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Article from the *Texarkana Gazette* in Texarkana, Texas/Arkansas (May 11, 2012)

# ACCENT

TEXARKANA GAZETTE ★ FRIDAY, MAY 11, 2012

# 1B

## Dance

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and I can promise the audience who comes that I don't think they'll be bored," Geslison said, calling it a performance that offers something for everyone.

The show's title reflects the "gathering of different cultures on stage," the director said.

Performers are university students. The Texarkana stop closes a 3 1/2-week tour.

"They are stellar young students, and I know the audience will thoroughly enjoy watching them perform," Geslison said.

Justin Kelly is one of those students. He's finishing up his senior year and has been dancing with the program for four years, touring with this team for three.

"What I enjoy about dancing with the group is that in our shows we try to cover a wide variety of cultures in one night," Kelly said.

It's almost like visiting each of these places during the performance, teaching the dancers about the people, cultures and values, he said.

Dancers must move quickly

through each type of dance, for example, from a French Canadian dance to American clogging.

"We have to learn to be adaptable when we're switching styles" to capture the intricacies of each culture's dance, Kelly said, likening it to switching gears in a car.

While here, the ensemble will conduct a workshop with local dance students who will join the BYU crew on stage before the show.

"We hope that our last show will be our best and that we have great support from your community," Geslison said.

(Tickets: \$10 for adults, \$7 for children and students and \$35 for a family of up to five people. Doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets are available at the show or online at [folkdancetickets.byu.edu](http://folkdancetickets.byu.edu). Tickets can also be picked up at the Performing Arts Center between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. the day of the show. A portion of proceeds benefit Faith Love & Hope Youth Corp. More info: 903-244-9176.)

## Around the world with BYU Folk Dance Ensemble

"Our show is a little like making a trip around the world without leaving your seat."—Jeanette Geslison

By AARON BRAND  
Texarkana Gazette

Journey across the globe with Brigham Young University's International Folk Dance Ensemble when they visit Texarkana to share "The Gathering."

BYU's ensemble shares traditional dance moves originating from Ireland, India, Slovakia, Hungary, Ukraine, Mexico and other locations, including the U.S., on Saturday, May 19, when they perform at Pleasant Grove High School's Performing Arts Center. The show starts at 7:30 p.m.

"Our show is a little like making a trip around the world without leaving your seat," said Jeanette Geslison, artistic director.

Dances range from an Irish soft shoe dance to flamboyant

Ukrainian dance moves, lively Bollywood dancing and everything in between. The ensemble consists of 30 dancers (15 couples) and seven musicians.

"We try to give the audience a variety of cultural tastes through dance and music," Geslison said, adding "some of those are very traditional, and some of them take a more contemporary approach."

American dances include Civil War waltzes and music, plus contemporary American clogging with a bit of a modern kick, the director said.

"We do a Gypsy dance from Transylvania, which is done in a traditional way," Geslison said.

Two dances come from India. One is a snazzy Bollywood dance, the other a classical dance with



Photo by Mark A. Philbrick

The International Folk Dance Ensemble performs *The Gathering*, a dance originating from pioneers who preserved America's music and dance as they traveled west across the plains.

roots thousands of years old and intricate hand and eye movements.

A Mexican suite includes numbers originating from the Jalisco and Veracruz regions. In one dance, two sweethearts come together.

Geslison said the Hungarian dance suite includes dancing with props and, to round out the evening, the ensemble shares dancing from the Ukraine.

"Our show has quite the variety,"  
See **DANCE** on Page 5B

**"NO SE AFLIJAN POR NADA, SINO PRESENTENSELO TODO A DIOS EN ORACIÓN; PIDANLE, Y DENLE GRACIAS TAMBIÉN"**  
**MAS DE 11 AÑOS** — ¡SIN PARAR! — "PAPELITO HABLA"  
**HOPE, DE QUEEN, NASHVILLE, GLENWOOD, TEXARKANA, HOT SPRINGS Y MAS.**



**BAILES FOLKLÓRICO MEXICANOS TEXARKANA**



Congreso no hará ley respecto a la practica de religión, o prohibir el ejercicio libre de la misma o restringir la libertad de expresión o de **PRENSA**;

## BAILES FOLKLÓRICO MEXICANOS EN TEXARKANA

**REDACCIÓN AMIGA** en una presentación de 90 minutos, usted podrá gozar y disfrutar de este profesional espectáculo. El lugar abrirá sus puertas a partir de las 7 de la noche y el espectáculo comenzará a las 7:30pm. Una gran variedad de danzas internacionales son las que estarán interpretando otros países. Los boletos para este gran evento se encuentran disponibles en línea en el folkdancetickets.byu.edu. El costo de los boletos para niños o estudiantes es de \$7.00, los adultos \$10.00 y \$35 dólares por grupos de familias de 5. Para mas información puede llamar al 1903-244-9176 una parte de lo recaudado en las entradas será donado a la corporación de Fe, Amor y Esperanza de la ciudad de Texarkana Arkansas. Recuerde pocas veces se tienen este tipo de eventos en estas ciudades, así que no deje de aprovechar y disfrutar de este evento cultural familiar.



**SÁBADO 19, 7 PM PLEASANT GROVE HIGH SCHOOL DE TEXARKANA TX**

drá tener la oportunidad de apreciar el espectáculo de los Jóvenes Del Ballet Internacional de la Universidad de Brigham, Alabama, el cual se estará presentando en el centro de arte de la escuela preparatoria Pleasant Grove High School en la ciudad de Texarkana Texas y no se lo puede perder. Este Ballet folklórico esta siendo acompañado en su gira por la banda de Mountain Strings, los cuales están ofreciendo su gran repertorio de bailes y música de diferentes nacionalidades, haciendo con esto el complemento perfecto para un espectáculo de primer nivel. Este espectáculo ha viajado alrededor del mundo, ofreciendo sus grandes atracciones, estos magníficos bailarines, los cuales con gracia y profesionalismo interpretan danzas como el jarabe tapatio y danzas representativas de

# Feeling folkly



Submitted

The Brigham Young University International Folk Dance Ensemble is coming to Elko March 2.

## BYU dancers to perform in Elko

ELKO — The Elko Convention Center will soon be bustling with an array of dance styles.

At 7:30 p.m. March 2, members of Brigham Young University's critically acclaimed International Folk Dance Ensemble will bring their talents to the Elko stage.

The folk dance team brings the world's cultures together in an energetic and thrilling performance called "The Gathering."

The Gathering includes Irish hard shoe, American clogging, Ukrainian Hopak, exotic Indian dances and other music and dances from around the world in a stunning 90-minute performance. The show incorporates dance and music from Eastern and Western Europe, the Middle East, Asia and North America.

"The ensemble's authentic costumes and precise performance leave every audience member breathless and anxious for more," stated a press release from BYU.

"The Gathering shows audiences that their hearts can beat in time to any tradition," stated the press release.

The dance ensemble is accompanied by the highly versatile and highly acclaimed acoustic band Mountain Strings. These musicians provide live, engaging music that is equal to the dancers in complexity, skill and professionalism.

"The dancers and the

magnificent," said Courtney Austrian of the U.S. Department in the Ukraine. "Everyone in my office was lucky enough to attend the performance has been talking about the energy, enthusiasm and sheer talent that was on stage. The overwhelming feeling here is that it's extremely unfortunate that there could only be one performance."

In the summer of 2011, the ensemble redubbed itself the American Folk Dance Ensemble to represent the U.S. in folk dance festivals in several Middle European countries. The European tour took the team to Slovakia, Croatia and Hungary — all nations that are depicted in The Gathering.

Since 1964, IFDE has toured all over the world, representing the U.S. and American folk culture. The group has traveled to more than 100 countries with their international repertoire. The IFDE originates in the Department of Dance of the College of Fine Arts and Communications at BYU. "An extraordinary amount of time, talent



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and resources go into a production of this size," said 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 the fragments of diversity that might otherwise be forgotten."

Tickets to the Elko show can be purchased at Total Eyecare and Wilson, Barrow, Salyer & Jones.

They can also be purchased online at folk-dancetickets@byu.edu.



## Békásmegyer, Csobánka tér

június 18. 17.00

A Dunától az óceánig



A Duna Művészeti Társaság különleges programsorozata a néptánc és a népzene, a világ és kortárs tánc, a fúvós-, szimfonikus- és világzene ötvözetével, a fellépő országok sokszínű kultúrájával idén 4. alkalommal kápráztatja el az Óbudai Nyár keretében a nézőket. Ez évben két távoli világ zenéit és táncait ismerhetik meg az érdeklődők. USA, Utah államából érkezik a Brigham Young University American Folk Dance Ensemble Kínából a Xiamen Xiao Bailu Táncegyüttes.

Article from the *The Spectrum* in St. George, UT (March 11, 2011)

# BYU Dance Ensemble performing this week

For Where It's @

ST. GEORGE — With a beautiful array of ethnic costumes, the BYU International Folk Dance Ensemble presents a concert program of dances from more than a dozen nations, including Ukraine, Russia, Korea, Poland, Mexico and the United States. The group will perform as part of the Dixie State College Celebrity Concert Series at 7:30 p.m. today and Saturday at the Cox Performing Arts Center, 325 S. 700 East, St. George.

Since 1964, the ensemble has represented the United States and American culture at folk dance festivals throughout the world. Regardless of focus — international or American — the ensemble is acclaimed by thousands for their skillful dancing and energy.

Legend, tradition and celebration have driven people the world over to sing and dance in a celebration of life. Brigham

Young University's International Folk Dance Ensemble creates a colorful tapestry of the finest traditional music, costuming and choreography to showcase the rich cultural heritage of the United States.

Each performance is a cultural expression, strongly associated with a specific group or people a reflection of American custom and belief. Whether performing the furious footwork of Appalachian clogging or gliding smoothly through the figures of a beautiful New England Contra, the ensemble always delights their audiences with a fast-paced, superbly staged program.

Tickets are \$20 for adults and are available at Dixie State College ticket office at 652-7800 or online at [www.tickets.dixie.edu](http://www.tickets.dixie.edu). For more information on the concert, call 652-7994 or go online to [www.dixie.edu/concerts](http://www.dixie.edu/concerts).