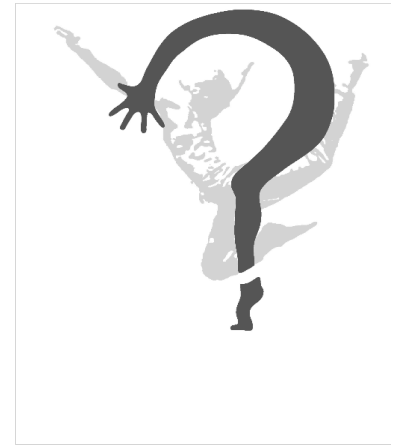


**Deborah Irons**  
Art Moves Dance Studio  
13 Cottage Street  
Norway, Maine USA  
207-743-5569  
[artmoves@megalink.net](mailto:artmoves@megalink.net)  
[artmovesdance.com](http://artmovesdance.com)



to create, study, teach and perform variant dance  
variant dance – labeling dance is limiting. It varies.

**GROUP PROJECTS** Produced & Directed

- 2009** A WILD PATIENCE wrote, directed, and choreographed evening-length musical comedy inspired by the Adrienne Rich poem INTEGRITY
- 2008** LOVESICK SESSIONS collaborated with lounge-rock band MOSS  
MOUNTAIN PROJECT on 2 set song and dance show
- 2007** LIFE AFTER CYNICISM a 3 part show evoking the innocence of before cynicism, the pain of during, and the hope of life after cynicism – with NILES FORD of Urban Dance Collective
- 2006** One of several CONCERTS with African drumming group INANNA, Sisters in Rhythm, performed as part of the Norway Summer Festival
- 2005** DANCAS BRASILEIRAS , a 30 minute piece to the music of SUBA TRIBUTO, choreographed and performed by each of the 5 dancers in Art Moves Dance Company.
- 2004** MAINE DANCE PROJECT Gathered, rehearsed, and then performed for the local community in the Oxford Hills, also 2002 and once before.
- 2003** FEVERISH , an evening-length collaboration between singer-songwriter Tim Rice, artist Nikki Millonzi, and Art Moves Dance Company.
- 2002** FEVER , an evening-length dance and poetry show with the newly formed Art Moves Dance Company: Debi Irons, Magi Chapman & Kim Hamlin
- 2001** SEVEN UP FOR JAZZ at the Maine Festival Dancers Josie Conte, Debi Irons, and Daielma Santos; Musicians Lincoln Blake, Jeff Densmore, Spike Hatfield and jazz singer Carol Stone
- 1999** BLUE JAZZ SUITE led by Sean McGowan on jazz guitar with Andrea Antognoni on vocals and 9 dancers

- 1996** SOUND MOVE, Irons danced the Logician; Wayne Pike sang the Romantic Pianist Jacob Allen accompanied the game.
- 1992** PEDACOS E PALAVRAS and DANCE HALL IDEAS with Bessie winner Scott Willingham and Daelma Santos, an evening of trios, duets, solos in South Paris, Maine

### SOLO & DUET PROJECTS

- 2002** POINT SEVEN with singer/songwriter Tim Rice, evening-length song, dance and prose shows in studios, churches and theatres in New England
- 2000** DANCE BY REQUEST at Celebration Barn Theatre in South Paris. Audience members made some requests ahead of time and some on the spot
- 1998** DANCES IN THE OLD LIGHT, a solo evening-length performance using candlelight, fabric, and mirrors to peel away judgment, revealing essence
- 1995** SOUL DANCES BLUES “...when the soul longs for something ....that’s when the SOUL dances BLUES”: CRADLE, GIDDY, FED UP, ENDURE, REGRET, LONGING, FREEWHEEL, THE WILD NOTE, TONE, TORCH SONG, NECTARINE, CONSUMED, SOVEREIGNTY
- 1991** Toured New England with Inflatable Vaudevillian Fred GARBO.
- ongoing** Guest soloist for jazz musicians and singers. “Ladies and gentlemen, this is Deb Irons. She’ll dance on a postage stamp” jazz singer Carol Stone

**2004 – present** **ART MOVES DANCE PROJECT, INC.**  
 Artistic Director of non-profit whose mission is to build awareness and appreciation of self-expression and the creative process in Maine. Major support from Norway Savings Bank. Programs include:

**2002 – present** **ART MOVES DANCE COMPANY** a group of 5 women dedicated to the art of dance, musicality and soul expression via practice and performance in festivals, schools, theatres, and studios, including UMPI and USM.

**1988 – present** Teen **TROUPE**, now called the **ART MOVES DANCE GROUP** dedicated to self-expression via variant dance. Teach and perform in Maine.

**2002 – present** **ART MOVES into the SCHOOLS**  
 Residencies with professionals or senior teens teaching in pairs elementary and middle school students. ART MOVES into the SCHOOLS has received support from Heartwood Theater Company, the Maine Community Foundation, Community Concepts, National Endowment for the Arts, Maine

Arts Commission, L/A Arts, Auburn Middle School, School Districts #17, #39, #44, Mahoosuc Arts, Maine Arts, Northeast Bank and many others.

## **DANCE EDUCATOR**

- 1988 – present**      **ART MOVES DANCE STUDIO**      **NORWAY, MAINE**  
Dance education combining self-expression and creativity with healthy developmentally appropriate technique. All students take Variant dance first. At 10 they may include a technique-only class. As teens they may dance 3, maximum 4 times a week. Choreography, teaching, and performing opportunities for serious teens and adults. This is the beginning of their life.
- 2006 – present**      **APPLIED DANCE FACULTY**      **BATES COLLEGE, MAINE**  
Taught multi-level studio jazz for several semesters and then an advanced jazz repertory class was added with students learning material from Art Moves Dance Company and new work.
- 2003 – 2005**      **GOULD ACADEMY DANCE PROGRAM**      **BETHEL, MAINE**  
With a grant secured by Mahoosuc Arts and Gould Academy, developed a full dance program which included complete renovation of a gymnasium into a dance studio and major renovations to the school's theatre for performance. Taught classes, hired instructors, and produced shows with students until a full-time teacher could be found who could teach dance, another subject in the curriculum and live on campus.
- 1983 – 1986**      **DANCE IN SAN FRANCISCO SCHOOLS**      **CALIFORNIA**  
Developed performing arts program for inner-city teens. Taught at 7 different schools with dancers rehearsing together on Saturdays and performing for events around the Bay Area, including anti-apartheid rallies. Received several San Francisco Education Fund grants, the Eleanor R. Spikes Award for Community Service and was featured on NBC news.
- 1978 – present**      **OTHER TEACHING**      **BRAZIL/UNITED STATES**  
Private lessons while an exchange student in Brazil. Taught dance for YMCAs. Began discovering teens and developing their talent in Palo Alto, California in 1980. Still at it. Guest at many studios around Maine.
- 1981**      **PERFORMING/COMPANIES**      **BOSTON, CALIFORNIA, MAINE**  
**1982/86**      **ZOHAR DANCE COMPANY, PALO ALTO, CA** – original company member, soloist  
**2000**      **AMERICAN DANCE HERITAGE, BOSOTN, MA** – company member, soloist  
            **RAM ISLAND DANCE COMPANY, PORTLAND, ME** – part-time company member, soloist.
- 1992**      **PERFORMING/SPECIAL PROJECTS**      **MAINE, NEW YORK**  
**1994**      With Doug Varone via Bates Dance Festival      Maine & New York  
            With Danny Buraczeski via Bates Dance Festival      Maine

## **DANCE EDUCATION**

- 1966 –** **Susan Clement Farrar** **Bethel, Maine**  
**1977** ballet, tap, jazz, and acrobatics
- 1978** **Dona Yolanda Verdier** **Sao Paulo, Brasil**  
Royal Ballet of London Syllabus
- 1979** **Isaura, master** **Rio de Janeiro, Brasil**  
Afro-brazilian and samba
- 1979 –** **Zohar Dance Studio** **Palo Alto, California**  
**1981** Ballet, modern, jazz, choreography, and dance therapy intensive 6 hours a  
day, 6 days a week. On scholarship by invitation. Taught and performed.
- 1982** **Joy of Movement** **Cambridge, MA**  
Ballet, modern and jazz. On scholarship by audition.
- 1983 –** **ONGOING DANCE STUDY** **California, New York, Maine**  
**present** Modern, african, capoeira, ballet and samba classes when and where  
available, and jazz with Katiti King whenever possible.