Journey

Any wanderer will tell you that there is something magical about discovering new places and old traditions.

Journey is a 90-minute voyage of dance and music through the heartbeat of the world’s cultures. In this show you will see Irish hard shoe, American clogging, Ukrainian Hopak, exotic Indian dances, and many more. The experience of the furious footwork, the pulsing rhythms, the live music, and the authentic costumes will leave you with a special kind of wanderlust.

So throw off the bowlines and catch the wind in your sails as our companion on this Journey.

Ukraine: Hutsulka
The Hutsul people inhabit the rather isolated southwest region of the Ukrainian Carpathian Mountains with their well-preserved fast, vigorous, high-spirited dance and music rhythms. Occupations of the Hutsul people include shepherding, wood cutting and hunting and are reflected in the costumes worn.

*Choreography:* Colleen West
*Music:* Transearpathian Suite, Traditional, The Hutsul Girl, Traditional, Recorded by Ivano-Frankiv’s Philharmonic Society

England: Rapper Sword
The Rapper Sword dance of Northern England descends from ancient sword dances where human sacrifices were once offered. Look for spinning planets, eternal revolutions and the annual return of the sun.

*Choreography:* The London Folk Society, England
*Music:* Tenpenny Bit, Traditional, Top of Cork Road (Alfred Graves) Public Domain, Performed by Mountain Strings

Ireland: Slip Jig
A traditional dance in a 9/8 time signature, originally performed by men, but is now exclusively performed by women.

*Choreography:* Tina Shelley
*Music:* Soggy’s (Sean Graham), Performed by Mountain Strings

Ireland: Ceilidh
A traditional Gaelic social gathering interspersed with a precision figure dance.

*Choreography:* Vitoria Leavitt & Michael Romney
*Music:* Cup of Tea, White Petticoat, Traditional, Performed by Mountain Strings

Ireland: Curse Reversed
*Staging:* Jeanette Geslison
**Dance Soloist:** Victoria Leavitt  
**Music:** Hanneke Cassel, Performed by *Mountain Strings*  
**Musical Arrangement:** Mark Geslison

**USA: Texas Fandango**  
*Texas Fandango* reminds us of a time when men spent months away from family and loved ones, as they worked in the wild frontiers of the American West. Underneath a starlit sky, and in the privacy of their campfire, this theatrical characterization of the American Cowboy shows him at his dancin’ best—stirrin’ up a little dust.  
**Choreography:** Delynne Peay  
**Music:** Traditional, Performed by *Mountain Strings*  
**Musical Arrangement:** Mark Geslison

**USA: Calico Darlin’**  
The girls take their turn to show off their skills to the men and celebrate the joy of life.  
**Choreography:** Michael Romney  
**Music:** Traditional, Performed by *Mountain Strings*  
**Musical Arrangement:** Mark Geslison

**USA: Simple Love**  
**Music:** Sarah Siskind, Performed by *Mountain Strings*  
**Musical Arrangement:** Mark Geslison

**USA: Boot Kickin’**  
Country-western line and swing dancing includes many dance styles and traditional steps such as the cowboy cha-cha, two-step, vine, heel digs, lifts and spins. Influenced by the American cowboy culture, this type of dancing is also known as “kicker dancing” in Texas.  
**Choreography:** Colleen West & Lyndsey Wulfenstein  
**Music & Lyrics:** Mark Geslison, Performed by *Mountain Strings*

**USA: Western Wildfire/Showdown**  
A precision style dance featuring both traditional clogging and the latest power tap steps, followed by a *Showdown*, a competition between the men and the women.  
**Choreography:** Greg & Maria Tucker  
**Music:** Western Wildfire, Performed by *Mountain Strings*  
**Musical Arrangement:** Mark Geslison

**USA: Papa’s on the House Top**  
**Music:** Leroy Carr, Performed by *Mountain Strings*  
**Musical Arrangement:** Mark Geslison

**Turkey: Tides of Anatol**  
creates a modern blend of traditional women’s and men’s dancing originating in the surroundings of Trabzon, a fishing center on the Black Sea. The movements celebrate life familiar to this fishing community; such as the motion of the sea, handling the nets, and the twisting of caught fish.  
**Choreography:** Ahmet Luleci  
**Music:** Heyamo, Recorded by *Birol Topaloglu*, and Black Sea Medley, Traditional
Intermission

India: Pushpanjali

*Pushpanjali* – is a traditional invocatory piece in Bharatanatyam style, the oldest classical dance form from the southern part of India. *Pushpanjali* literally means offering of flowers to the almighty. The exquisite dance form called Bharathanatyam is more than 2000 years old. This dance combines facial expression through subtle eye movements, hand gestures and explosive rhythmic footwork to integrate mind, body and spirit. All classical dance forms are mostly based on Indian Hindu mythological stories.

**Choreography:** Divya Narayanan
**Music:** The Chase (Amit Heri; Mani Sharma), Recorded by Gayathri and Dance Like a Man (Ganesh Kumaresh), Recorded by Ganesh Kumaresh

India: Nagada Nagada

Bollywood, the famed film industry based in Mumbai, India, is characterized by flashy musical numbers, love triangles, and melodrama. The dancing in Bollywood films is rooted in traditional Indian dance, including Bharata Natyam and Bhangra, fused with Western dance styles. *Nagada Nagada* is the story of a young man attempting to win the heart of a beautiful girl.

**Choreography:** Greg & Sally Rawlings
**Music:** Nagada, Nagada (Pritam Chakraborty), Recorded by Javed Ali & Sonu Nigam

Bulgaria: The Gorgeous

This village scene represents Bulgaria with a foot in the past and the present. Modernization, industrialization, and urban migration bring inevitable changes that affects all countries. The message here is that, by accepting “modernity”, one need not lose one’s identity or one’s roots. This far-reaching message is about preserving and respecting the uniqueness of treasured traditions. One may also reflect on a larger message - that beauty without wisdom will eventually wither away.

**Libretto and Choreography:** Daniela Ivanova
**Music:** Kyril Vladov; Recorded by Philip Koutev National Folklore Ensemble

Hungary: Magyorok Táncok

From the county of Somogy in southwestern Hungary, the Üveges & Botoló dances belong to the dance dialect of “swineherds” and “jumping” dances. The use of props (such as bottles and sticks) was an integral part of this people’s lifestyle—the shepherds would use sticks, and the cooks worked with the bottles. Finally, an energetic piece from the Šatmár region fills the stage with one of Hungary’s most beloved traditional dances.

**Choreography:** Jeanette Geslison
**Music:** Traditional, Recorded by the Hungarian State Folk Ensemble
**Musical Arrangement:** Hungarian State Folk Ensemble
**Vocals:** International Folk Dance Ensemble, & BYU Men’s Chorus

Hungary: Gypsy

**Music:** Mark Geslison, Performed by Mountain Strings

Hungary: Férfi Mulatság

From the same village of Mehkerek these men’s dances are much-loved. This slapping and clapping style with very intricate rhythmic patterns has become favored on the stage by numerous professional Hungarian dance ensembles.
Choreography: Gary Larsen
Music: Traditional, Performed by Mountain Strings

Spain: Latido del Corazón
Latido del Corazón, meaning “heartbeat,” belongs to the spirited Rumba Flamenca dance styles. Flamenco dances originate from Southern Spain with this particular style incorporating Cuban influences.
Choreography: Marisol Encinias
Music: Quireme (Jose Luis Figuereo), Performed by Mountain Strings

Puerto Rico: El Cumbanchero
Music: Rafael Hernández Marín, Performed by Mountain Strings
Musical Arrangement: Mark Geslison

Ireland: Irish Blessing
Lyrics: Traditional
Original Composition: Geoff Groberg

Ukraine: Hopak
Recognized as the national dance of Ukraine, Hopak was performed exclusively by men in the 15th and 16th centuries during the famous Cossack period. By the 19th century, women had become a regular part of the dance, adding to the spirit of this Ukrainian hallmark.
Choreography: Colleen West with Edwin G. Austin, Jr.
Music: Traditional, Recorded by Intermountain Symphony Orchestra
Musical Arrangement: Tyler Castleton and Daniel Lee