

+

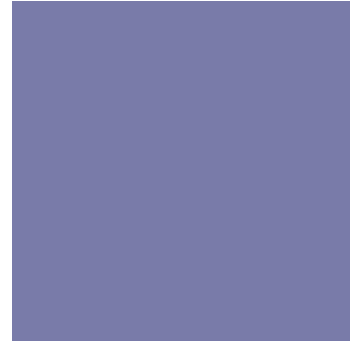
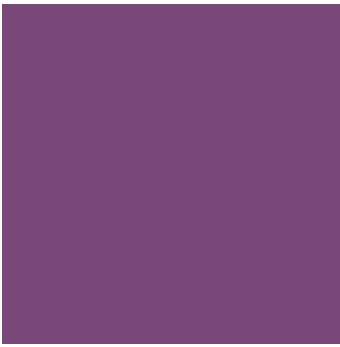
Song & Dance



Song & Dance - The American Voice

Showcasing the melting pot of trans-continental old world traditions that define modern American art forms, across musical styles, through **movement** and **song**.

Conception: Keri CHRYST (voice) and Nicola AYOUB (dance)



+ Song & Dance

The American Voice

A grassroots **outreach** project utilizing traditionally American music and dance styles as a means for participants to **assimilate universal tools** and performance **techniques** thus **empowering** them as better artists and players *on the world stage*.

From *Shaker Hymns*, rooted in **Irish** dance tunes, orchestrated for **symphony** by America's premier **composer** and choreographed by the pioneers of 20th century American **modern dance**, to the *gospel* sounds that rang in the *Age of Aquarius* with unbridled pirouettes through Central Park amongst the post-modern skyscrapers of the 1970s – and everything in between...

Together, **Song & Dance** are the *quintessence* of **American Musical Tradition**.

Program Description

Our artists work with a group of *aspiring, semi-professional, or professional artists* over a period of several days to prepare a short performance piece based on the topics and techniques addressed throughout the workshop.



Goals

Empowering participants to develop a **professional quality performance**, as well as a **reusable skill set** that can be applied in their **daily life and work** as they continue to **aspire to excellence**.



Target Audience

- Kids (age 10-18)
- or Adults (16 and older)

- 10-30* participants
- all genders welcome



Short Program

3 days of workshop/rehearsals
resulting in a **25-30 minute performance** by the participants

Long Program

7 days of workshop/rehearsals
resulting in a **40-50 minute performance** by the participants



Personnel

- Dance Coach (1 or 2)
- Voice Coach
- Instrumental Coach**

* More than 20 participants may require additional artist staff.
** If participation of live musicians is desired.



Topics & Themes - 1

Practical Skills for the Artist as Entrepreneur

Craft



Product



Life



Honing Your Craft

Basic Technique

- Body
- Movement
- Voice

Musicianship

- Intro to solfège
- Counting Rhythms

Improvisation

- Structured and/or
- Freestyle

Showmanship

Honing Your Product

The Creative Process

- *Decision making for construction of a performance piece*

Interdisciplinary approach

- Voice, Body, Instruments

Concentration & Discipline

- Rehearsal Skills
- Punctuality

Tools for Life

Communication

Confidence and Poise

Cooperation & Teamwork

Cultivating a Professional Network

Physical Coordination

Music as a doorway to language learning



Topics & Themes - 2

Socio-Historic Perspective

of American Song & Dance

Old World Traditions



New Combinations



New Art Forms



America's "Melting Pot"

Immigrant community's influence

- Irish/English
- German/Jewish
- African

Compare & Contrast

- with *host country's* artistic culture

Transform Old Ways to New

Folk music elevated to...

- High Art – Aaron Copeland
- Pop Charts – Bob Dylan

Fresh approach for orchestral composition

- Copeland

Groundbreaking Choreography

- Martha Graham
- Twyla Tharp

Star "triple threat" performers*

- Gene Kelly
- Michael Jackson

Blended to New Art Forms

Music

- Gospel
- Jazz
- Musical Theatre
- Soul
- Folk/Rock

Dance

- Modern Dance
- Jazz
- Tap
- Hip Hop
- Etc...

* "triple threat" is a term used to describe a multi-talented singer-actor-dancer.



Performance Content

Short &
Long
Programs

Short Program

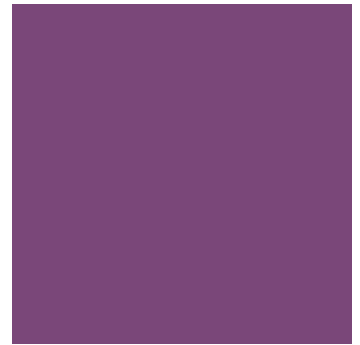
3 days of workshop/rehearsals resulting in a **25-30 minute performance** by the participants

Song Title	Composer/Artist	Choreographer
Simple Gifts / Appalachian Spring	Shaker Hymn / Aaron Copeland	Martha Graham
She'll Be Comin' Round the Mountain	Trad. Folk Song	Trad. Square Dance
<<Piece from participants' local culture>>		Local Tradition
Improvisation piece	Group Creation	Group Creation
Aquarius / Let the Sun Shine In	Rado, Ragni, MacDermot	Twyla Tharp

Long Program

7 days of workshop/rehearsals resulting in a **40-50 minute performance** by the participants.

Song Title	Composer/Artist	Choreographer
Simple Gifts / Appalachian Spring	Shaker Hymn / Aaron Copeland	Martha Graham
She'll Be Comin' Round the Mountain	Trad. Folk Song	Trad. Square Dance
Blowin' in the Wind	Bob Dylan	Nicola Ayoub
Do-Re-Mi	Rogers & Hammerstein	Chryst/Ayoub
Aquarius / Let the Sun Shine In	Rado, Ragni, MacDermot	Twyla Tharp
<<Piece from participants' local culture>>		Local Tradition
Improvisation piece	Group Creation	Group Creation
Michael Jackson Medley	Michael Jackson	Group Creation



Why Song & Dance - The American Voice ?

A meeting of the minds...

When Paris-based American artists **Nicola Ayoub** (dance) and **Keri Chryst** (voice) first met, an affinity immediately sparked up between them. As each of them told the other about her particular specialty they were mutually intrigued at the similarities in their approach to seemingly different art forms. A few underlying themes kept rising to the surface:

- a greater interest in *collaborative work* than in solo performance (divas need not apply)
- a *calling* to share and *pass on skills* and *principles* to those interested in learning techniques to improve their artistry
- a *learning by doing* pedagogical approach

...in other words... ALL the fun is in the *SHARING* and the *DOING!*

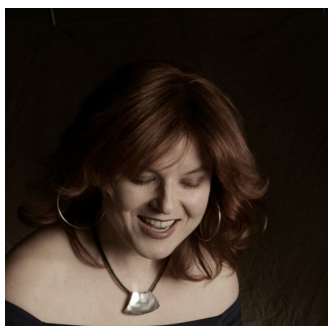
The initial spark turned to flame as the two set about creating a program that would highlight the age old American tradition of uniting the power and artistry of human voice and movement. Within a matter of months, the **Song & Dance** program took shape as described here, and the two artists are now eager to share it with the world at large!



Nicola Ayoub

Nicola Ayoub is an American dancer living and working in Paris for the past seven years. She trained and performed at the Atlanta Ballet and later worked with the modern dance company Full Radius before moving to France. She became a choreographer with her bilingual one-woman

show *The Language*, which was awarded Paris Jeunes Talents in 2008 and first place at the Parisian choreography contest Tobina in 2009. That same year she created the 3 D Company with partner Guillaume Morgan and danced for the first time at the mythic Olympia Music Hall. In 2010 and 2011, she performed and taught regularly at La Sorbonne University in Paris and also toured Milan, Berlin, New York City, and Seville with her choreography for the Public Système. Nicola represented the USA in UNESCO's 2011 original production, *Astro-Ballet*, choreographed by Natalia Guslistaya from the Bolshoi Ballet. In 2012, she performed with Alexandre de la Caffinière Company and Karma Dance Project (choreographer Gigi Caciuleanu). During the summer of 2012, Nicola received a Fulbright grant to go to Banjul, The Gambia with dance partner Asha Thomas in a U.S. Embassy sponsored program: "Showcasing Culture as Component of Economic Development and Conflict Resolution." There, they taught dance workshops to local high schools and created a 1 hour piece *Mystical Strings* for the country's first theatre troop. <http://nicolanguage.over-blog.com/>



Keri Chryst

International performer and educator **Keri CHRYST** currently lives and works in Paris, France – by way of Chicago, IL where she earned her Master's in *Jazz Pedagogy* from *Northwestern University* in 1998. Her spunky "in the pocket" swing, together with an instrumental approach to singing and improvisation, have charmed audiences across the Western Hemisphere and fast earned her a

reputation as a "musician's singer."

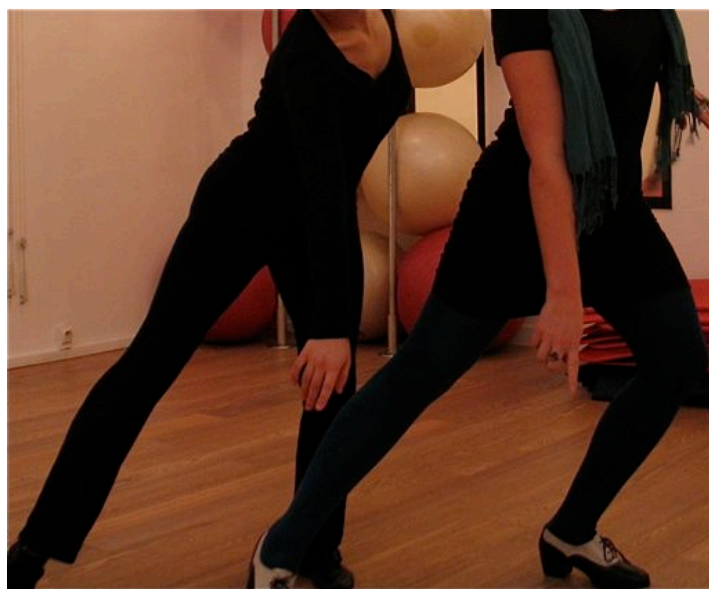
More recently, Keri has had the repeated honor of representing her country as *Cultural Ambassador* across the African continent on behalf of the *U.S. State Department*. A series of successful concerts and workshops on the themes of her *French Connection* and *Roots 66* projects have wowed VIP's and school children alike from Djibouti to Swaziland and engaged them in subjects ranging from *Entrepreneurship*, to *Voice for Women's Empowerment*, to *Music as a Tool for Language Teaching*.

Other accomplishments as an educator include pioneering the Jazz Vocal Program (2003) at the *American School of Modern Music* in Paris (former *Berklee* affiliate), and authoring a complete curriculum of auxiliary workshops and courses for her self-created *Jazz Vocal Academy International* (2006), which helps students to develop into fully rounded musicians, as well as healthy and happy singers. <http://www.kerichryst.com>



+

Song & Dance



Song & Dance – The American Voice

Arts Embassy International
c/o Sarah ATUKPE
4, rue Blaise Pascal
78800 Houilles
France

+33 (0) 6.11.28.05.20
info.jazz.vox@gmail.com
<http://www.kerichryst.com>
<http://nicolanguage.over-blog.com/>