



american dance festival

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**THE AMERICAN DANCE FESTIVAL PRESERVES A HISTORIC FILM THROUGH
A GRANT FROM THE NATIONAL FILM PRESERVATION FOUNDATION**

Durham, NC, June 10, 2012 –The **American Dance Festival (ADF)** is pleased to announce that a grant from the **National Film Preservation Foundation (NFPF)** has allowed us to preserve and make available a motion picture film from our archives. The forty-minute, silent, black and white film, entitled **American Dance Festival Connecticut College School of Dance footage**, is from 1959 and depicts faculty, classes, students, and student rehearsals from the period when the American Dance Festival was at Connecticut College.

A highlight of the film is footage of choreographer **Helen Tamiris**, rehearsing her piece “Memoir” with the students in her repertory class. While Tamiris is considered a pioneer of American modern dance and one of the major American choreographers of the period, there is surprisingly little footage of her compared to other notable choreographers of the time. In addition to Tamiris, the rehearsal segments also include footage of Steve Paxton, Bob Powell, and James Arthur Payton, who were on loan to Tamiris from the Jose Limon Company.

ADF is grateful for NFPF’s assistance in preserving this film and making it available to the public. Copies of the film may be viewed by visiting Duke University’s Lilly Library, through inter-library loan, or by contacting the ADF’s Director of Archives and Preservation at adfarchives@americandancefestival.org.

About ADF:

Founded in 1934 in Bennington, Vermont, the ADF remains an international magnet for choreographers, dancers, teachers, students, critics, musicians, and scholars to learn and create in a supportive environment. The ADF’s wide range of programs includes performances, artist services, educational programs and classes, community outreach, national and international projects, archives, humanities projects, publications, and media projects. The ADF has been presenting the best in modern dance for over 78 years. www.americandancefestival.org.

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