



THODOS

DANCE CHICAGO

TDC NEWSLETTER: *Performance. Creation. Education*

From Melissa | Fosse Trilogy | Celebrating past New Dances | Ann Reinking Scholarship

From the Founder & Artistic Director, Melissa Thodos



As I glance out of the window today, I see the sky as almost blue, the trees almost budding, the sun almost bright, and I feel a sense that a season of growth and renewed hope is upon us. Seeds of new possibilities emerge as our world begins to open up in different ways bringing new beginnings. The past few months have not been dormant, but creative, as a new and needed scholarship came to be in memory of Ann Reinking. It is my honor to serve on this scholarship's advisory board and support her legacy and memory. Here at Thodos Dance Chicago, we also continue to keep Ann's memory alive as we take another deep dive deep into the TDC archives and celebrate the many projects that were created with and for the Company.

Ann carried a deep desire for some special early works of Bob Fosse, previously captured only on television film, to be reconstructed and performed for a live audience. In 2009 Ann's wish was granted and the very special work "Fosse Trilogy" was set on Thodos Dance Chicago under her honed brilliant eye and through her fierce detailed and passionate direction. We hope you enjoy the many facets within this newsletter that pay tribute to Bob Fosse's work as seen and set through his muse's eyes.

Here at TDC we have also taken some time to push pause, slow down, and take in the new with hope as we, together, move into a new future. Last year, in partnership with DanceWorks Chicago, we rode the wave of lightening fast shift as we took New Dances 2020 from an entirely live production to an entirely virtual one, leaning in to the arts and the amazing spirit of creativity as our city state and country were navigating the effect of COVID-19. We are choosing to take some time to slow down breathe in the new, embrace our new world, and push pause on New Dances in 2021. In doing so as we toast to last year's unprecedented journey and success, and we also toast to our future of expansion and hope as we together set our sights on New Dances 2022, and new creative horizons.

"Hope sees the invisible, feels the intangible, and achieves the impossible."

- Helen Keller

Honoring Ann: Fosse Trilogy



Photos by Cheryl Mann

Join us as we celebrate Fosse Trilogy in so many wonderful ways!

[CLICK HERE](#) to view an excerpt of the Fosse Trilogy

[CLICK HERE](#) to view Ann Reinking and Melissa Thodos on WTTW's Chicago Tonight in 2009

[CLICK HERE](#) to preview the very special short film "Fosse Prelude" created by Chris Olsen of Kai Harding, Inc.

Fosse Trilogy (excerpts)

- Cool Hand Luke
- Tijuana Shuffle
- Mexican Breakfast

Choreography by: Bob Fosse, staged by Ann Reinking

Music by:

- Cool Hand Luke - Lolo Schifrin
- Tijuana Shuffle - Sol Lachoff
- Mexican Breakfast - John Mandel

Costumes by: Elizabeth Rench

Lighting by: Nathan Tomlinson

Dancers:

- Cool Hand Luke - Jeremy Blair, Joshua Manculich, and Mollie Mock
- Tijuana Shuffle - Natalie Tursi, Brian Hare, and Justin Sears
- Mexican Breakfast - Sharon Joyce Kung, Jessica Miller Tomlinson, and Danielle Scanlon

This project was made possible by the National Endowment for the Arts as part of *American Masterpieces: Three Centuries of Artistic Genius*. Additional funding provided through a generous grant from The Saints, Volunteers for the Arts. Fosse Trilogy is preceded by a short film excerpt entitled "Fosse: Prelude" – Film Production and Design by Chris Olsen, Kai Harding, Inc.

Celebrating past New Dances

After celebrating 20 years of New Dances, including the past three seasons with our partners at DanceWorks Chicago, 2021 offers a welcome opportunity to impact the art form in another way: by joining the audience! I am excited to cheer on the creativity that has sprung up across the city and across screens. As we push pause on New Dances 2021, we celebrate past and future New Dances! [CLICK HERE](#) for a fun mixology video as we toast reflection of two decades of artist support and gear up for the coming year!

Special thanks to our valued supporters and The Nugent Network.

Check out photos below of recent past New Dances memories in partnership with DanceWorks Chicago!





Ann Reinking Scholarship

**OFF THE
/LANE**

ANN REINKING SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Inspired by Annie's own story of moving to New York with little more than a dream, the program is devoted to creating a legacy for Annie that will carry her humanity, love and artistry as a dancer, choreographer and collaborator into the next generation of artists.

A \$5,000 scholarship will be awarded once-a-year to a young aspiring dancer with BIG dreams in the BIG city!

ANN REINKING SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS OPEN!

We are thrilled to share that Melissa Thodos will be serving on the advisory board for the Ann Reinking scholarship program. A \$5,000 scholarship will be awarded once-a-year to a young aspiring dancer. Applications open May 2021 through June 30, 2021—visit <https://offthelane.org/ann-reinking-scholarship-program/> for more information.

“I am so honored to be part of this wonderful team as we, together, create

this living legacy for Ann Reinking.” --Melissa Thodos

The Ann Reinking Scholarship will be awarded annually to a young dancer moving to NYC to help support them in their artistic endeavors. Our mission is to help set this young artist up for success by providing monetary support, mentorship, and a community and home base to help lay the foundation and framework for this budding artist's career.

Over the course of the (1) Year Term, which will commence in mid-October, they will have access to a variety of tools and resources including:

- Pairing with a Mentor for curated sessions for their first (3) months in the city
- Industry connections, as selected by the Ann Reinking Advisory Board
- Access to Off The Lane's Community Resource Guide
- Off The Lane's Partnership Discounts
- Community Networking Events

[DONATE NOW](#)

THODOS DANCE CHICAGO is proudly supported by



The Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation



*The Sono
and Victor
Elmaleh
Foundation*



MacArthur
Foundation



The Service Club
of Chicago



Follow Thodos Dance Chicago on Social Media

