Copenhagen, Denmark



**Charlotte Svendler-Nielsen
and her family, Emma, Lluís,
Isona, Askel and other
delegates, Tivoli Gardens**



**Marit (Norway), Adrienne (New Zealand), Liz (New Zealand),
Kerry (United Kingdom)**



**Sue Stinson
(USA) and
Adrienne**

**Lenneke and
Laura
(Netherlands)
and Nele**



Danish Congress Overview

Report from the Dance and the Child International – 13th International Congress held in Copenhagen from 5th-10th July 2015

By The daCi Congress Committee
Anna Katrine Korning, Susanne Frederiksen, Charlotte Svendler
Nielson, & Sheila de Val
Photographs by Jens Hemmel

In July 2012 Copenhagen was announced as the host for the 13th Dance and the Child International Congress. Dansehallerne, as the national competence centre for contemporary dance; The Department of Nutrition, Exercise and Sports – NEXS, University of Copenhagen and the Dance Partnership Education, The Danish National School of Performing Arts, took up the challenge and collaborated on the planning of the event. Three years on we were able to welcome over all the participants from all over the world, to Tivoli Gardens, who sponsored the opening event, to Copenhagen.



Dansehallerne and The Department of Nutrition, Exercise and sports, physically hosted the many workshops, Dance Flavours, Creative Meeting Points, Youth Forums, Keynote speeches, lectures, panel discussions and performances with the theme of *'Twist and Twin' – Exploring Identities in Dance*. The idea of 'twinning' was encompassed and expressed in a multitude of methods and ways – culturally, pedagogically, across age groups and between professions, institutions and communities. Some twinning started before the Congress with virtual 'Twin Labs'; during the Congress in the form of collaborative workshops and meetings between researchers, professionals and practitioners, and we hope, after the congress with partnerships and friendships initiated during the twinning process, continuing to flourish.



Exploring Identities in Dance

Exploring Identities in Dance was the overall theme for the work presented by researchers, teachers and the many Young People's Performances. The young people and children registered for the congress as dance groups presenting their choreographic works during the weeklong congress and offering performances of high quality. Researchers and workshop holders had topics ranging from gender issues to empowerment and wellbeing, from assessment and evaluation to embodiment and learning.



During the five days the participants could enjoy taking Dance Flavours, a selection of warm-up classes in the mornings, ranging from Yoga and Gaga to House and Waacking, followed by their own rehearsals or Creative Meeting Points in the mornings. In the afternoons the participants had the possibility of taking two workshops from the over 90 possibilities that were offered. In the evenings, performances by the young people themselves or professional performances from Denmark were offered.

Keynote presentations

The opening keynote speech *Moving Together: Dance in a Shared World* was given by Francois Matarasso, freelance artist and Honorary Professor at Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen, Scotland. In his speech he discussed the concept of twinning as a framework for artistic exploration and mutual understanding in a globalized world. Following the keynote a panel of speakers shared their experiences and contributed to deepen central aspects of twinning from various perspectives.

On the following day, under the sub-theme of *Assessment, research and evaluation tools*, Susanne Keuchel, Professor, Dr., Director of Remscheid Academy for Arts Education, Germany and Michael Wimmer, Dr., Head of Educult, Institute for Cultural Policy and Management, Vienna, Austria, held a keynote speech entitled *The Art of Stepping Aside – Chances, Potentials and Deficits in Arts Education Research*. Following the keynote there were roundtable discussions for participants to consider and discuss what could be significant new directions for researchers in dance education and potentially how each could influence this change.

The first of the final keynote speeches under the sub-theme of *Embodiment, learning and education*, was presented by Mark Schram Christensen, Associate Professor, Dr., Department of Neuroscience and Pharmacology, University of Copenhagen, and Kirstie Simson, Associate Professor, Department of Dance, University of Illinois. Entitled *What Moves Us and Why? A Neurophysiological Investigation of Movement Perception Twinned with a Thirty-Five Year Exploration of Dance Improvisation*, the two presenters complemented each others contributions from their respective areas of expertise. With words from Mark Scram Christensen, Kirstie Simson, offered physical input enhancing and offering an insight into her beliefs that dance improvisation can be a powerful source of embodied intelligence that can heal and empower individuals. The final keynote under the sub-heading, *Empowerment, well-being and policy making*, was presented by Ralph Buck, Associate Professor, University of Auckland, New Zealand and Erica Rose Jeffrey, MA in peace and conflict studies, University of Queensland, Australia, and PhD candidate. Their presentation was entitled *Empowering Dance in Our Communities: Making the Connection Visible*. Through profiling their own experiences in policymaking and well-being, the speakers made a call for the bold empowerment of dance in our communities across ages, disciplines and organizations.

The Copenhagen Declaration

As part of this strategy for heightening the profile of dance, Ralph Buck and Erica Rose Jeffrey presented the 'Copenhagen Declaration'. During the preceding week Ralph Buck and Erica Rose Jeffrey had been in dialogue with children, young people, researchers and teachers regarding the formulation and content of this important document. The document outlines how the artistic subject areas, including dance can contribute to education, in its broadest sense, in terms of sustainable development and contributing to a sense of global community. The document was then presented to Jens Dalgaard, general secretary for the Danish UNESCO national commission. He, in turn, will bring this document further in UNESCO's organisation to enlist their support in promoting the on-going international work to strengthen children and young peoples meeting and involvement with the arts during their education. The declaration is a prime example of how research and practice can enrich and inspire each other in relation to developing new knowledge and future political strategies, where this new knowledge can then be implemented in practice.



The broad spectrum of topics and depth of knowledge presented by the international speakers provided the participants with an insight into the many 'twinings' that dance can have and the far-reaching consequences that these collaborations can initiate.

New initiatives - SpringBoarders

A new initiative for this daCi Congress was the establishment of the daCi SpringBoard which was initiated to involve recently qualified dance graduates, teachers and professionals who have a particular interest in working with young people. The SpringBoard is designed to bridge the gap between the young people who participate in the congress and the daCi members who participate as presenters and facilitators. Applicants for this new initiative were invited to apply from the host country and other member countries and the successful candidates were then funded to attend the daCi Congress. 10 candidates were chosen, 5 from the host country Denmark and five from other countries. The SpringBoarders were responsible for facilitating the Youth Forums, setting topics of common interest and initiating discussions in groups for the young people participating. The SpringBoarders also designed 'Pop-up Meeting Points' so that the young participants could also take part in informal gatherings and events that were most pertinent to their age group. The SpringBoarders will continue to be in contact and eventually have responsibility for mentoring the next generation of SpringBoarders for the 2018 Congress.





Another new initiative for the Congress was to create a “twinning space” to facilitate the possibility for longer standing dance friendships between the participants. With a relatively short congress it is a challenge to create the basis for expanded and sustainable dance exchanges between the young dancers. As the host we created a virtual meeting space for the participants on the website. Here they could meet virtually, many months before the congress, in what we called the “twinning space” to exchange dance ideas and maybe find a partner for a twinning project. During the congress 3 of the twinning projects were offered studio space every day to continue to work and develop their joint project. Their process and product were shared with other participants at the end of the week. We hope the experiences from the twinning projects in Copenhagen will survive and be further developed through to the next congress in Australia.



The vibrant closing event took place outside Dansehallerne where the ‘torch’ for the next international Congress was given over to Adelaide, Australia, where the University of South



daCi Congress in Copenhagen from the 5th – 10th July 2015

“Twist and Twin – Exploring Identities in dance”

The
800 international participants from 22 different countries
500 young people participants
35 young people dance groups from 15 different countries

Were offered
19 different Dance Flavour workshops
90 different workshops
35 young people performances
2 professional performances

2 Keynote sessions
77 lectures and presentations

New initiatives
Twinning projects
SpringBoard and SpringBoard activities
The Copenhagen Declaration



daCi Past Chairs



Adrienne Sansom, Immediate Past Chair (New Zealand), Ann Kipling Brown (Canada), Karen Bond (USA), Sue Stinson (USA), Eeva Anttila (Finland)

A wonderful gathering in Copenhagen!

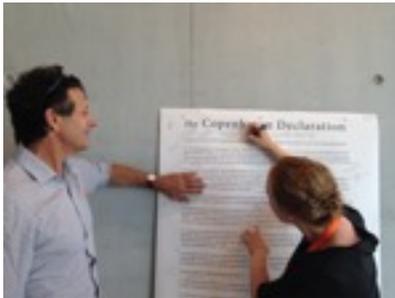


Copenhagen Declaration

Report by Associate Professor Ralph Buck, University of Auckland, NZ

Photographs by Erica Rose Jeffrey and Friends

Empowering dance in our communities requires advocacy and action at policy and grass roots and levels. When asked to give a keynote address at the 13th Dance and the Child International (daCi) congress in July 2015, I did not want to just give a talk. I wanted to talk about the relevance of policy and the reality that policy is made and very relevant for the development of dance. I especially wanted to raise awareness of the relevance of policy for young people in the dance community. Given that daCi has mandated focus on young people dancing, this key note presented an ideal opportunity to activate a policy making process that included a spectrum of the international dance community.



Charlotte Svendler signing the Copenhagen Declaration with Ralph Buck.



Erica Rose Jeffrey, my key note co-presenter and I developed a plan with Charlotte Svendler-Nielsen, the daCi Conference Convenor. Our plan was to engage all conference participants in a process of developing a policy document that spoke to the dance communities interest and engagement with UNESCO goals for education for Sustainable development.

Policy process and product supported by youth and academics at the daCi Conference, Copenhagen, July, 2015

The Copenhagen Declaration as it came to be known, was drafted before the conference in consultation with UNESCO education goals and policy and more specifically Danish UNESCO goals. The draft policy was shared with all participants on day one of the conference with an invitation to provide input, changes and ideas throughout the 5 day conference. Erica Rose and I spoke to 100's of people. We particularly enjoyed our discussions with young people and the 'spring boarders' (Tertiary students working with young people during the week of events). Feedback from these sectors was invaluable, revealing direct interests in building safe and sustainable communities in and through dance activity.

The final day of the conference saw Erica Rose and I present the Copenhagen Declaration to Mr. Jens Dalsgaard, Secretary General for the Danish UNESCO National Commission. He was thrilled with the process of developing a policy that reflected the voices of young, emerging and established dance scholars and practitioners. He was very excited that the policy was relevant to Denmark and the wider arts education community. He assured the audience that he would personally represent the work of the conference in supporting the Copenhagen Declaration as it went forward to other education and policy forums.



Erica Rose Jeffrey and Ralph Buck presenting the Copenhagen Declaration to Mr. Jens Dalsgaard, Secretary General for the Danish UNESCO National Commission.

Erica Rose and I aimed for an interactive and 'twinned' key note address at daCi 2015. We achieved our aims and more. We engaged people in discussions- small and large; we caused moments of critical debate; we questioned the role of UNESCO and daCi in representing the dance community's needs; we drew attention to larger policy and global agendas; we got to know diverse local concerns; we heard difference and commonalities expressed by many from across the globe.

We now invite you to read the Copenhagen Declaration and take from it what you can. Enact parts of it that are relevant to you. The daCi Board will work with other international agencies such as UNESCO to pursue these goals. What would be wonderful is to hear from you the readers and members of daCi. What do you think? What can you do in your local community that will support Education for Sustainable development? This is the beginning of another process. It is about activating our energy, our knowledge, our communities and to value dance as a means for supporting others, and helping develop resilience.

We started with an empty page, we finished with a policy. During the process we heard different voices, saw connections, felt energy. We finished with a product; not so much the one page policy, but a community engaged. Engaged with themselves and larger issues. Developing policy is all about the process. If you have ownership, and if you have understanding then you have the beginnings of fostering change.



**Erica Rose Jeffrey and Ralph Buck
with the Copenhagen Declaration.**



the Copenhagen Declaration

1. Dance and the Child International (daCi) proposes The Copenhagen Declaration as per the following statutes:

1.1 Recalling that on November 4, 2011, the 36th session of UNESCO's General Conference (Resolution 36/C55), invited Member States to ensure the follow-up to the Second World Conference on Arts Education by employing the strategies proposed in the Seoul Agenda: Goals for the Development of Arts Education and by implementing in a concerted manner the action items set out therein for the renewal of education systems;

1.2 Bearing in mind that "The Seoul Agenda calls upon UNESCO Member States, civil society, professional organizations and communities to recognize its governing goals, to employ the proposed strategies, and to implement the action items in a concerted effort to realize the full potential of high quality arts education to positively renew educational systems, to achieve crucial social and cultural objectives, and ultimately to benefit children, youth and life-long learners of all ages";

1.3 Having examined the strategies and action items of Goal 3 of the Seoul Agenda with reference to applying "arts education principles and practices to contribute to resolving the social and cultural challenges facing today's world";

1.4 Recalling that on December 20, 2002 at its 57th session, the United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 57/254, declaring the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) (2005 – 2014) and furthermore the Global Action Programmes (GAP) on ESD adopted at the 37th session of the General Conference of UNESCO, 2013 (37/c Resolution 12) providing the road map in the post 2015 agenda;

1.5 Noting the importance of Education for Sustainable Development which "aims to help people to develop the attitudes, skills, perspectives and knowledge to make informed decisions and act upon them for the benefit of themselves and others, now and in the future" with a view to helping "the citizens of the world to learn their way to a more sustainable future"; and,

1.6 Recognizing the shared responsibility of researchers and practitioners in arts education and education for sustainable development to promote the goals of ESD in the years following the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development and the capacity of arts education to effect social and cultural change.

2. Dance and the Child International (daCi):

2.1 Calls upon dance and other educators to explore ways in which they can listen to, empower and mobilize young people around the world to contribute to sustainable development;

2.2 Calls upon dance educators to support education that is based on principles of equity, inclusion and gender equality;

2.3 Calls upon dance educators to advocate for all learners to be taught by professional, competent, committed, and well supported teachers at all levels of education who are able to respond to diverse learning needs;

2.4 Invites 'Twinning' relationships to foster stakeholder commitment to advance arts education for sustainable development; and,

2.5 Declares its intention to actively promote the shared goals of arts education and education for sustainable development in cooperation with UNESCO.

Proclaimed in Copenhagen, 10 July, 2015, on the occasion of the Dance and the Child International Congress, 'Twist and Twinn: Exploring Identities in Dance', in consultation with the daCi Executive Council, Congress participants, and with respect to the Danish National Commission for UNESCO 2014-2017 Strategy.

Australian Report

photos: Katrina Chalker

Copenhagen provided a wonderful setting for The 13th World Congress of Dance and the Child International (daCi) from 5-10 July 2015. The opening ceremony was held at the famous Tivoli Gardens and the jam-packed week was hosted by Dansehallerne at the inspiring old Carlsberg factory, the University of Copenhagen's Department of Nutrition, Exercise and Sports, and the Danish National School of Performing Arts.

The congress theme ***Twist & Twin: dancing identities*** was embraced enthusiastically by presenters, creators and performers with evening presentations of wide-ranging dance from across the world along including young participants from Denmark and nearby countries Sweden, Finland, Germany, England, Slovenia, and from farther afield, Canada, the USA, Jamaica, Taiwan, Japan and Australia!

The Australian youth participants worked hard to raise funds to get to Europe assisted, of course, by their families. Led expertly by Jo Clancy and Steps Director Alice Lee Holland, the Wagana Aboriginal Youth Dancers from the Blue Mountains, New South Wales performed 'Sum of my Ancestors' and Steps Youth Dance Company from Perth, Western Australia performed 'You be my mirror'. I had an incredible sense of pride as I watched both works. Each piece was performed with such commitment from the individual young dancers working together in their groups to communicate their differing and meaningful interpretations of the theme 'Identity'. These works set a high standard for choreography and performance as there was a clear sense of their ownership of the collaborative dance-making process vital to successful youth dance work. So many people spoke to me about how impressive this Australian work was and how much they'd enjoyed their dancing.

Jo and Alice taught highly successful workshops and Australian conference presenters also included Stephanie Burrige (based in Singapore), Philip Channells (NSW), Katrina Cluff (NSW), Cheryl Stock (QLD) and myself with 2014 UniSA graduates Nikki Caputo, Cassandra Giannone and Emma Warmington (SA). Nikki, Cassandra and Emma were funded by a new daCi mentoring initiative Springboard to attend the conference and with other Springboarders (from Finland, USA, Denmark, Chile, The Netherlands) ensured that the children's program was successful, presented ideas to the Executive and Advisory Board. They also assisted with the announcement of the winning bid by Australia to host the next daCi conference in Adelaide, July 2018!



Wagana Aboriginal Dancers

This included them making a video and unfurling the daCi Australia 2018 banner and a collaborative performance from Steps and young Wagana Aboriginal dances from NSW to invite all the Denmark delegates to Australia. Jo generously shared a beautiful and compelling contemporary Aboriginal work with original music and, with Alice, prepared Wagana and Steps dancing together which enthralled everyone. I had goosebumps as I watched the two groups from opposite sides of Australia dancing together and then the young Aboriginal dancers handing a beautiful red gum Coolamon made by one of their parents to the new daCi chair Maria Speth from the Netherlands. A beautiful and memorable moment.



I received nothing but highly positive comments about all the Australian participants from the Danish conference organisers and so many of the delegates, wonderful professional ambassadors for Australia.

daCi's next conference will be in partnership with the World Dance Alliance Education & Training global network, endorsed at the July 2014 WDA Global Summit in France, and supported by Ausdance. The proposal draws upon success from the 2012 joint daCi/WDA Global Summit in Taiwan with the aims to maximize connections for dance educators from both organizations, to strengthen networks and to give presence and status to dance for children and young people. Plans for 2018 have begun!

A huge thank you to all the Australian participants from Kathy Vlassopoulos and myself as daCi Co-Country Representatives for Australia.

Jeff Meiners



Australian Delegate is giving a Coolamon to Copenhagen, and Chair Maria Speth. Aboriginal people use Coolamons to carry food and water, to dig, to cradle babies. On the right are Jeff Meiners, Maria Speth and Jo Clancy.

**Adelaide Australia
daCi/WDA 2018!!**

SpringBoard Report

That summer of 2015

Starting on the airport.
Had my first flight experience.
Butterflies in the stomach and goosebumps everywhere.
Felt like a little child again. Discovering the world.

Denmark, it is.

Highlights...

Meeting the other Springboarders.
Talking about dance education with Meggi Sweeney Smith and Paige Horton.
All night long.
Singing outloud in the streets with the Danish and Australian girls.
"The hills are alive with the sound of music."
Partying all night long.

Doing a twin lab with Finland.
Having the best time with my twinning partner Sonja Pakalén and all our dancers.
Talking, laughing, dancing, playing, creating.
Getting closer. Becoming real friends.
Showing our twin lab to daCi Chair Maria Speth and Keynote speaker François Matarasso.
Making them proud. Making them happy.

Meeting so many other beautiful people from all around the world.
In and through dance.

Practicing my English, my Japanese, my Finnish.

Learned several words of Te Reo Māori. *"Tena Koe - Tena Korua - Tena Koutou."*

Seeing, hearing, feeling, smelling, tasting.

Learning, discovering, enjoying.

Having the time of my life.

And ... being inspired and deeply touched,
by the beautiful bird dance of Adrienne Sansom!

Twin lab Finland & The Netherlands (2015)

Photo: Minna Palokangas



Denmark, it was.

That summer of 2015.

Seemed to fly past.

And if I had the choice. Ya, I'd return.

Stay a little longer. Maybe three more years.

To travel then to Australia, to the next conference!

Arohanui!

Nele Vandeneede,

Member of daCi Springboard and daCi The Netherlands

**The daCi Springboard 2014-2017 (Missing:
Meggi Sweeney Smith and Mette Møller
Overgaard)**

Photo: Cassandra Giannone



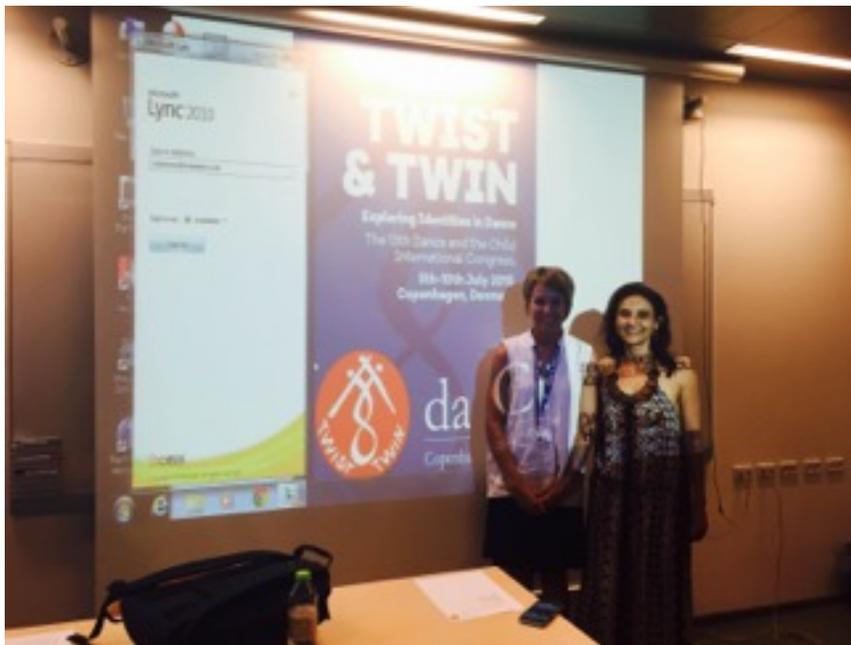
Brazil Report

The 2015 Dance and the Child International Congress in Copenhagen was a wonderful opportunity to meet dance people from all over the world, to learn, share and discuss several important issues in the Dance field, and also to appreciate wonderful artistic works presented by children, young adults and adults. Three members of DaCi/Brazil participated at the event: Adriana Gehres, Luciana Veiga and Alba Pedreira Vieira. These Brazilian dance educators presented academic papers related to the theme of “Twist and Twin” as follows: Adriana discussed the field of Dance as a networking in Recife; based on her 20-year teaching experience in Rio de Janeiro, Luciana examined challenges of dance education in private schools; Alba Vieira and her North-American colleague, Sara Semonis, talked about the collaborative study they conducted with the DaCi Across Borders Funding at Federal University of Vicosa, Minas Gerais. For these dance educators, the presentations became very special moments to give a wide exposure to issues in Brazilian dance. Soon after her oral presentation, Luciana said: “While presenting the dance project at the DaCi Conference, I noticed people from other nationalities took notes and [...] were interested in the subject.” Alba went back home feeling those days were very inspiring: “It was so exciting to live the DaCi 2015 amazing occasion. We experienced six enriching days together, filled with networking, exchanges, very interesting sessions, artistic performances, rich workshops and much more. I believe the congress itself turned into a great occasion to twin and twist with participants from all over the world.” We look forward for the upcoming congress!

The DaCi Congress became also an encouragement for DaCi Brazilian representative, Alba Vieira, to hold an event with five colleagues from four different universities (a twining project!), in her native country: From November 5-6, 2015, the “II International Arts Seminar - Body, Public Policies and Sustainability” took place at PUC University, in Belo Horizonte. Similar to the Daci Conferences, people from all ages got together to make, do, touch, smell, hear, see and speak arts – including dance. We, participants, enthusiastically shared academic and artistic proposals, ideas and works that allowed us to make new connections and enrich relationships that, hopefully, will last beyond the event. Submitted by Alba Vieira.



Brazilian Delegates performing, Photo: Vanessa Santos



Sara Semonis and Alba Vieira

Photo by Alba Vieira

Brazil Committee

Photo by Claudio Magalhaes



Luciana Veiga

Photo by Claudio Magalhaes



Japan Report

Submitted by daCi Japan team

Members of the Japan daCi group were delighted to attend the conference in Copenhagen this summer. Dancers came from across Japan, including Hiroshima, Tokyo, Nagoya area, and Sapporo. We want to express our thanks to all who were involved in planning such a wonderful conference.

Here are some photos that show some of our conference highlights.



Any movement can be dance. Junko Nakatsuka sharing Japanese tea ceremony.



Reunions - Nele Vandeneede and Kathleen Kampa finally meet after sharing OBR dance





Kumiko Mikami and students of SRD participate in workshops and perform on stage



We were delighted to meet so many wonderful dancers and new friends! (Masami Yomogida and Hisayo Sugao pictured)

USA Report

daCi USA Copenhagen News

Mary Lynn Babcock, USA National Representative

The big event for daCi USA was the participation in Copenhagen's Congress Twist and Twin. The following fall news from daCi USA highlights some of our activities there.

daCi Congress Twist and Twin

daCi Copenhagen 2015 was a treat and delight! I heard powerful keynote addresses, and attended insightful presentations. A highlight of this international Congress was in the youth performances! Each diverse performing group was brimming with excitement, sparkle, glow, and incredible focus. What was most amazing? The embodiment of passion and love for dance in each and every dancer, creating powerful performances and stunning dance works!

A Congress Presentation Recap by Co-Presenter Lucy Font

I am a senior elementary education major from the University of Delaware. I attended the daCi Congress in Copenhagen with my faculty mentor, Dr. Lynnette Overby, to present my experience with community engagement and integrating the arts. Dr. Overby lead a workshop in which participants brainstormed and outlined dance-related projects that could solve problems in their communities. For the past year, I have been creating and implementing a dance-integrated math curriculum for second grade students in the state of Delaware. I partnered with both an elementary school and a summer camp to implement this curriculum, collecting qualitative and quantitative data to determine the effects on student engagement. This project exemplifies high levels of positive community engagement because it fostered a reciprocal relationship between myself and my community partners while serving both of our needs. I shared my project as an example of a high level of community engagement during Dr. Overby's presentation. It was an added bonus that I had the opportunity to explore a new city, immerse myself in Danish culture, and meet so many phenomenal dancers and teachers!



Photograph: Amanda Boccardi

Kaleidoscope Dance Company-Seattle, Washington:

Anna Mansbridge, Artistic Director of Kaleidoscope Dance Company and Terry Goetz, Director of Creative Dance Center brought 17 Kaleidoscope dancers ages 9-17 to perform and attend at the 13th daCi (dance and the Child International) Congress. They engaged with people coming together from different countries, cultures, and backgrounds to create, explore, share, present and perform dance. They made new friends and gained fabulous experiences! Four of the Kaleidoscope students expressed their time in Copenhagen in the following ways:

This was my fourth daCi conference (two national and two international) and each time it amazes me how many people from around the world share the same passion as me. It is always so much fun to meet new friends and learn about different dance styles. I highly encourage dancers who have not been to a daCi conference yet to do so. Can't wait for Australia!

-Izzi Cooper, age 13

daCi was an incredible experience that I will never forget. Meeting people from so many different countries was my highlight, but I also enjoyed the Creative Meeting Points and seeing all the performances.

-Agatha Schuman, age 12

I expected daCi to be a great learning opportunity and it did not fail me in the slightest. I thought all of the classes were taught for all age levels and were really fun. I have made several friends and I would never have had traded my summer for anything else! I can't wait for Australia!!!!

-Celestine Ruhmann, age 12

I enjoyed every part of the experience. I will re-member Denmark, the people, and the amazing new dancing I was introduced to for the rest of my life. One class in particular I will remember is the dynamic floor work class. The teacher was fantastic, the people I did it with were fun and enthusiastic, and the new material I learned was extremely helpful for future choreography. I also just loved doing the movement. I was really challenged and I really pushed myself but it made me happy when I accomplished it. Can't wait for the next daCi to make new memorable experiences.

-Holand Dennis, age 12



Opening Ceremony at Tivoli Gardens.
Kaleidoscope Dancers
Photo: Anna Mansbridge

The
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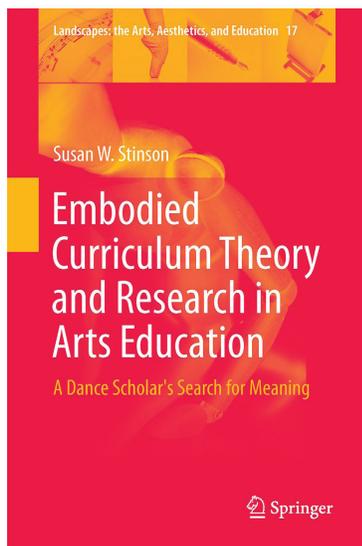
*Tanner Dance
Children's
Dance Theatre*

Tanner Dance Children's Dance Theatre had the opportunity to take 20 young dancers, ages 8-18, and five faculty members to the daCi International Conference Twist and Twin in Copenhagen, Denmark this past July... We all made connections, new friends, were in-spired and danced and danced and danced! We only got lost once or twice travelling from one venue to another, but even in those moments saw some amazing places and met kind people who we will always remember.



University of Utah, Tanner Dance
Children's Dance Theatre





1st ed. 2016, XVIII, 310 p. 12 illus.

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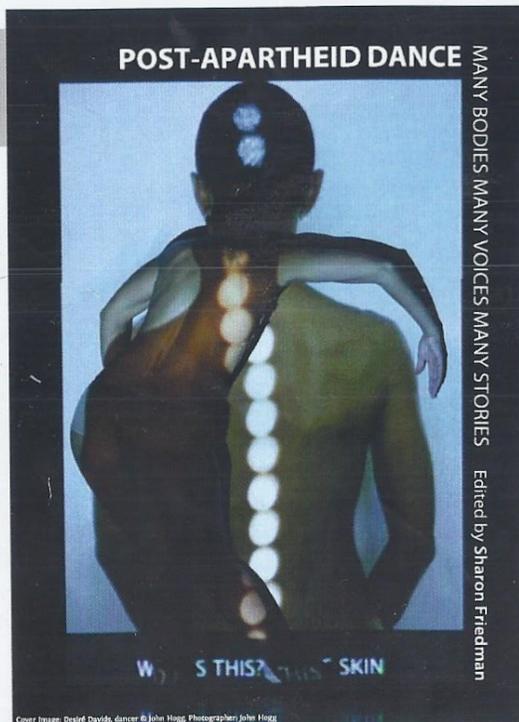
- ▶ A unique collection of articles by this pioneer scholar in dance education
- ▶ With an introduction by the author, updated articles and postscripts to highlight new developments
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This collection of articles by Susan W. Stinson, organized thematically and chronologically by the author, reveals the evolution of the field of arts education in general and dance education in particular, through narrative and critical reflections by this unique scholar and a few co-authors. It also includes contextual insights not available elsewhere. The author's pioneering embodied research work in arts and dance education continues to be relevant to researchers today. The selected chapters and articles were predominantly previously published in a variety of journals, conference proceedings, and books between 1985 and the present. Each section is preceded by an introduction and the author has written a postscriptum for each article to offer a commentary or response to the article from the current perspective.

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Post-Apartheid Dance

Many Bodies Many Voices Many Stories

Edited by Sharon Friedman



ISBN 9781443840361 · Hardback · 190pp · £39.99 · \$59.99

The intention of this work is to present perspectives on post-apartheid dance in South Africa by South African authors. Beginning with an historical context for dance in SA, the book moves on to reflect the multiplicity of bodies, voices and stories suggested by the title. This book is ground breaking as it is the first of its kind to speak of contemporary dance in South Africa and the first singular body of work to have emerged in any book form that attempts to provide a cohesive account of the range of voices within dance in post-apartheid South Africa.

“. . . the first – and long overdue – volume to grapple with the legacies of apartheid in dance. . . this exciting volume celebrates the diversity of that world while spotlighting its continuing quest for full artistic enfranchisement.”

– Lynn Garafola, Professor of Dance,
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“These essays provide an invaluable contribution to dance studies, juxtaposing embodied experiences with critical reflections, which shift perspectives of dance practices in a global context.”

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Dear daCi Members,

On behalf of the daCi organization, I invite you to become part of a daCi Global Event that will be happening on February 14, 2016.

This will be the fourth time we have participated in this event as representatives of daCi following our decision at the daCi conference in Taipei to respond to the call of "[One Billion Rising](#): Strike, Dance, Rise" focused on stopping violence against girls and women on a global scale.

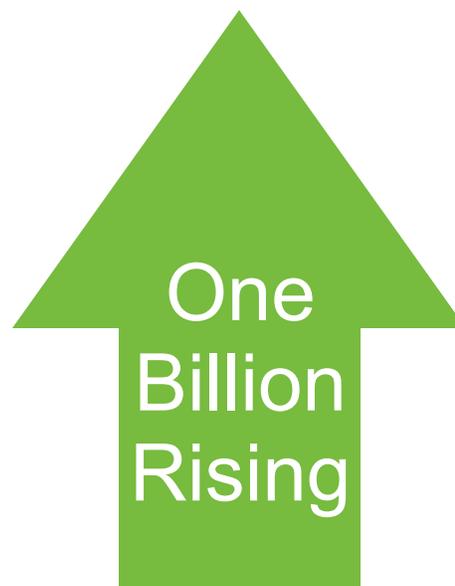
The idea is:

1. For each country to sign onto the One Billion Rising web site (click link above); noting that you are a daCi member and also onto the daCi Facebook Page;
2. Plan a "flash mob" dance event for February 14th that would include a video upload to YouTube showing your group and ending the dance with a large sign stating, for example, "daCi USA" One Billion Rising: Strike, Dance, Rise – stop violence against girls and women;
3. That each country would upload a YouTube video of your country's event, for example, named "daCi Netherlands"; therefore we would have a large presence on YouTube and on One Billion Rising list of signers as well as on the daCi Facebook Page. Remember you must have video release forms signed for all who will be on the video.
4. We would begin early in the day with New Zealand, moving across the globe through Australia, Asia, the Caribbean, America, Europe and so forth to create a day of daCi –

The success of this endeavor is yours. Please join with this global call to stop violence against girls and women and make our voices heard as daCi members.

If you can plan to join this event please let me know. It would be great to get some photos to share in our newsletter. You need not have everyone in your country membership, if this is not possible, maybe it will be just you! Each country's contribution will be special and unique!

Take care, and enjoy the community effort.



Where is your daCi bag?



Lenneke Gentle from the Netherlands wants to see your pictures of your daCi bag. Please post to daCi Facebook page.



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International Membership Fees

Due: January 1, 2016

Individual: CDN \$40 per year (Special circumstances; minimum of CDN \$15 per year)

Full-time Students: CDN \$15 per year

Children/Youth Groups: CDN \$50 per year

CDN \$125 for three years. All young children/youth and two adult personnel are eligible to participate in daCi activities at member rates.

Please contact your National Representative.

Susan Koff, Editor
Kimberly Yancheson (NYU) Layout

