

# Folk Dance New Zealand

## 9th National Festival 2010



International Folk Dance Workshops  
Guest Tutors

**Eve Blair and Palenque Blair**

*Hosted by FDNZ in association with  
Dance Folkus Hamilton*

**June 5 – 7, 2010 (Queen's Birthday w/end)**



### WHY COME to the FDNZ INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL?

Apart from the dancing of course! There will be plenty on offer for you as well as your friends and family....read on:

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### OUR FABULOUS TUTORS – EVE BLAIR AND PALENQUE BLAIR

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A mother / daughter 'tag team' from Perth in Western Australia, Eve and Palenque bring a huge folk dance repertoire between them, and many years experience with folk dance teaching, performance, group dynamics and music for folk dance.

#### **About Eve:**

Eve has danced for almost as long as she has walked, starting with ballet taught by her mother. She has over thirty years experience teaching adults and children international folk dance in Perth. Eve discovered International Folk Dance while working in Louisiana in the 1970s. Her Australian husband warned her that such folk dancing was not practised in his hometown of Perth, so before leaving the US, they collected as much material as they could digest - and some that they could not.

It was a lonely beginning in the world's most isolated city, but with the optimism and energy of youth, dance teachers visiting Sydney and Adelaide were waylaid in Perth en route to more lucrative destinations and Eve obtained travel grants to attend dance workshops in Bulgaria and Macedonia and attached a dance schedule to work related trips to California and China, always with a view to expanding her repertoire.

The Perth International Dancers are now a well established group which can call on four home grown teachers in addition to Eve, locally available specialists in Israeli and in French dance and regular visiting dance teachers, generating a wide repertoire of dances from Scotland to the Middle East.

#### **About Palenque:**

Palenque ['pal-en-kay'] was brought up on international folk dance music and dance, thanks to mum Eve and regular attendance at dance evenings until she started school. She has been an active member of the Perth International Dancers since her early teens. She has twelve years experience in dance teaching and choreography of folk dance performances for community events. Palenque graduated from Folk Dance Australia's Recreational Dance Teacher Training Course in 2002.

Palenque loves the variety of music and dance styles represented by international folk dance. She visited Bulgaria and Romania in late 2002 to collect dance material and experience the rich cultures first hand. She has also attended workshops in France and Germany and recently in Hungarian, Macedonian and Pontian dance with Australian ethnic communities. Palenque discovered the joys of dancing to live music while living in Paris as a student, with weekly French folk dancing to live music. Since then she has fostered collaboration with several Perth bands, including the Last Five Coins and The Flying Carpathians.

## **SOCIAL EVENTS**

Please come prepared to have fun. As this is Queen's Birthday Weekend we thought it would be fun to help the Queen celebrate her birthday. We will have live music with two different bands – both experienced in playing for folk dance. The evening socials are open to anyone – so a good opportunity to bring friends and family. We will have some right royal themes!

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### **A TRIFLE BAZAAR**

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Trifle Bazaar create modulaminous sounds engaging an emergent cutting edge fusion of contemporary musical collaboratory influences steeped in the uncharted depths of Eastern Europe and sautéed with diverse euphonious Middle eastern ascendencies!!

So they say on their website! - however you may recognise some familiar faces from half of 'Green Ginger' now hailing from Kerikeri with some new (Greek) band members. Check out their current sound on [www.atriflebazaar.co.nz](http://www.atriflebazaar.co.nz) – great music to dance to.

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### **GOULASH ARCHIPELAGO / BIG MUFFIN SERIOUS BAND**

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AKA The Ukestani Ukulele Ensemble, these local notorious and diverse musicians play a mean folk dance tune for dancing and are accompanied at times by a tea-chest bass, a tuba, piano, cello, brass and burping. Check out [www.muffin.net.nz](http://www.muffin.net.nz)

## **NETWORKING**

You will meet dancers from all over New Zealand and possibly other countries as well. You can share experiences and ideas and make new friends.

Groups are encouraged to bring information about their respective classes and forthcoming events – there will be a notice board in the auditorium entrance for your posters / photos / brochures etc

Folk Dance New Zealand will hold their Annual General Meeting bright and early on the Monday morning. All are welcome – and we encourage people to become members to support the objects of FDNZ constitution. If you love folk dance then support is important. Membership fees are minimal. Members pay less than non-members for the festival! All details about the AGM will be on <http://folkdance.org.nz>

## **TRADE at the 'Blanket Bazaar'**

Do you have too much folk dance stuff? Spare folk dance or ethnic items, costumes, music, books, clothing that you no longer have room for, no longer fit, or just do not need any more?

This is your chance to clean out those cupboards and sell or trade at the festival. Each lunchtime we will hold a 'Blanket Bazaar' in the main hall. Spread out your treasures on a blanket (or similar) for everyone to peruse your wares and hopefully buy / trade.

## **FOR THE TUTORS / GROUP LEADERS**

FDNZ is supporting current tutors / group leaders, and aspiring tutors, through a workshop designed especially for you. Using Orff education principles and practices Christoph Maubach will lead a dance and music session with a focus on pulse, meter, and dance rhythms. This session provides activities to improve rhythm abilities, natural flow in dance and musicality. You will be able to use these techniques when teaching your dance classes.

### **A little bit about Christoph:**

Christoph dances with Dance Folkus in Hamilton and has a Master of Education and Graduate Diploma in Movement and Dance from The University of Melbourne. Currently he is senior lecturer in music and education at the University of Waikato School of Education. In 1981 Christoph became a founding member of the Melbourne-based Shenanigans ensemble and is an enthusiastic musician, folk dancer and tutor.

## **FOR THE SINGERS**

Sue Burchell will lead a 'Folk Voice Chorale' workshop - teaching a few popular traditional songs that all can enjoy singing together. The emphasis is on fun and no experience is required. Sue will lend her expertise and provide some useful tips to participants.

### **A little bit about Sue:**

Sue Burchell dances with Dance Folkus in Hamilton. She came to Hamilton from Winchester, England, in 2006. Although she never fulfilled her original childhood dream of becoming a ballet dancer, Sue has enjoyed a varied career, which began after studying Music and German at Southampton University and the Royal Academy of Music, London. Performances in opera, oratorio and on the concert platform were followed by singing teaching and choral conducting.

Whilst living in Singapore in the seventies, she was co-founder and first chorus master of the Singapore Symphony Chorus, and on return to the UK in the eighties, she was Choral Director of the Aberdeen International Youth Music Festival and developed a programme of voice teaching in schools in the County of Avon. For several years she took a full-time position as Head of German at St. Swithun's School, Winchester, and in 2000 qualified as Yoga teacher. In recent months Sue has begun the practice of Nurturing Touch Massage, giving volunteer support to rest-home residents.

She is looking forward to leading a relaxed, fun session of singing as part of the FDNZ festival. *The integration of body, mind and spirit...*a definition for yoga, for dance, for song, for any truly fulfilling human endeavour?

## **FOR THE MUSICIANS**

Drum those Balkan rhythms with Larry Jacobsen from 'A Trifle Bazaar'. This session will explore the rhythms common in the Mediterranean, Balkan and Middle Eastern dances. You will need your own drum (any sort will do) and some basic drumming skills. This is not a workshop for those who have never picked up a drum before – observers are welcome.

## **BRAIN AND BODY OVERLOAD?**

Too many new dances by Sunday afternoon? Let your feet and brain relax with a workshop of popular folk dance classics from Hamilton to Haifa and everywhere in between

## **FOR CHOREOGRAPHERS – Choreography Showcase**

Does your group perform or give demonstrations for community events?. Performance choreography is hard work and we very rarely see what other groups are doing unless we happen to be at the same event.

FDNZ wishes to showcase performance choreography at the festival and groups are invited to bring a CD of their favourite performance segment to share with participants

Sometimes seeing someone else's ideas helps you put some spark back into your own demonstrations

## **FOR COSTUMIERS AND FOLK TEXTILE BUFFS**

Traditional dances are based on traditional costumes – sourcing and recreating these in a country such as NZ requires creativity, or overseas contacts, or just good luck at the op shops!. FDNZ invites groups or individuals to stage a costume display of a specific country or region accompanied by a brief explanation. The display will be 'mounted' [by you!] in the auditorium for all to admire and be educated .

**A 'people's choice' award for the most popular costume display will be given at the conclusion of the festival.**

## **FOR PERFORMERS**

The festival will have several 5 – 7 minute slots during each Dance Party for performances – folk dance or folk dance music. Showcase your folk dance/ music skills. First come – first in! Contact Fiona.

## **FOR NON-DANCERS**

Friends and family are welcome to observe all workshops and attend the evening social events. A \$5 non-participant fee per day sessions will apply. Lunches are not included and own arrangements will need to be made.

If you don't want to watch. - amuse yourself in and around Hamilton

[www.hamiltonevents.co.nz](http://www.hamiltonevents.co.nz)

**So with all the above going on – how could you not come along?** There is a good discount for early bird registrations, half price for students; and plenty of choice.

The Folk Dance NZ website will have regular updates and news

Festival information updated regularly at...

<http://folkdance.org.nz/camp10/>

*Note: If any intending participant is experiencing genuine hardship that prevents their participation we ask that you contact the organisers*

Enquiries to: [festival@folkdance.org.nz](mailto:festival@folkdance.org.nz)