

## Residency Activities



*Photo by Maria Anguera de Sojo*

## Lecture/Demonstrations

The success of Donna Uchizono Company's lecture/demonstrations lies in The Company's inherent ability to adjust the program to suit any age group or level of dance knowledge. The lec/dem familiarizes the audience with the creative process used by the choreographer. Demonstrations of the concept of "catching" and "throwing", the development of a basic phrase into complex patterns followed by excerpts of the repertory and the structures that helped generate the particular section engage the audience leading to a question and answer period.

## Workshops

Since 1980, Donna Uchizono has regularly taught workshops and classes in the U.S., Europe, and South America participating in festivals and teaching institutions in Spain, Switzerland, Denmark, France, Portugal, Belgium, Slovenia, Argentina and Romania. In the U.S., Uchizono has taught at Sarah Lawrence, Wesleyan University, California Institute of the Arts, UCLA, and the University of Minnesota, and as a guest choreographer at Temple University, Barnard College and Bryn Mawr.

## Technique

The class begins simply focusing on the skeletal structure and breath, influenced by the work of Alexander Technique, Klein Technique and Yoga in combination with the more traditional dance techniques. It then progresses through a warm-up, using material that is developed later into a larger dancing combination. This combination, which concentrates on the complete use of the body through changes in dynamic, rhythm, character and release, emphasizes dancing with ease and strength.

## Composition

The composition class focuses on developing a clear intention while simultaneously discovering and developing the artistic voice of the individual. This is achieved through various assignments and structures. A Guggenheim fellow, Donna Uchizono has been recognized by many awards for her own choreographic work and delights in the student's own choreographic discoveries.

## Repertory

The success of the repertory workshops comes from the popularity of Donna Uchizono's choreography, which is known for its "wit, spicy movement and rich invention". Students learn sections of repertory, which is always presented in a caring, generous and inclusive manner.

## Partnering

Beginning simply by experiencing simple exchanges of weight, leading into more complex partnering skills, this class presents excerpts of The Company's fun-filled partnering work.