



 **March - Women In Film Issue** - Edited by 
Susanne Fosse

UK - Filmmakers Hit London Festival 
by Ghulam Mohomedain

Host of Filmmakers to Hit London

Constellation Change is delighted to welcome a host of filmmakers and guests to this years 7th Screen Dance Festival, which takes place in London 19th-23rd March 2007.



Above -Director - Catherine Maximoff - Voyage



From Left -Directors - Karina Epperlein (Phoenix Dance), Neeta Mittal(Wings Of Legacy) , Phil Bertelsen(Beyond The Steps & Film Seminar)



Clockwise from Left Directors - Heather Lyn MacDonald (Been Rich All My Life), Nadia Roden (Aquarium) Preservationist Lou DiCrescenzo (Film Seminar), Producer Patrice Nezan (Voyage)...

and many more..

<http://www.constellation-change.co.uk/>

UK - West Side Story film screening

by Eider Lopez



WEST SIDE STORY

(1961) Leaving aside the pliés and pirouettes, West Side Story is a street tuff take on Shakespeare's Romeo And Juliet that feels as contemporary now as it did on its initial release in 1961. Natalie Wood and Richard Beymer are star-crossed lovers on opposite sides of a New York turf war in what remains one of the boldest and most breathlessly dynamic musicals ever made. It went on to score ten Oscars, including Best Directing for Robert Wise and Jerome Robbins. Manhattan is the battleground for rival street gangs: The Jets, a bunch of second generation immigrants headed by Riff (Russ Tamblyn), and The Sharks, a group of Puerto Ricans fresh off the boat and fronted by Bernardo (a brooding George Chakiris). Their violent run-ins are staged in creeping, cat-like dance that builds to a thumping crescendo as Bernardo's sister Maria (Wood) becomes entangled with Riff's old cohort Tony (Beymer). Amid vibrant set pieces, a shadow of portent looms large.



Monday 19th March 2007
Screen on the Green
 83 Upper Street
 Islington N1 0NP
 Box Office Tel: 020 7226 3520
 Price £9.00 / £8.00 Conc

6:00pm Doors / Film 6:20pm

Screen on the Green



Opening Film
7th Constellation
Change Screen
Dance Festival

Constellation Change

Screening Monday 19th March 2007 - 6.20pm

New Remastered 35mm Print

[See Original 1961 Film Trailer Here](#)

Amid vibrant set pieces, a shadow of portent looms large.



West Side Story

Monday 19th March 2007

Digitally Remastered 35mm print

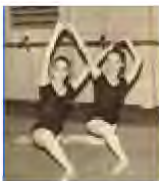
Doors 6.00pm /Film 6.20pm

The Screen on the Green
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Screen cinemas Website

UK - Mirror Dance by Ghulam Mohomedain **Premiere Screening**



Mirror Dance (2005)

documentary about twin sisters who danced with the Cuban National Ballet before one of the women defected to the U.S. and left her sister in Cuba.



Frances McElroy (Director/Producer)

McElroy began her career as an independent filmmaker in 1991, when she founded Shirley Road productions, an award-winning nonprofit independent production

company in Philadelphia.

Director credits include INPUT (1988), Ballycastle (2003), An Angel in the Village (1999) which received a regional Emmy Award, First Prize for Documentary Excellence from the Society of Professional Journalists.

María Teresa Rodríguez (Director/Producer)

Rodríguez is an award-winning producer/director whose work has screened both nationally and internationally. Her previous work includes Under New Management, which was commissioned by WYBE's Philadelphia Stories. Rodríguez also directed six half-hour programs on literature and the arts for GED Connection.

Susanne Fosse: *Mirror Dance is a fascinating story about two ballerina twins who have been living separate lives. What intrigued you both about the project?*

Frances McElroy & María Teresa Rodríguez: Back in 2000, we read an article in a Philadelphia newspaper about Margarita de Saa White, who runs the Pennsylvania Academy of Ballet in Narberth – a Philadelphia suburb where Frances lives. We were particularly struck by how the sisters' lives and experiences seemed to mirror each other, despite their having been estranged for nearly 40 years. Both have maintained their great love of ballet; both are devoted to training future dancers through their respective ballet schools in the US and Cuba. An interest in Cuba, ballet, the immigrant experience and twins further appealed to us..

INTERVIEW CONTINUED >>>

MIRROR DANCE

Friday 23rd March 6:30pm



Curzon Soho
93-107 Shaftesbury Avenue
London W1D 5DY
Box Office – 0870 756 4620

Tickets: £9.00 / Conc £8.

www.curzoncinemas.com

Watch Mirror Dance Movie Clip  Media Player  Quicktime

US - Women In Film The Directors

by Ghulam Mohomedain



In our Women in Film Special - Dance On Film News salutes four women directors (three of which are also choreographers) who are in the film industry.

Director/Choreographer - Anne Fletcher

Anne Fletcher, one of the contemporary film world's leading choreographers who made her debut with the hit "Bring It On" and has gone on to choreograph key sequences for some two dozen film and television projects. When Anne Fletcher read the script, she knew STEP UP would be a tremendous opportunity for her directorial debut. "I knew I could do it because I really understand the world of dance and young artists because that's the world I grew up in," she says. "I loved the script and I felt that it was a chance to tell a very truthful story. But I also knew that the first priority was to hire really good people, because a director is only ever as good as her team."



[Video Interview Link - at IFILM.](#)

Actor/Director/Producer/Choreographer - Debbie Allen

Debbie Allen found fame as the demanding dance teacher Lydia Grant in the film Fame (1980), a role she reprised for the successful NBC TV series, which she also choreographed. Allen is the sister of actor Phylicia Rashad, best known as Claire Huxtable on NBC's The Cosby Show.



Allen joined the already popular Cosby Show spin-off, A Different World (1987–1993), during its second season as producer and primary director. Along with Cosby, Allen became one of contemporary television's leading proponents of African American bourgeois values as a director of such family-oriented sitcoms as The Cosby Show, Family Ties, and The Sinbad Show. She also helmed the 1990 NBC pilot for the hit sitcom The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air. She has been choreographer of the Academy Awards

presentations since 1991, her feature acting credits include Milos Forman's *Ragtime* (1981), Richard Pryor's *Jo Jo Dancer, Your Life Is Calling* (1986), and Disney's *Blank Check* (1994). She choreographed Billy Crystal's *Forget Paris* (1995). She also directed the television movies, *Cool Women* (2000), *The Old Settler* (2001), and *Life is Not a Fairytale: The Fantasia Barrino Story* (2006), and in 2001 appeared in the films *The Painting* and *All About You*. She also has been keeping busy directing episodes of TV shows such as *That's So Raven*, *Girlfriends*, *All of Us*, and *Everybody Hates Chris*.

[Debbie Allen - Interview Interview at work.](#)

WOMEN IN FILM CONTINUED

UK- 7th Constellation Change *Festival News*



19-23rd March 2007



SCREEN
DANCE
FESTIVAL★L

19-23 March
'07



... dance around the capital

Click on photo to download festival brochure.

or Visit the website to receive the brochure by post

<http://www.constellation-change.co.uk>

UK- Phil Bertelsen/Lou DiCrescenzo

by Susanne Fosse



London - Tuesday 20th March 2007

4:30pm - 6:30pm

Film Seminar with Phil Bertelsen, and
Lou DiCrescenzo



New York based filmmaker, **Phil Bertelsen** will conduct a seminar that provides a brief step-by-step overview of the filmmaking process, with particular insight into the pleasures and demands of shooting dance for the camera. His most recent work, *Beyond The Steps* is a documentary featuring Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and is screening at this year's festival. Students will leave the seminar with creative and practical tips which are invaluable to aspiring filmmakers of all genres.

Philadelphia based film Historian and film Preservationist, **Lou DiCrescenzo**, a Bucks County native, has been collecting out-of-print film and film memorabilia for the past several decades. DiCrescenzo's collection, which dates back to film's infancy in the late nineteenth century and his personal collection includes over 400 films. Some of the highlights of his collection are: *OLIVER*, *THE SOUND OF MUSIC*, *FUNNY GIRL*, Natalie Woods' own 35mm print of *WEST SIDE STORY*, the only know surviving 35mm print of Ed Wood's *BRIDE OF THE MONSTER*. In today's session, Lou will be imparting stories and anecdotes about the treasure of genre film and TV that today's audiences may be overlooking.



Everyman Cinema
5 Hollybush Vale, Hampstead,
London, NW3 6TX

BOOK ON-LINE

Film Seminar £8.00/ Conc £7.00

Box Office 087 00 664777

UK - Dance Camera Action 1 *Shorts*
by Ghulam Mohomedain



TUESDAY 20th MARCH 2007



Dancing Shadow(2006, 5mins, Bulgaria, UK Premiere)
A jazz musician walks the streets of Sofia, while his shadow trails like a cape, always dancing to his beautiful music. dir:Anna Batcheva



Zydeco (2006, 10mins, USA, UK Premiere)
An-off-the -wall comedy about a young man desperate to join the Sookies, the coolest gang in school, but first he must beat the gang's leader in a perilous jairajive. dir: Jon Jones

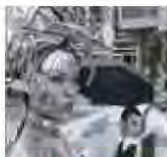


Voyage (2006, 26mins, FRA)
A journey into the universe of the British choreographer Russell Maliphant. An abstract dance through solos, duos and quintet. Movements are all about power, lightness and emotions. dir:Dir: Catherine Maximoff, Chor: Russell Maliphant.



Wings Of Legacy (2006, 14mins, USA, UK Premiere)
Eva, facing her last hours, silently seeks for someone to give flight to her legacy through the passion of dance. She meets Amy, a differently-abled dancer who is looking for a chance for individual expression beyond her wheelchair..Dir: Neeta Mittal , Chor: Zina Bethune and Auti Angel
Mes Mer.. (1998, 13mins, NZ)

A female hologram performs a street pantomime and



sparks off a magical communication with a cafe patron. dir/Chor: Morag Brownlie.



Spin (2006, 10mins, USA, UK Premiere)
The story of a mysterious DJ sent to a busy city block to mend a series of chain reactions that occur in our everyday lives. Can the power of music overcome fate? Put the needle on the record and find out!.dir: Jamin Winan./Chor:Jay Rincon

Dance Camera Action 1

7:00pm

Everyman Cinema
5 Hollybush Vale, Hampstead,
London, NW3 6TX

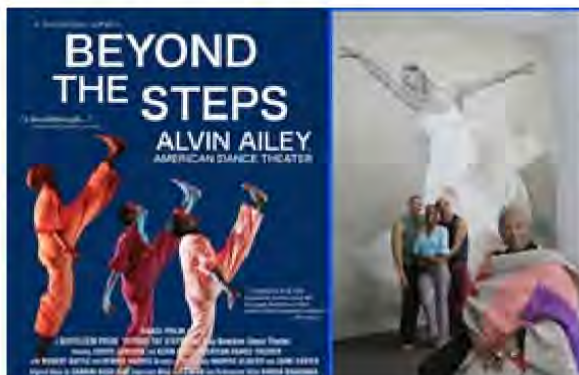
Film Seminar £8.00/Conc £7.00

Box Office **087 00 664777**

Book Online

UK- Beyond the Steps **Film Premiere**

by Susanne Fosse



Curzon Soho
93-107 Shaftesbury Avenue
London W1D 5DY
Box Office – 0870 756 4620

Tickets: £9.00 / Conc £8.00

2006, US, 87mins , director: Phil Bertelsen.

BEYOND THE STEPS follows the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater during a pivotal period in its history, one that has the company venturing abroad as well as establishing new roots at home. The documentary marks a

**6:45pm - Wed 21st
March 07**

7:35pm - Fri 23rd

moment of both growth and reflection, as the troupe travels to Russia after an absence of nearly 20 years, moves into a state-of-the-art custom facility, called by The New York Times "the largest in the country devoted exclusively to dance," and creates a new ballet entitled Love Stories, choreographed by longtime AAADT artistic director Judith Jamison in collaboration with hip-hop pioneer Rennie Harris and modern dance maverick Robert Battle. Under the steadfast leadership of Jamison, the making of a new dance and a new home serve as symbols of the remarkable foundation that Ailey built, and of the vibrancy that defines the company today.

March 07

Wed 21st screening followed by interview with director Phil Bertelsen by Donald Hutera.

www.curzoncinemas.com

UK - Been Rich All My Life Festival

by Ghulam Mohomedain



"Been Rich All My Life" follows the unlikeliest troupe of tap dancing divas. They are the "Silver Belles," five former showgirls now aged 84-96, performing to standing ovations, as sassy as they ever were.

They met during Harlem's 1930's heyday, dancing in the chorus lines at the Apollo Theater, the Cotton Club, Small's Paradise and Connie's Inn, performing with legendary band leaders like Cab Calloway and Duke Ellington. When the big band era ended, they all went into other work -- but in 1985 they put their shoes back on, and have been dancing together again ever since. They may not kick as high, but they are hip-swaying and show-biz savvy.

View Trailer  Media Player  Quicktime

Been Rich All My Life

THURSDAY 22nd MARCH 2007

CURZON

SOHO 0870 756 4620

6:30pm

Curzon Soho
93-107 Shaftesbury Avenue
London W1D 5DY
Box Office – 0870 756 4620

Tickets: £8.00 / Conc £7.00

www.curzoncinemas.com

UK - Dance Camera Action 2 *Shorts*
by Ghulam Mohomedein



CEA (2006, 5mins, Canada, UK Premiere)

CEA, a film without dialogue, uses a combination of original music and graceful dance to explore the richness of our rural history. Dir: Robert Prowse, Chor: Andrea Pass



No Man's Land (2005, 7mins, CAN, UK Premiere)

The journey of a man who finds himself torn between two cultures, two cultural voices. He struggles between the two until he discovers a neutral space, a space where both halves can co-exist, a No Man's Land.



You Cuba (2006, 13mins, UK)

Filmed in Havana 'You Cuba' is a celebration of dance in Cuba, inspired by colourful culture, vibrant people and outstanding landscape. Dir: Margaret Williams, Chor: Cathy Marston



Auto Erotica (2006, 4min, CAN, UK Premiere)

The film is a tongue-in-cheek commentary on the sexualized relationships we have with cars. The short, which features Farley Johansson, has the aesthetic of an eye-catching television

commercial. Dir: Kenneth Sherman, Chor: Noam Gagnon.

Aquarium (2006, 2min, US, UK Premiere)



An underwater ballet to the music of Saint-Sciens' AQUARIUM Busby-Berkeley-style! Sea horses playing the harp, urchins swaying, jellyfish on the piano, octopuses changing color, tiny fish turning into a kaleidoscope of color and pattern.

Dir/Chor: Nadia Roden

Phoenix Dance (2006, 16mins, USA, UK Premiere)



Dancer Homer Avila - after losing a leg to cancer - returns to the stage in a pas de deux by Alonzo King. Their collaboration's magic reminds us that when heart and will are joined, the impossible can happen. Dir: Karina Epperlein, Chor: Alonzo King

DANCE CAMERA ACTION 2

THURSDAY 22nd MARCH 2007

CURZON

SOHO 0870 756 4620

8:05pm

Curzon Soho
93-107 Shaftesbury Avenue
London W1D 5DY
Box Office – 0870 756 4620

Tickets: £8.00 / Conc £7.00

www.curzoncinemas.com

UK-Filmmaker Interviews Film Festival
by Eider Lopez



London : DOFN Interviews filmmakers screening (or attending) at this years 7th Constellation Change Screen Dance Festival 19-23rd March 2007.

Auto Erotica (CAN) - Kenneth Sherman - director
CEA (CAN) - Andrea Pass and Dominique Keller - producers.
Voyage (FRA) - Russell Maliphant - choreographer.
Spin (US) - Jamin Winans - director

Zydeco (US)- Jon Jones - director
 Voyage (FRA)- Catherine Maximoff - director
 Phoenix Dance (US)- Karina Epperlein - director
 Calling Card Shorts (US)- Karina Epperlein - director
 Wings of Legacy US)- Neeta Mittal - director
 No Man's Land (CAN) - Peter Chin - choreographer/performer
 Dancing Shadow (BUL) - Anna Batcheva - Choreographer/director
 Been Rich All My Life (US) Heather Lyn MacDonald - director
 Mirror Dance (US) Frances McElroy & Maria Teresa Rodr'guez - director(s)
 Mes Mer (NZ) Morag Brownlie -director
 Aquarium (US) Nadia Roden - director

Click on photo for interview



Auto Erotica



Been Rich All My Life



CEA



Dancing Shadow



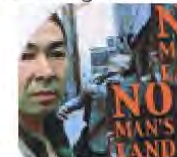
Phoenix Dance



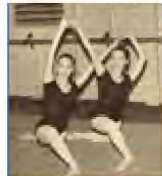
Voyage



Voyage. No2



No Man's Land



Mirror Dance



Mes Mer



Calling card Shorts1



CFA



Spin



Wings of Legacy



Aquarium



Zydeco



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