

Clinard at 20 – A Retrospective of Past Projects

The School of Clinard Dance Studio (1999-2019)

Clinard Dance offers Flamenco dance instruction at every level. Whether you're a complete beginner or a seasoned pro, dancers find a caring teaching style, an intimate studio environment, and a learning experience unique to Clinard Dance. Classes are small in size and private instruction is available by appointment.

Clinard Dance Studio Apprenticeship Program (1999-2019)

Clinard Dance offers an Apprenticeship Program which allows students to study devoid of economic challenges. Our ensemble members lead, in partnership with After School Matters, a dance program at Jane Adams High School. Clinard Dance welcomes students into our school if the curiosity persists after their work with After School Matters.

Quest of Theseus (1999)

Quest of Theseus combines music, dance, and puppetry to animate the myth of Theseus and the Labyrinth.

Shifting Landscapes (2001)

Shifting Landscapes combines music, sculpture, illusion, and modern and flamenco dance to animate the manifestations and phase transitions of water throughout the cycle of a day.

Unraveling Rhythms (2004)

Unraveling Rhythms began in 2003 as an experiment between dancers Siri Sonty and Wendy Clinard, aimed at incorporating and transcending both flamenco and Indian classical music and dance. The work features the progress of live ink paintings being made on the backdrop of the performance space (documented by video artist Jeff Abbey Maldonado) and original music by Las Guitarras de España, featuring guest musicians Satya Gummuluri and Kalyan Pathak.

Jondo Portraits (2006)

Jondo Portraits uses the jondo (“deep song”) branch of flamenco music and dance as a springboard for stretching the traditional boundaries of flamenco, culminating in a work of contemporary dance theater.

From the Arctic to the Middle East (2014)

Clinard Dance led audiences on a journey inspired by travels with her daughter to Syria while reading the Arctic travel epic, *Kabloona*. Fusing connections between the ancient and the modern, the spiritual and the physical, and those between the essences of struggle and celebration, Clinard Dance questions the forces that shape human history and interdependence. The work uses the timeless tools of story, song, music, and dance to provide an odyssey and a sense of transcendence which gives the feeling that the journey has just begun.

Flamenco Quartet Project (2014-19)

Clinard Dance began their Flamenco Quartet Project in 2014 dedicating the project to artistic excellence and exploration. Led by an open minded spirit of collaboration, The Flamenco Quartet Project, seeks to engage with contemporary culture through vibrant performances that honor traditional flamenco and their shared passion for music and dance discovery.

Chicago’s Watershed: A 156-Mile Choreography (2014)

June 2014 marked Clinard Dance’s world premiere of *Chicago’s Watershed: A 156-Mile Choreography* at the University of Chicago’s Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts.

In developing the work, choreographer Wendy Clinard took Stravinsky’s revolutionary work *The Rite of Spring* as a starting point for an examination of the ebb and flow of life along the Chicago River.

The music is presented in a minimalist form, in an arrangement for Piano four hands performed by the Estrella Duo, and accompanied by Dmitry Samarov’s video-projected ink artwork. At the heart of the piece is Wendy Clinard’s unique style of American flamenco, presenting in *Chicago’s Watershed* a rhythmic dialogue between city, person, and river.

Concurrent Rhythms (2014/15)

In 2014, Clinard Dance received a grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation's prestigious Chicago International Connections Fund. This resulted in a project involving artist Hrishikesh Pawar of Pune, India, Founder and Artistic Director of the Hrishikesh Dance Company at the Centre of Contemporary Dance. Pawar set a choreography on the Clinard Dance company fall 2014. In early 2015, Wendy Clinard traveled to Pune to reciprocate.

Collaboration with Chicago Sinfonietta (2015/16)

Chicago Sinfonietta's partnered with Clinard Dance and tap virtuoso Cartier Williams in performance of Rimsky-Korsakov's "Scheherazade" and other symphonic work by Stravinsky, Borodin, and Roberto Sierra.

Trip to Beijing (2016)

Clinard Dance and Estrella Piano Duo were invited by The University of Chicago Center in Beijing and Peking University to perform *Chicago's Watershed*: A 156-mile choreography and work with music and dance students.

Everyday People Everyday Action (2017-19)

Everyday People Everyday Action is akin to a collaged snapshot of Pilsen in the early 1990's, as seen through the lens of Japanese photographer Akito Tsuda. The work is a painting of movements and sounds, of history and place. It is work that portrays everyday people and their everyday actions as they celebrate ordinary and everyday beauty.