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### Folk Dance Scene

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Folk Dance Scene is published to educate its readers concerning the folk dance, music, costumes, lore and culture of the peoples of the world. It is designed to inform them of the opportunities to experience folk dance and culture in Southern California and elsewhere.

SUBMISSIONS: Information to be included in the *Scene* should reach the editor by the 10th of the month preceding publication. We reserve the right to edit all submissions for space considerations. Electronic submission (including all photos) is required. Views expressed in *Scene* are solely the opinions of the authors. Neither *Scene* nor the Federation assumes responsibility for the accuracy of the information sent in.

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ADVERTISING: Ads must be consistent with the purposes of the magazine, accompanied by full payment, and either camera ready on bright white paper or in 300 dpi electronic format (TIF, JPG, or PDF). Ads that are not camera ready will be returned.

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On the cover: Scotland New Year—from Worldstrides



South

# Folk Dance Scene

Volume 57, No.10
December 2021/January 2022

### **Editors' Corner**

Winding up this year, looking forward to the next, we feature Betchen's take on a variety of folk customs; and more—including different cultural calendars' starting points—past and present.

Find your choices of activities in Calendar, On The Scene and the ads.

Read what your colleagues have to say in Dancers Speak and Poetry Corner.

Find out what you may have missed in Recent Events.

Check for contact and timing of meetings in Club Directory.

Best wishes for a great start of the new year. Be of good cheer!

Pat Cross and Don Krotser

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For information about dancing in the area, contact the Federation at the Federation website: SoCalFolkdance.org

### The Corner

### PRESIDENT'S COLUMN - DEC/JANUARY 2021/22

Surprise! We have the proverbial "fountain of youth" within our own muscles—if we choose to use them. As a physical educator I sought to persuade school administrators that activity was essential for elementary aged kiddos. I confidently stated that a bout of exuberant play and physical exertion would send children back into the classroom with renewed attention and readiness to learn. But I didn't know by what mechanism this would occur. Increased blood flow to the brain? Yes! That has proven true, but not a complete explanation. In 2019 researchers Xu Chen & Li Gan reported that an exercise-induced messenger, Irisin, "rescues synaptic plasticity" and improves memory, at least in the brains of mice. (Nature, January 7, 2019 https://www.nature.com/ articles/s41591-018-0275-4). Gretchen Reynolds discussed their research and the role of Irisin and exercise to forestall Alzheimer's in an article published online August 25, 2021 in the NY Times. (https://www.nytimes.com/2021/08/25/well/move/ exercise-brain-memory-benefits.html? campaign id=18&emc=edit hh 20210827&instance id=38926&nl=well&reai id=137142538&seament i d=67347&te=1&user\_id=09e8f13ad25f13387d4d089 692a8130b).

People, like mice, produce Irisin in their muscles while exercising. In fat cells Irisin precipitates the conversion of white fat into metabolically active brown fat. (Brown fat provides fuel to move and be warm.) The hormone Irisin does cross the bloodbrain barrier. In the brain cells of mice Irisin connects newly created neurons in the hippocampus with existing networks of brain cells, and also repairs synapses. Chen and Gan established that mouse memory is impaired when Irisin is blocked, and improved when it is experimentally restored.

Irisin is not available as a pill, potion or infusion! It's a do-it-yourself project for your own muscles. Do you need another reason to rush out the door for a brisk walk, do a set of core exercises before bed, dance a few times a week and register for upcoming festivals? Mark your calendar for the next Federation sponsored event Sunday afternoon February 6, 2022 in West LA. Flyer and registration form will be posted on website socalfolkdance.org

C U on the dance floor soon!

Diane Baker

# **NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATIONS**

Happy New Year! And happy traditional celebrations that go with it-- giving masses of gifts, eating ourselves silly, and dancing the New Year in!

But where did these traditions come from—and whoever said that new years should begin in the middle of the winter? After all, the "year" is an astronomical event, merely the cycle of earth going once around the sun, and you'd think that one day is as good as another to mark the "new cycle". The Chinese, for example, calculate their New Year celebration—with all its wonderful dances—from the phases of the moon; so, a wanderer like Easter, it can fall anywhere from late January to mid-February. But because the earth's rotational axis is tilted at a crazy 23 ½ degrees, most of the earth experiences "seasons" of more and less sunshine, which strongly affects our food supply. So can we blame the farmers for where our New Year marker got plopped—somewhere between fall harvest and new spring growth?

Yes and no. The European New Year marker is indeed sun-based, but it has moved all over the place within recorded history, typical favorites being the solstices and the equinoxes. The Romans, who worked out the basis of our calendar, long favored the spring equinox, which fell on their March 15. But in 153 BCE, they decided to move New Year to what we now call January 1, putting it near a key agricultural holiday, the Saturnalia. Then they spread their useful calendar all over Europe as they conquered it. So blame the Romans!

The Saturnalia, which fell on Roman December 17, was named after Saturn, their god of sowing. In Italy (as in several other North Mediterranean areas), soon after the backbreaking work of harvest ended, the new seed was planted—in the *fall*, so it could slowly germinate underground until spring. It was only at that point, after harvesting, plowing, and sowing, that the farmers could finally kick back and rest: leisure time to celebrate the end of another agricultural work-year. Everyone decked their houses with greenery and lights (sound familiar?), for the darkest, least green part of the year. Then they ran around to all their friends and relatives, giving them presents.

These presents originally were simply twigs of greenery, auspicious signs of the new life to be hoped for as one moved into next the agricultural cycle of growth. The twigs were originally plucked from the grove of a little-known Sabine goddess,

Strenia, who was associated with Roman Janus. (Janus, god of doorways and other boundaries, had two faces on his head, so he could look both ways at once: quite appropriate for the boundary between the old and the new year.) From giving simple *strenae* twigs (a word preserved in French *étrennes*), the custom soon grew to giving all sorts of presents. And of course, when the Christian church established Christmas on December 25 (largely to co-opt the pagan Saturnalia: no one knows what day Jesus was actually born on), the gift-giving custom stayed put, and in recent decades has again blossomed into an orgy of gift-giving quite divorced from its symbolic origins.

Another thing the Romans—and many other European farmers—did at this time of year was eat, eat, eat. When you brought those *strenae* and other presents to your friends, your host was expected to provide lots of food and drink. The real point was to show the divine spirits by analogy that what the farmers (and anyone who wanted to eat) needed for the new year was not just green growth but lots of food. So the tables groaned with masses of food.

And to go with good food and company, what better than entertainment! Dancing, charades, plays, and mummery—good hosts enabled these, and the guests did their share. Social distinctions were not just ignored but turned upside down for a few days, as servants and masters ate and reveled together and one of the servants was declared the King of Fools, a.k.a. Lord of Misrule. This custom was still fully observed in medieval times for the duration of the Twelve Days of Christmas (twelve being the number of days needed to reconcile the solar and lunar calendars at the end of each year).

So give those presents, eat those feasts, and dance your hearts out on New Year's Eve! The tradition is a long and merry one.

—Elizabeth Wayland Barber; more can be found in The Dancing Goddesses (W.W. Norton, 2013)



### WHEN IS NEW YEAR'S DAY?

Around the world New Year's Day is celebrated at many different times and with varied activities. The following is a distillation of information provided by Wikipedia's entry: New Year's Day.

The Odunde Festival, created in 1975 and sometimes referred to as African New Year, occurs on the second Sunday in June in Philadelphia, echoing a practice of the Yoruba people of Nigeria. Fifteen city blocks encompass a mix of vendors, entertainment, music, food, jewelry, and African art. The highlight is a street procession to the Schuylkill River where an offering of fruit and flowers is made to Oshun, Yoruba goddess of the river. (See the Odunde Festival website for further information.)

Coptic Egyptians and Ethiopians observe New Year's Day in September, originally marking the onset of the Nile flood. The Ethiopian version now denotes the end of the summer rainy season.

In Lesotho and South Africa, on August 1, people celebrate the end of the Southern Hemisphere's winter.

New Year is observed in China and other Southeast Asia countries, including Singapore, on the first day of the lunar calendar (usually between January 20 and February 20). Families gather to eat, exchange lucky money (in a red envelope) and other red items. Lion and dragon dances, drums, fireworks and firecrackers fill the streets. A smaller celebration takes place on January 1. Koreans emphasize familial history by preparing food for their ancestors' spirits and visiting ancestors' graves. They play traditional Korean games with their families. Children are expected to show respect to their elders with prescribed bows and, in return, often receive gifts of money.

Cambodian New Year occurs on April 13 or 14 and often involves going to the pagoda and playing traditional games. Visits to people's hometowns are frequent.

Thai New Year, also on April 13 or 14, features the gentle splashing of water, blessed by first pouring it over the Buddha, on one another.

Tet, the Vietnamese New Year observance, occurring at the beginning of the lunar calendar (between January 20 and February 20), celebrates the arrival of spring. It is the most popular holiday in Vietnam. It's name means Feast of the Morning.

In regions of the world where Hinduism predominates, times for the New Year celebration vary. Pay-

ing respect to elders and seeking their blessings is a prominent feature of the observance.

The Sikh New Year is observed on March 14, the birth of the first Sikh Guru, Guru Nanak, in 1469.

In Sri Lanka the two major cultural strains each celebrate the New Year on April 13 or 14, the end of the harvest season. Buddhist rituals and traditions are carried out followed by festive parties that include fireworks and the exchange of gifts.

Muslims observe the New Year on the first day of the lunar calendar. The date moves from year to year.

With a 3000 year history, Nowruz, the Persian New Year, is celebrated in Iran on or about March 21, the day of the vernal equinox. A Zoroastrian holiday, it is also observed in many parts of Central and South Asia, Northwestern China, Crimea and in the Balkans.

Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish new year, is celebrated by Jews in Israel and throughout the world. The date is the new moon of Tishrei, which is the seventh month counting from Nisan, the first month of Spring. It always falls during September or October. The holiday is celebrated by blasting of shofar trumpets, to signify it as a day of judgment, by prayers of penitence, by readings from the law and prophets, and by special meals. The night of 31 December/1 January, the New Year according to the Gregorian calendar, is also celebrated widely in Israel and is referred to as Sylvester or the civil new year.

Ed's Note: No matter when you celebrate, or how, members of the Scene staff wish you a HAPPY NEW YEAR.



### CALENDAR

### Note: Federation events are in bold.

- **ONLINE:** Events are often scheduled with little lead time and may be canceled or postponed on short notice.
- Dale Adamson hosts a Google calendar of online events with weekly classes and special events. https://daleadamson.com/events-calendar/ and Aaron Alpert maintains a list of Israeli dance online at http://www.nirkoda.com/virtual The EEFC maintains a calendar of events including camps and dance and music lessons at https://eefc.org/calendar/

### **FOLK DANCE GROUPS MEETING ON ZOOM**

- LIFE Balkan Dancers on Fridays, 8-11 pm. Contact Sherry Cochran at worldance1@gmail.com for the link and password. Now hybrid online and in person at LADanceFit.
- Laguna International Dancers. Holds regular
  Zoom dance event Sunday evening from 6-8.
  We open the waiting room at 5:45 and let
  people chat and socialize until we start
  dancing at 6. The teacher/dance leader is Lee
  Otterholt. The first half hour is teaching and
  dancing of easier dances and the last hour
  from 7 to 8 includes teaching and dancing of
  some more challenging dances. In person
  dancing Wednesday at Clubhouse 2 on the
  patio.
- The Folk Arts Center of New England is continuing its workshops with master teachers at 11 a.m. on Saturdays to be announced. http://www.facone.org/programs-online-events.html
- Ethnic Dance Chicago, Illinois Fridays at 7:30 -11 CDT (5:30 - 9 pm Pacific Time). 1st half hour warm ups, discussion, with more discussion following after 8 pm Pacific Time. Schedule and info at www.ethnicdance.net/virtualdanceroom/
- Cerritos Folk Dancers. Cerritos Folk Dancers conduct virtual classes through Zoom every Tuesday evening, from 6:00 to 8:45. It is open to the public. Donation is \$4 each time. Other options to donate are available. The first time participating in CFD's Tuesday class is free of charge. Contact

# CerritosFolkDancers@gmail.com for the weekly playlists and other details.

- The Peninsula Dancers from Northern CA will continue Zoom sessions every 3rd Saturday of the month from 3-6:30, also broadcast on their Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/PFDCouncil/ Check with virtualfolkdance@gmail.com or check the Facebook page for the Zoom link.
- Tuesday Night Revival (Boston MIT) meets every 3rd Saturday, 5-8 pm Pacific Time https:// tuesdaynightrevival.com/ or join Zoom at https:// tinyurl.com/tnrzoom
- Roberto Bagnoli holds Israeli and Balkan dance parties from Rome, often on Sunday mornings and/or weekdays at noon. Check his webpage http://morenu.it/ for the current schedule and Zoom links.
- Kypseli has been presenting Greek dance and music sessions on Zoom on occasional Saturdays, sometimes from Greece. Information will be on their Facebook page and website www.kypseli.org
- Ira Weisburd teaches line dances and hosts a
  Balkan-Israeli Session, usually recorded for later
  viewing. Donations requested. https://
  www.facebook.com/dancewithira Ira's classes
  are now broadcast on his YouTube Channel his Facebook page redirects to: https://
  www.youtube.com/user/iraweisburd
- Vintage Israeli Dance is hosting monthly hybrid Zoom and in person meetings. Email vintagedancing@aol.com for the dates and Zoom link.

### **DECEMBER 2021**

- 4 Folk Arts Center of New England: "Lots More Than Latkes" with Aaron Alpert, https://facone.org/ programs-online-saturday-events.html
- 5 Skirball Hanukkah Festival Dublab DJ Callie Ryan, folk troubadours Zingarella, and klezmer group Yale Strom and Hot Pstromi. <a href="http://skirball.org/programs/festival/hanukkah-festival-lncludes timed-entry admission">http://skirball.org/programs/festival/hanukkah-festival-lncludes timed-entry admission to Star Trek: Exploring New Worlds</a>
- 11 CANCELLED Armenian Festival 2021

11 Nevenka Then and Now – online replay of a concert from Nov 20 – tickets at <a href="https://www.nevenka.org/tickets">https://www.nevenka.org/tickets</a> See OTS

### 2022 JANUARY

28-30 Stockton Winter Weekend Virtual Camp - info will be available Dec.1 at www.folkdancecamp.org

### **FEBRUARY**

6 Party/workshop with Tom Bozigian and Sheree King, 12:45-5:15 pm at LA DanceFit Studio, 10936 Santa Monica Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90025 - Flyer and Registration Form will be posted on <a href="https://socalfolkdance.org/">https://socalfolkdance.org/</a> in December. See OTS and ad.

26 Cerritos Folkdancers Lunar New Year Festival.

### MARCH

4-6 Laguna Festival - details forthcoming

### NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DECEMBER 2021

16-19 Nirkoda Ba'Kerem Israeli Dance Camp with Aaron Alpert, Wonder Valley Ranch (Fresno) Info: http://nirkoda.com/bakerem

### 2022 MAY

20-22 - Statewide - Petaluma - Ahmet, Gergana Panova, Bruce Hamilton, Chubrtitza http:// www.folkdance.com/event/statewide2022/ See ad.

### **JUNE**

10-13 *Scandia Camp Mendocino* Virtual. www.scandiacamp.org

### **JULY**

17-23 and 24-30 *Stockton in person camp* . <a href="http://www.folkdancecamp.org/in-person-2022-camp-main-page">http://www.folkdancecamp.org/in-person-2022-camp-main-page</a>

# OUT OF STATE 2022

### **FEBRUARY**

14 Winter Workshop. Celebrate 50 years of the Florida Folk Dance Council at a winter workshop in Orlando, FL. Feb. 11-14, 2022 with Jaap Leegwater and Mea Nordenfelt teaching Bulgarian and Beyond. Info: folkdance.org 17-20 45th Annual Greek Orthodox Folk Dance and Choral Festival (FDF), in Phoenix, Arizona info: <a href="https://www.yourfdf.org">www.yourfdf.org</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/">www.facebook.com/</a> FolkDanceFestival

### **MARCH**

25-27 - 57th Anniversary Spring Festival in Chicago https://www.balkanskiigri.com/

26, 27 San Antonio Folk Dance Festival (SAFDF) inperson. At Our Lady of the Lake University. Details will be at www.safdf.org

31- 4/3 NFO Conference in person at Evanston, Illinois. <a href="http://nfo-usa.org/annual-conference-2022/">http://nfo-usa.org/annual-conference-2022/</a>

### APRIL

29-5/1 San Antonio Folk Dance Festival (SAFDF) on Zoom. Details will be at <a href="www.safdf.org">www.safdf.org</a>

29-5/1 Lyrids Folk Dance Festival in Vancouver, BC, Canada; April 29-May 1 on ZOOM.

#### MAY

5/13-15 IFC Revival Weekend in NY - featuring Steve Kotansky and Alexandru David. See OTS.

### FOREIGN ALBANIA

5/1-11/2022 *Tour led by Lee Otterholt*. Includes Tirana, Durres, Viora FD Festival, Kruja, Saranda, Berat, Shkodra, Gjirokastra. Extension 5/11-13. Info: www.JimGold.com, 201.836.0362. See ad.

### **BULGARIA**

8/1-14/2022 Koprivshtitsa Festival Tour. Info: www.JimGold.com, 201.836.0362. See ad.

### CENTRAL EUROPE

6/14-27/2023 Folk Dance and Yodeling Tour to Germany, Austria, Lichtenstein, Switzerland. Led by Jim Gold, Lee Otterholt and Lee Friedman. Munich, Salzburg, Lucerne, plus. Info: www.JimGold.com, 201.836.0362. See ad.

### GEORGIA, ARMENIA, IRAN

6/2022 Tour led by Tineke and Maurits Van Geel, Info: www.tinekevangeel.nl See ad.

### HUNGARY

10/12-23 POSTPONED to 2022. Hungary Dance and Folklore Tour III. Budapest and NW Hungary. Info: Jeff O'Connor,

tours.easterneurope@gmail.com, or Steve Kotansky, stephenkotansky@gmail.com

### **IRELAND**

8/5-17/2023 Tour led by Jim Gold and Lee Friedman. Galway, Aran Islands, Cork, Blarney, Dublin, plus. Info: www.JimGold.com, 201.836.0362. See ad.

### ISRAEL

3/13-24/2022 Tour led by Jim Gold, Joe Freedman and Lee Friedman. Info: www.JimGold.com, 201.836.0362. See ad.

### NORWAY, DENMARK, SWEDEN

6/14-28/2022 (**Note change of dates**) *Tour led by Lee Otterholt*. Oslo, Gothenburg, Helsingborg, Copenhagen. Info: www.JimGold.com, 201.836.0362. See ad.

### PERU, BOLIVIA, CHILE

5/21-6/2/2022 Tour led by Martha Tavera. Cuzco, Machu Picchu, Lake Titicaca, La Paz, Atacama Desert, plus. <a href="http://www.JimGold.com">http://www.JimGold.com</a>, 201.836.0362. See ad.

#### POLAND

6/8-21/2022 (**NEW**) Tour led by Richard Schmidt. Warszawa, Krakow, plus. Info: www.JimGold.com, 201.836.0362. See ad.

### ROMANIA

10/24-11/6/2022 (**Note change of dates**) *Klezmer and Folk Dance Tour*. Led by Jim Gold, with Nancy Hoffman and Lee Friedman. Bucharest, Brasov, Sibiu. Info: www.JimGold.com, 201.836.0362. See ad.

### SPAIN

4/14-18/2022 Easter Spring Time Dance World Championship on 2022 in Barcelona. See OTS. 9/14-27/2023 Tour led by Lee Otterholt. Malaga, Cadiz, Seville, Cordoba, Jaen, Granada. Info: www.JimGold.com, 201.836.0362. See ad.

# XXL TOUR to GEORGIA, ARMENIA and (OPTIONAL) IRAN

Following the successful XXL Tour to three countries in 2018, Tineke & Maurits are planning a wonderful new XXL tour in June 2022.

Don't miss it!

Registration is open. Payment due in 2022. Info on our website: www.tinekevangeel.nl



The Folk Dance Federation of CA, South is proud to sponsor an Armenian & International Dance Event in Los Angeles

Save the Date for a Party with

# **TOM BOZIGIAN & SHEREE KING**



Sunday February 6, 2022 12:45 – 5:15 p.m. LA Dancefit Studio 10936 Santa Monica Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90025



Admission \$12.00

### **SCHEDULE**

12:45 p.m.	Registration opens, warm up dancing
1:15 – 2:15	Instruction by Tom & Sheree
2:15 – 3:00	Set of traditional Armenian, Greek, Lebanese dances party dances
3:00 – 3:15	Opportunity to video Tom & Sheree demonstrating dances taught earlier.  Tom will collect a small fee for video recording.
3:15 – 4:30	Set of International dances (suggestions sent in advance)
4:30 - 5:15	On the spot dance requests by folks in attendance

Participants are required to show proof of Covid vaccination, sign waiver and wear masks.

Find waiver on website, https://socalfolkdance.org/

**Save time at the door by submitting waiver in advance and pre-registering.** You may also print waiver, sign and bring to event.

Send to Registrar, Mindy Belli, 321 S. Vista Del Canon, Anaheim, CA 92807 mindybg2019@gmail.com

•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•••
You	r n	an	ne_											e-ı	ma	il a	dd	res	ss_															
nho	ne																																	

Mail with a copy of your Vax record and check for \$12.00 payable to Folk Dance Federation of CA, South

You may send names of dances which you would like Tom & Sheree to review and names of dances you wish to be on the program to: president@socalfolkdance.org

P.S. Bring a birthday card - We're celebrating Tom's 84th birthday!



# Guest Teachers: Ahmet Luleci Gergana Panova Bruce Hamilton

Middle Eastern Dinner and Installation Lunch catered by

The River Front Cafe

# **Our Host Hotels:**

~ Hampton Inn and Suites ~ 6248 Redwood Drive Rohnert Park, CA 94928

For more information about the festival, parking, motels, etc. go to: <a href="http://statewide.folkdance.com">http://statewide.folkdance.com</a>

Hermann Sons Hall 860 Western Ave Petaluma, CA 94952

Evening Parties with Children

Additional entertainment by Gradina

Chinese Performance Group with Rebecca Tsai

With more to be announced later

Mask and proof of vaccination requirements will follow CDC, State, and County COVID regulations at the time of the event.

Banner art used by permission of artist Maxfield Bala

# Pastoral Fandango – Statewide Folk Dance Festival May 20 - May 22, 2022

Hermann Sons Hall, Petaluma, California Registration Form (Please register individually, one form per person)

Name:	E-mail:					
Phone:	Best time to call:					
City:	State: Zip Code:					
Festival Package (Includes ALL workshops and parties, \$135 at the [ ] \$120 when payment is received by February 15, 2022 [ ] \$125 when payment is received by April 15, 2022 [ ] \$130 when payment is received by May 5, 2022 (final day to p  All Day events (ONLY WITH early registration) [ ] \$75 All day Saturday (\$85 at the door) [ ] \$50 All day Sunday (\$55 at the door)  Individual Events (ONLY WITH early registration) \$30 each at the [ ] \$25 Friday evening party [ ] \$25 Saturday eve [ ] \$25 Saturday AM instruction [ ] \$25 Saturday PM	reregister)  admitted free with a paying adult. Young adults aged 13-21 will receive a 50% discount, but may be required to volunteer from 1-2 hours during the festival. Work scholarships available. Contact Marina at					
[ ] \$25 Sunday morning instruction] [ ] \$25 Sunday after						
Federation coupons are good for Friday or Sunday or \$35 discount o	n festival package.					
	Subtotal: \$					
[ ] \$22 Middle Eastern Dinner Saturday night [ ] with me	eat [ ] vegetarian eat [ ] vegetarian eat [ ] vegetarian  voman [ ]; Crew neck [ ]; V-neck [ ]					
TOT	TAL ENCLOSED: \$					
To register with this mail-in form: Send with your check (made payable	to Folk Dance Federation) to: Statewide					

**To register with this mail-in form**: Send with your check (made payable to *Folk Dance Federation*) to: Statewide Registrar, Sabine Zappe, 153 Race Street, San Jose, CA 95126. **On-line Registration** available starting January 2022 at <a href="http://statewide.folkdance.com">http://statewide.folkdance.com</a>.

Visit the Statewide 2022 webpage at <a href="http://statewide.folkdance.com">http://statewide.folkdance.com</a> for the latest information about schedule, teachers, hotels, restaurants, parking, directions, etc. Mask and proof of vaccination requirements will follow CDC, State, and County COVID regulations at the time of the event. Statewide 2022 is sponsored by the Folk Dance Federation of California, a non-profit organization.

# ON THE SCENE

### PARTY WITH TOM BOZIGIAN & SHEREE KING

Celebrate Tom's 84th birthday (hint --appropriate card) with your So Cal friends, Sunday February 6, 2022, 12:45 – 5:15 p.m. at LA Dancefit Studio, 10936 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90025.

See flyer in this issue. Also, it and Registration Form will be posted on website in December: https://socalfolkdance.org/

Participants required to show proof of Covid vaccination, sign waiver and wear masks.

Please send names of dances for which you would like Tom & Sheree to refresh your knowledge, and names of dances you wish to be on the program to: <a href="mailto:president@socalfolkdance.org">president@socalfolkdance.org</a>

Diane Baker

### PASADENA FOLK DANCE CO-OP

We dance together in person every Friday night from 7:30 till 9:30 at the Altadena Community Church at 943 E. Altadena Drive in Altadena. In December we'll also be meeting two Tuesday afternoons, December 7 and 21, from 1:00 till 3:00 PM at the same location in Altadena.

On the first four Fridays this month Toti O'Brien will be teaching one or more new dances from Fall Camp. And on the fifth Friday, join us for New Year's Eve with live music by the Fifth Friday band. See our ad in this issue. We decided against trying to put on our traditional Winter Festival under current conditions, but we hope to host a festival later in the year.

Currently we are admitting fully vaccinated only. Please see our website Events page for event details and full current protocols.

https://www.pasadenafolkdancecoop.org/events/ Mari Werner

### **IFC REVIVAL**

Save the Date for the International Folkdance Camp Revival Weekend, May 13-15, 2022 at Circle Ranch, Hopewell Junction NY. Featuring Steve Kotansky and Alexandru David.

Registration opens soon. Proof of vaccinations required. Info: IFC-NY.com
See you there!

Joan Hantman

### **TUESDAY GYPSIES**

We are planning on starting in-person dancing beginning in the new year. We hope to have our first night back on Tuesday, January 4th. All are welcome to join us if fully vaccinated and willing to dance wearing a mask. Please bring proof of vaccination. We dance at the Masonic Lodge - 9635 Venice Blvd, Culver City, CA. We hope to see you there.

Sandy Helperin

### **NEVENKA THEN AND NOW**

A Celebration of Our 45th Anniversary Saturday, December 11, 2021 at 4 p.m.

Join Nevenka East European Folk Ensemble for an online re-broadcast of our first live concert since the pandemic began. We'll take a trip down memory lane with songs from the early days of Nevenka. The program will feature traditional music from Croatia, Russia, Bulgaria, Macedonia, and Hungary. Special guests include a full Croatian tamburica band, our friends Orkestar Pechurka performing tunes from the Balkans and Anatolia, and some other surprises!

The event will also feature Dr. Anthony Shay, founding director of the Aman and Avaz Folk Ensembles, who will join us to speak about the world music movement in the 20th century and the early days of Balkan music in Los Angeles.

www.nevenka.org/tickets



### Let's Dance!

The Magazine of International Folk Dance

Join the Folk Dance Federation of California and receive *Let's Dance!*10 issues for \$35/year

# The where, when, how and who of International Folk Dancing

Membership application available on line at <a href="www.folkdance.com">www.folkdance.com</a>. Pay on-line or send application with check to Marsha Rosenblatt, Membership, 927 Springfield Drive Millbrae, CA 94030

### Jim Gold International Folk Tours: 2022-23



Our trips are for folk dancers, non-dancers, and anyone with a love of travel and culture.

www.jimgold.com

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2022

**ISRAEL:** March 13-24, 2022

Led by Jim Gold, Joe Freedman, and Lee Friedman Jerusalem, Masada, Tel Aviv, Galilee, Haifa, Tiberias, Safed, and Golan Heights

ALBANIA and KOSOVO: May 2-11 ext. 11-13, 2022 Led by Lee Otterholt. Tirana, Durres, Gjirokaster Folk Festival! Kruja, Saranda, Berat, Shkodra.

PERU, BOLIVIA, CHILE: May 21-June 2, 2022
Led by Martha Tavera. Cuzco, Sacred Valley, Machu Picchu,
Quechua Village, Lake Titicaca, Uyuni, La Paz, Atacama Desert

NORWAY, DENMARK, SWEDEN: June 14-28, 2022 Led by Lee Otterholt. Oslo, Gothenburg, Helsingborg, Copenhagen

POLAND: June 8-21, 2022. Led by Richard Schmidt.

Warszawa,, Olsztyn, Malbork, Gdańsk Gdynia, Sopot, Toruń, Kraków

RIII GARIA: August 1-14, 2022 Kopriyshtitsa Folk Festival Tour!

BULGARIA: August 1-14, 2022 Koprivshtitsa Folk Festival Tour!
Led by Jim Gold, Lee Otterholt, Lee Friedman
Sofia, Plovdiv, Bansko, Veliko Turnovo
GREECE and the GREEK ISLANDS: October 8-21, 2022

Led by Jim Gold and Lee Otterholt.: Athens, Nauplia, Sparta, Olympia, Delphi, Meteora, Mycenae, and Epidaurus, Greek Island Cruise to Mykonos, Crete, Rhodes, Patmos, Kusadasi (Turkey)

ROMANIA: Oct 24-Nov 6, 2022 Klezmer and Folk Dance Tour Led by Jim Gold with Nancy Hoffman and Lee Friedman: Bucharest, Brasov. Sibiu

2023



June 14-27, 2023. Folk Dance and Yodeling Tour Led by Jim Gold, Lee Otterholt, and Lee Friedman: Munich, Salzburg, Innsbruck, Swiss Alps, Lucerne, Zurich

IRELAND: August 5-17, 2023: Led by Jim Gold and Lee Friedman Galway, Connemara, Aran islands, Doolin, Killarney, Kerry, Cork, Blarney, Dublin

SPAIN: September 14-27, 2023: Led by Lee Otterholt: Malaga, Cadiz, Seville, Cordoba, Jaen, Granada

TOUR REGISTRATION: Can't wait to go! Reserve my place! Choose your tour. \$200 per person deposit. Or register and send deposits on line at: <a href="https://www.jimgold.com/folk-tours">www.jimgold.com/folk-tours</a>
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# DANCERS SPEAK

### **ZOOMING**

Here is a note from one in the grey area of Zooming. The pandemic has had this writer swimming in a new kind of grey fog.

I find myself even more depressed and isolated after Zoom dancing. On the wonderful side of Zooming, I've seen dear friends, teachers and met people from all over the globe that share so much and bring great gifts to Zoom! On the other side of the same coin, I see beloved friends dancing with partners - that reminds me of how alone I am with no hand to hold. It hurts, and also feels terribly selfish. I'm truly grateful that many have someone to dance with, or have a non-dancing friend or spouse to share with after the Zoom. But it does whack me that I have neither.

My 5' x 5' carpeted dance spot sometimes feels like a prison cell with just a small cyber window out into what I knew of my folk dance world, dancing together with my beloved friends.

Dancing at Chang's and across the country with Paul Collins, the Speigels, Sherry Cochran, New England, etc., is fantastic! But then, I am still, after it all, left alone, and no one has held my hand.

Zooming has me in a very grey zone, dancing wise.

But singing???? AH!!!! And believe me I don't have a great voice, but I do LOVE to sing!

Zooming with Bill Cope and his sing-along group buoys me several times a week. I've also enjoyed the cooking and other "non-dance" presentations and activities offered by the folk dance community. Zoom dancing, though, is a foggy grey area for me. I can't wait until we are once again holding hands and hearts for real.

Valerie Daley

### CORRECTION

Folk Dance Scene would like to make the following corrections to the EEFC Zoom Festival article published in the October 2021 issue:

In the video link provided in the article, the instrument Danilo Yanich played with the group was a *bugarija*, not a guitar. He has a Serbian background instead of Czech, and he played mostly

Roma tunes in his EEFC performance. However his Bossanova, although it was uncharacteristic of Danilo's music, was met with rave reviews.

In the Interview with Nizo Alimov, the article stated that Nizo was a singer and instrumentalist. Nizo however is not a singer. Instead, he is a brass multi-instrumentalist and composer, specializing in baritone horn and trumpet.

Any questions? Please let me know - cell: 949.573.1585.

Kathy Molga

# **Best Holiday Wishes**



# Folk Dance Co-op

We have decided not to put on our traditional January Winter Festival this winter. We hope to host a festival later in the year if restrictions and conditions become more dance-friendly.

In the meantime, we wish all our fellow dancers a safe, healthy season and happy dancing wherever you may be doing it.

# New Ylean's Eve Chicago Dance Povily

Friday, December 31, 2021 7:00 till 10:30 PM (It will be 2022 in Chicago)



# Hosted by Pasadena Folk Dance Co-op

Live music by
Fifth Friday
Plus all-request recorded dance music
Altadena Community Church
943 Altadena Drive, Altadena, CA 91001
Admission: \$10

Fully vaccinated only, masks may be required, and please bring your own water Please visit our website Events page for updates and full current protocols https://www.pasadenafolkdancecoop.org/events

### POETRY CORNER

### **EVERYDAY GIFTS**

Seeing your handsome face intent on drizzling boysenberry syrup on waffles As we breakfast with sparrows clamoring around the feeder And house finches splashing in the bird bath.

Riding the bike trail past corrals of llamas and goats, and paddocks of ponies And stopping to watch spirited stallion, hide-painted in chestnut-brown and white, Gallop full-speed to the offensive fence,

Whinny in dismay, then gallop back To the slender young woman... to nuzzle her neck, to feel her small hand Pet him, brush away a twig.

Attending with an old friend, after an oval of years, Mass on All Souls Day at a small chapel With the side-table of photos,

Feeling pin-prick memory-spurts of old hurts and young love emerge As I gaze, surprised, at a certain picture laying there on this Day of the Dead And wonder if he was baffled at the end... or fulfilled.

Driving home in slant-rays of October sun Glinting off smooth-peeled eucalyptus trunks And gleaming on far-away Mt. Baldy,

Hoping that tall peak will be snow-shrouded come Winter For the beauty of it, for the nourishing waters Nuzzling into the earth... come Spring.

--- Camille Dull



It is with heavy hearts that the Stockton Folk Dance Camp Board of Directors regret to inform you of the passing of Bruce Mitchell in October. We have truly lost a champion of international folk dancing and Folk Dance Camp. Bruce attended Camp for more than 60 years, starting as a teenager and continuing through 2021. He served as the Director/CEO for 25 years, and was on the Board for many years. His stewardship of and contributions to the Lawton Harris Library are legend and greatly appreciated. He was a dedicated educator and principal in the Rio Linda Union School District (near Sacramento, CA). In addition to his love of dance, Bruce was an avid fisherman and a fan of various sports teams. He also enjoyed collecting stamps and masks. A Celebration of Life for both Bruce and his wife, Leanne is planned for early 2022. As soon as we have more information about services, we will let the Folk Dance Camp family know. We

will feature a tribute to Bruce during our upcoming January Camp. Our thoughts are with Bruce's family. Bruce will be greatly missed at Camp and in the worldwide folk dance community.

# RECENT EVENTS

### WESTCHESTER LARIATS PERFORM AT COMMUNITY BLOCK PARTY

On August 18, 2021, the Westchester Lariats performed for the first time in more than a year at the 6th annual Westchester Arts and Music (WAM) Block Party in Los Angeles. The WAM Block Party is a free daylong public event that benefits Emerson Avenue Community Garden. Local residents maintain individual plots of land in the garden to grow vegetables, fruits, and flowers. Priority to the plots is given to individuals who do not have their own yard at their homes.



The block party features live music and dance, art, vendors and community booths, kid-participation activities and garden tours. Local artists display their works for sale. Tables are set up in the garden to give budding artists of all ages the opportunity to make art. Food trucks provide a variety of menus for lunch and snacks. Adults may enjoy the beer and wine garden.



The Lariats, dressed in a variety of costumes representing cultures from around the world, performed a selection of Hawaiian and Bollywood dances. As a finale, Isabel Van Aalst, lead Lariats instructor, taught a dance for audience participation -- the "Hookie Lau!" The community was thrilled that the 6<sup>th</sup> annual Westchester Arts and Music Block Party took place!

The Westchester Lariats, a member club of the Folk Dance Federation of CA, South, was founded in 1950 by Dr. and Mrs. J. Tillman Hall. The club

began as an extension of the Friday afternoon square dance classes taught by Dr. Hall at the request of neighborhood parents in Westchester. The Westchester Lariats now operates as a non-profit organization to teach children from kindergarten through grade 12 about international cultures through dance. With a repertoire of over 100 dances, the Lariats perform at community events and also go on tour each summer.

The Lariats will soon move into a larger studio at the Westchester Townhouse. They are thrilled to resume rehearsals after so many months of Covid closure (a blip of time in their 71 years of existence). More information about the Lariats can be found at <a href="https://westchesterlariats.org">westchesterlariats.org</a> or on the Facebook page "The Westchester Lariats."

Lisa Wunder, parent volunteer



### NARODNI SEASONAL CELEBRATION - ORANGE NIGHT

On October 28, Narodni celebrated the season with Orange Night where the trick was to wear something orange. The photo shows the dancers and observers clad in their orange best, if they had it. The sign on the blue shirt says, "Ceci n'est pas un Orange T-Shirt.". We celebrated in good spirits even without any treats.



### **FALL CAMP**

We just returned from another wonderful Fall Camp in Simi Valley. Despite vexing last minute problems, like master teacher Roberto Bagnoli coming down with Covid and not able to come to the U.S. Mark and Jan Rayman and their great crew produced a magical experience for us. Sonia and Cristian are always terrific personalities as well as teachers at any camp,



and Aaron Alpert coming in suddenly as though he'd had months to prepare, gave us a wonderful dance program. Terry Gucwa's Pot Luck band was fun to play in and well-received by the dancers. Altogether an exceptional weekend. See you there next time.

Jill Michtom



# **CLUB DIRECTORY**

Most groups welcome beginning dancers. The groups with an \* below have sessions specifically for beginners.

>>Several groups recently notified Scene that they are now dancing in-person. These groups are indicated below with >> preceding their name. It is still a changing dance scene so verify before attending. Other groups may be holding Zoom dance sessions or not meeting in-person so contact the contact before showing up.<<

### **Federation Clubs**

- >>\*Cabrillo Folk Dancers: Tue 7:00-9:30 (Beg 7-8). Balboa Park. Balboa Park Club, 2144 Pan American, SAN DIEGO. (858) 459-1336 gbsham@gmail.com Georgina.
- >>Cerritos Folk Dancers: Tue 6:00-8:45 on zoom. 2nd, 4th Thu 1:30-4:30(closed in Nov. 4th Thu in Dec rescheduled to 5th Thu) at Cerritos Senior Center, 12340 South St, CERRITOS. (562) 865-8854 chiangwenli@yahoo.com Wen Chiang
- >>Conejo Valley Folk Dancers: Wed 7:30-9:30. Conejo Rec Center, 403 W Hillcrest Dr, THOUSAND OAKS. (805) 495-6491 marionmiller601@gmail.com Marion Miller

Ethnic Express: Wed 6:30 except holidays. Charleston Heights Arts Center, 800 So. Brush St, Las VEGAS. (702) 732-4871 rpkillian@gmail.com Richard Killian

>>Fantasy Folk Dance Club: Sun 3:00 - 7:00. St Thomas Aquinas Church, 1501 S Atlantic Blvd, Monterey Park. tiggerbyc@yahoo.com (626) 688 -9245 Sophie Chen. Fri 8:15-10:45. El Monte Chamber of Commerce, 10505 Valley Blvd EL Monte. (626) 429-9008 Vincentyhcheng@gmail.com Vincent Cheng >>Int'l Folk Dance Club - Laguna Woods: Tue 9:00am-12:00. Clubhouse 6, 24061 Algarrobo, Laguna Woods. (949) 454-0837 friedagorelick@hotmail.com Frieda Gorelick

**Kypseli Greek Folk Dancing**: www.kypseli.org xorepse@gmail.com

- >>Laguna Int'l Dancers: Sun 6:00-8:30 on zoom. Wed 5:00-7:00 at Clubhouse 2, 24112 Moulton Pkwy, Laguna Woods. (949) 770-7026 7kahnmiriam@gmail.com Miriam Kahn www.lagunainternationaldancers.com
- >>Narodni Int'l Folkdancers: Thu 7:30-10:30. Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak St, **Bell-FLOWER.** (562) 881-9504 julithilona@gmail.com Julith Neff
- >>Pasadena Folk Dance Co-op: Fri 7:30-9:30. Altadena Community Church, 943 E Altadena Dr, Altadena. (661) 296-0481 lhalberg@att.net Leslie Halberg. www.pasadenafolkdancecoop.org
- >>Prescott Int'l Folkdancers: Sun 2:00-4:00. Prescott Boys & Girls Club, 335 East Aubrey St, Prescott, AZ. (928) 350-8239 Ellen Malcolm Prescott.intl.folkdancers@earthlink.net

Rainbow Senior Club: Sun 3:00-6:00. Joslyn Senior Center 210 N. Chapel Ave, ALHAMBRA. (626) 456-1900 ksun310@yahoo.com Kevin Sun

Skandia South Dance Club: Mon 7:00-9:45.

Downtown Community Center, 250 E Center, ANA-HEIM. (714) 893-8888 tedmart@juno.com Ted Martin.

Solvang Village Folk Dancers: Sat 6:30-8:30 (except 3rd Sat). Buellton Recreation Center, 301 2nd St, Buellton. 3rd Sat 1:30-3:30. Corner Alisal & Copenhagen, Solvang (805) 688-3397 dlh4362@gmail.com David Heald

>>Tuesday Gypsies: Starting Jan 4. Tue 7:45-10:15. Masonic Lodge, 9635 Venice Blvd, CULVER CITY. (310) 391-7382 sandyhelperin@icloud.com Sandy Helperin

>>Ventura Int'l Folkdancers: Tue 1:15, Thu 1:45, 1st Sun 3:30. Ventura YMCA, 3760 Telegraph Rd, Ventura. (805) 746-0884 dancing.valerie@gmail.com Valerie Daley

>>Veselo Selo Folkdancers: Sat 7:30-9:30. Unitarian Church, 511 S. Harbor, ANAHEIM. (949) 767-7173 ms.winokur@yahoo.com Shana Winokur

>>Vintage Israeli Dancing: One Sat per month 8:16 -12:00. Anisa's School of Dance, 14252 Ventura Blvd, SHERMAN OAKS. (818) 881-7494 (after noon) richterlouis@aol.com Louis

>>West Valley Folk Dancers: Thu 2:00-4:00. Danceland 7215 Tampa Ave., Reseda. (818) 348-6133 lila@aurich.com Lila. Vaccination proof & masks.

Westchester Lariats: Mon 4:00-9:00. United Methodist Church, 8065 Emerson, Los Angeles. (310) 689-9176 veniceii@yahoo.com Ina Hall

Westwood Co-op: Thu 7:30-9:45. Felicia Mahood Senior Center, 11338 Santa Monica Blvd, West LA. (310) 657-6877 rwsklar@yahoo.com Rita Sklar

### **Exhibition Groups**

Karpatok Hungarian Folk Ensemble: Wed 8:00. United Hungarian House, 1975 Washington, Los ANGELES. (805) 341-9640 sissykf@earthlink.net Sissy Keresztes-Fischer

Krakusy Polish Folk Dance Ensemble: Tue 7:30-9:30 Sat 9:00-10:00. Szarotka Retirement Home, 3400 W Adams Blvd, Los Angeles. Sat 2:15-4:15. Polish Parish Hall, 3424 W Adams Blvd, Los Angeles. (626) 827-7338 elistarrr@yahoo.com Elizabeth Romuzga.

Scandia Dancers: Tue 7:00-10:00. Woman's Club, Bellflower. (714) 356-7745 sholzman1@verizon.net Stefanie Holzman

UCSB Middle Eastern Ensemble: Tue 7:00-10:00. Gehringer Music Bldg, UCSB Campus, SANTA BARBARA. (805) 729-6453 scottmarcu@aol.com Scott Marcus

### Non-Federation Clubs

**Bay Osos Folk Dancers:** Tue 11:00-3:00. South Bay Community Center, 2180 Palisades Ave, **Los Osos.** (805) 534-1501, annetiber@charter.net Anne Tiber.

Cafe Aman: 2nd Sat 7:00-11:30. Teach 7:30-8:30 LA DanceFit Studio, 10936 Santa Monica Blvd, West LA, ianpricebey@gmail.com, madelyntaylor@hotmail.com

Caltech Folkdancers: Tue 7:30. Caltech Campus, Dabney Hall, parking on California Blvd. or Throop Church, 300 Los Robles, **Pasadena**. (626) 797-5157 Nancy Milligan

Claremont Israeli Dancers: Mon 7:00-10:00 Masonic Lodge, 272 W. 8th St, CLAREMONT. (909) 921 -7115 Yael

**Desert Dancers**: Thu 7:00-9:00 Nov-April. Hi Desert Dance Center, 725 S. Gateway St, **RIDGECREST**. (760) 371-5669 Nora Nuckles

**Desert Int'l Folk Dancers**: Thu 7:00-9:00 Nov-Apr. Leisure Center Dance Studio, 401 S. Pavilion Way, **PALM SPRINGS**. (760) 342-1297 Helen Smith

**Folk Dance Center**: Every Evening. Oasis Wellness Center, 5500 Grossmont Center Dr, **La Mesa**. (619) 466-4043, www.folkdancecenter.org

>>\*Foothill Folk Dancers: Thu 7:30-9:30. Community Center, 4469 Chevy Chase Dr., La Cañada (818)790-8523 JanRayman@charter.net www.Foothill.Dance

>>Friday Night L.I.F.E.: Fri 8:00-11:00. LA Dance-Fit Studio, 10936 Santa Monica Blvd West L.A www.lifebalkandancers.com worldance1@gmail.com Sherry Cochran

Israeli Dancing-James Zimmer: Tue 8:00-12:00. Westside JCC, 5870 W Olympic, L.A. (310) 284-3638 James Zimmer Israelidance@yahoo.com

\*Israeli Dancing @ AJU-Natalie & Pat: Mon 10:30am-1:00, noon-1:00(Beg); Thu 10:30am-11:30. American Jewish Univ Dance Studio, 15600 Mulholland, L.A 818-642-3585 Pat Jordan

**Israeli Dancing-Yoni Carr**: Mon 7:00-11:30 Beginners at 7:00. Infinity Sport Dance Center, 4428 Convoy St, **SAN DIEGO**. (619) 227-0110 Yoni

**Kayso Folk Dancers**: Fri 9:30am-12:00. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado room 206, **SAN DIEGO** (619) 463-7529 Joe Sigona San Diego Folk Dancers: Mon 7:30-9:00. Balboa Park Club, Balboa Park, SAN DIEGO (858) 278-4619 Jeanne Cate

Santa Barbara Balkan Folk Dancers: Wed 8:00-10:00PM (In-person/safety precautions). Oak Park Stage, corner Junipero and Calle Real, SANTA BARBARA. soriasusan@gmail.com Susan Soria, or michalcathy@cox.net (805.895.4885) Michal Lynch

Santa Barbara Int'l Folk Dancers: In-person but schedule is in flux. Contact Michal Lynch for info michalcathy@cox.net, 805-895-4885.

Santa Monica College Int'l Dance Club: Tue, Thu 11:15am-12:35. Santa Monica College Clock Tower or LS Bldg, 1900 Pico Blvd, SANTA MONICA. (310) 284-3638 James Zimmer

**Topanga Canyon Int'l FD**: Fri 9:30am-11:00am. Froggy's Restaurant, 1105 N. Topanga Canyon Blvd, **Topanga**. (310) 455-1051 Melanie Kareem

UCLA Ballroom Club & UCLA Int'l Folkdancers: Mon 7:00-9:00(ballroom), 9:00-11:00 (folk). UCLA Kerckhoff Hall, Westwood. (310) 284-3636 UniversityDanceClubs@yahoo.com James Zimmer



### **FOLK DANCE SCENE**

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