



The overwhelming feeling here is that it's extremely unfortunate that there could only be one performance!"

"An extraordinary amount of time, talent, and resources go into a production of this size," says Edwin G. Austin, former artistic director of the ensemble. "The program, however, goes much deeper than pure entertainment. The production is steeped in tradition—a patchwork of mankind's finest expression—an attempt to preserve fragments of diversity that might otherwise be forgotten."

Since 1964, IFDE has toured all over the world, representing the United States and American folk culture. The group has become internationally famous at the world's most prominent folk dance festivals where they perform with many of the best dance companies from throughout the world. The group has traveled to more than 100 countries with their international repertoire. IFDE has also represented both BYU and the US as the American performance in the world's largest folk festivals.

The International Folk Dance Ensemble originates in the Department of Dance of the College of Fine Arts and Communications at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. BYU is one of the nation's largest private universities with an enrollment of 30,000 students from throughout the United States and 110 foreign countries.

(end)