



THE COMPANY

After working in the film industry, the visual arts and the dance field, Lane Gifford coalesced her previous experiences into a new fresh dance theater voice and founded LaneCoArts in 2006.

LaneCoArts mission:

- *design* visual and dramatic dance theater works with a multi-arts approach
- *engage* audiences fully with poignant movement narratives that speak to contemporary subjects
- *evolve* as a result of strong collaborations with fellow artists, establishing consistent and vital dialogues and a through line to current cultural issues



LaneCoArts is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

The company has been invited to participate in festivals and performed on stages throughout New England including Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Boston Contemporary Dance Festival, Dance New Amsterdam/ RAW Directions, the NY International Fringe Festival, Le Poisson Rouge, the 92nd Street Y, New York Theater Workshop, Triskelion Arts, Dixon Place, ITE Festival, REVERBdance Festival, Bryant Park Festival, and University Settlement Presents LaneCoArts, and Dance Place Presents LaneCoArts. Commissions include new works for Ballet Nouveau Colorado/Redline Gallery, Boston Center for the Arts/Mills Gallery, Southern Utah University, McKnight Artist Fellowship for SOLO Commissioning Program with Kari Mosel, a choreographic fellowship and new work at University of Kansas, Northeast Choreographer Residency (MA) and a Freight Residency in upper state NY. Ms. Gifford was artist in residence at Boston Center for the Arts 2015 & 2016, created a commissioned new work for the Joffrey Ballet School (Contemporary Division) 2015 and was a finalist in Western Michigan University's 2015 National Choreography Competition. Upcoming events: showing of work at Gibney Dance Center April 2017, a Kaatsbaan International Dance Center residency 2017 and Missouri Valley College teaching residency 2017.



MISSION STATEMENT

LaneCoArts is a unique blend of dance, theater and visual arts. The mission of the company is to create a rich and dynamic dialogue that fuses a distinctive movement aesthetic, deep emotional exploration, and stimulating visual and dramatic narrative components.



Through a process of exchange and collaboration with other artists, artistic director Lane Gifford explores the formation and execution of a meaningful movement vocabulary that grows from the interfacing of dance with such elements as words, sculptural components and rigorous physical investigations.

A landscape that emerges from these thought-provoking artistic alliances is what Ms. Gifford is seeking.



Charged movement conversations, exploring human issues that touch and excite through in-depth physical interchange, are the focus. LaneCoArts looks at themes such as "communication" in our digital landscape with the goal to compel audiences towards thoughtful responses and ways they too might communicate today.



ARTISTIC DIRECTOR : LANE GIFFORD

Artistic Director, Lane Gifford was born in Massachusetts where she first studied dance at The Boston Conservatory. She received a BFA in dance performance and an MFA specializing in choreography from The Conservatory of Dance at Purchase College. After receiving a French Cultural Service Award from the French government she lived in Paris, where she performed for José Caseneuve and Jean Marc Torres and taught modern and improvisation at the International School of Paris. Lane Gifford is one of the co-founders of REVERBdance, a yearly dance festival taking place in New York City.



Seeking ways to examine different artistic languages and expand her compositional skills, Lane Gifford has worked in the television industry for such companies as Sony Music, where she designed promotions for artists including Wynton Marsalis, Marc Anthony, Shawn Colvin and John Mellencamp. This experience contributed to artistic director Lane Gifford's interarts inquiry into movement and theater and her exploration into the vital area where dance meets the visual arts, drama, design and music.

The education extension Ms. Gifford provides through LaneCoArts includes creative process classes for children and adults at several schools in New York, Massachusetts and New Jersey, where Ms. Gifford combines the arts in an engaging multi-arts dialogue about articulation and communication of individual expression. She is currently a Wingspan Arts teaching artist. The overall goals for the LaneCoArts educational program :

- ignite the imagination towards unique expressions in storytelling, through diverse processes of creative excavation in dance and the arts.
- explore dimensional approaches to possibilities in dance expression.
- craft movement ideas with clarity, vision, freedom and joy.

REPERTORY

« Dash »

Through a lens of movement, video projections and spoken word, “Dash” examines the physical manifestation of communication in a fractured contemporary landscape. This collaboration which began with sculptor Mark Mennin, is a dance exhibit that reveals the meaning of “dash” a word referring to the hyphen – the mark that connects words, ideas and in this case, people.

Video link : vimeo.com/204623119



« The Garden »

“The Garden” is a contemporary view of the Garden of Eden. Concentrating on the exit from the garden, we focus on the overall meaning of this story as it relates to current day conflict in our often complex social environment. Using the ancient biblical tale and the concept of “knowledge” as a multi-layered complexity, we present a vivid story divided into six sections with narrative and visual components to support this movement interpretation.

Video link : vimeo.com/97275704



« land•scape (n.) »

land•scape (n.) is a reflection on the individual in a complex urban setting. It shares with the audience the unconscious mind as it absorbs our dynamic contemporary surroundings and explores the meaning of sensory overload, self-image, accumulation, consumption and convolution in an animated setting through a dramatic dance narrative.

Video link: vimeo.com/61915091





« Almost Awake »

Taking as an inspiration the labyrinth found on the floors of medieval cathedrals and used by church goers seeking guidance to enlightenment, "Almost Awake" is about one person's transformative journey through various architectural, visual, psychological and physical environments. It looks at the effects of a contemporary world on a protagonist seeking pathways to knowledge and expressive freedom.

Using the labyrinth as a dramatic and visual metaphor, the performance becomes a set to be traversed as one might move through an obstacle course.

Video link : vimeo.com/92948930

Props: ten free-standing panels referred to as "books" and "walls" with word based designs on one side and pure white on the other. The mind in motion is the goal.



« *The Space Between* »



This collaborative work with cellist/composer Sean Grissom addresses the concept of interaction and communication today in an expanding digital world. The counterpoint provided by a dynamic electronic soundscape and the solo cello provides a background dialogue to our physical convergences and diversions regarding the constructive and destructive nature of communication today in a technological landscape.

Video link : vimeo.com/127670709

« *Striptease* »

Working in collaboration with Poet Laureate of Kansas, Wyatt Townley, this theatrical work which addresses femininity today and self-realization was inspired by the powerful words of Townley's poem entitled, "Striptease". Evolving from the vivid imagery of the poem, the piece culminates in a narrative movement investigation.



Video link : vimeo.com/206183719

« As We Are »

“As We Are” is a dance, drama, music and visual art narrative based on the concept of a chess game and a series of episodes one man encounters in an urban landscape and a variety of psychological entanglements. By approaching the living experience as a complex game, human consciousness is revealed in a collage of events that trigger a dynamic moving canvas.

Video link: vimeo.com/39893257



LaneCoArts is a versatile contemporary dance theater company performing in both traditional and non-traditional environments such as galleries, public spaces, schools and outdoor locations with open-air settings.

« Searching for a Phase Change »

Video link: vimeo.com/196918510
Mills Gallery / Boston Center for the Arts



One New York Plaza, New York



« Ana Deo »



“Ana Deo” was performed at the outdoor Bryant Park Festival in New York City. This work grew out of a fascination with small wooden sculptures from 19th century Indonesia representing male and female couples seated side by side and naked. These human images (ana deo) were thought to make reference to ancestors and supernatural beings and be associated with ancestral shrines.

Video link: vimeo.com/179051167

WHAT LaneCoArts CAN OFFER YOU

Performances

- Public presentations / full-length, evening productions.
- Residencies geared specifically to venue and/or school.
- Open rehearsals and master classes.
- Commissions of new or existing repertory.



Education For Children and Adults

- Workshops tied directly to the performance offerings.
- Integrated arts education classes based on LaneCoArts multi-arts mission.
- New York City based summer programs for students seeking professional experiences.
- Internship opportunities for visiting dance students.

Objective: inspire dialogue and use the arts as a collective voice.



REVIEWS

"Lane Gifford packs delicious movement into land•scape n. but breaks things up beautifully with anxious speaking and relaxed running; the combination is breathtakingly good. She also chooses music well, tossing in a spicy throwdown section that drips street energy and amps the landscape. The movers are exceptional; the men move with silky power and the women with solid electricity. Even in this company, David Scarantino stands out for his flow and buttery extension at full speed. The speaking bits are just odd enough to keep us focused, with dancers lining up to deliver stammering expressions of need and yearning to an onstage microphone. Something deeply exciting is happening here." Quinn Batson / Offoffoff.com

"land•scape n. is Lane Gifford's creation. "Here's the thing," the words echo from a microphone downstage. The group commands the audience's attention, sometimes peeling into solos and duets, sometimes folding into an ensemble, all moving together. They line up and speak and stutter into the mic about what they want - from coffee tables to coffee - anything and everything superfluous in life. It's a piece that uses different forms – music, recording, speaking, movement, props – seamlessly." Jennifer Thompson / EYE ON THE ARTS, NY



"Major theatrical magic is created here; Gifford and her troupe, LaneCoArts, deserve a shot at a larger theater and a longer form." (O! Balletto) Elizabeth Zimmer, Metro New York

"Beautiful, regal, humorous.... Passion and rules of behavior collide in a dazzling display of dance, drama and music in O! Balletto." AmericanTheaterWeb Original News & Review

"A thoughtful commentary on social development." (O! Balletto) Irene Backalenick, Backstage

"Lane Gifford really knows how to grab the audience and take them away to a brief moment of paradise." (Off White) iDANZ Critix Corner

"Jake's Dilemma spoken poetry delivered and danced well enough to make us care about his dilemma and recognize our own." Offoffoff.com

"Your work is edgy, clever, technically strong, and simply stunning - thank you for bringing it to the BCA. » (land•scape n.) Andrea Blesso / Boston Center for the Arts

COMMENTARY

Repertory

"Your work is wonderful - full of nuance and intrigue, and the dancers are sublime."
(land•scape n.) Megan Williams / Dance Faculty – Conservatory of Dance / Purchase College

"The choreography - innovative and striking, the dancers - both technically solid as rock and sinewy ..." Kathryn Boland / Journalist, Dance Informa

"I respect and admire Lane as a choreographer, not only for the integrity and beauty of her work, but also for her tenacity and fearlessness in delivering her artistic vision." Max Stone / Teacher, Choreographer

"The evening of work was beautiful and affecting." Lisa Clair / Curator, University Settlement

"I thoroughly enjoyed your work. It was theatrical, technical, and inventive even with only low-tech lighting to enhance the atmosphere. Your company is fresh, energetic, and committed to intention and nuance." (The Garden) Michael Blake / Director, Joffrey Ballet School Jazz & Contemporary Program



Education

"So impressive. Regarding your workshop..... wonderful. Important work. You received rave reviews (from the students). I loved the clarity, and the potential for application of the concepts. In the studio, on "the arts" you are so incisive. Please know how much I respect and admire your very professional and articulate work. And thank you for sharing your consummate expertise and artistry with us." Alice Teirstein / Director / Young Dance Makers, Former Director, Dance Department / Fieldston School "

You are very talented and a gift to the NYC community. The children learned a lot, experienced new things, made new friends and got excited about different forms of art." A Parent / SummerSPLASH Program, Founded and Directed by Lane Gifford

"You are so kind to share your time and talent with so many. You have enriched our entire community." Carrie Trenholm / Endowed Chair of Elementary Arts Education/ Southern Utah University

HOW TO SUPPORT US

On-line donations:
www.lanecoarts.com

All donations can be made directly to
LaneCoArts Inc.

and mailed to:
Lane Gifford / LaneCoArts
225 West End Avenue, #51
New York, NY 10023

All contributions are tax-deductible
to the extent permitted by law. You will receive a tax receipt
upon submission of your donation.

We thank you.
LaneCoArts greatly appreciates your generous support as we plan for future programming.



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