

The Shaker Heritage Society &
The DanceFlurry Organization present

A Day of Dance

Saturday, May 12, 2018

at

Albany's 1848 Shaker Meeting House

☞ Keynote address by
Shaker music scholar,
Mary Ann Haagen

☞ **Workshops** on 250
years of Shaker
dancing and on English
Country dances set to
Shaker tunes, including
two world premieres
by **Colin Hume**

☞ English Country Dance with caller
Melanie Axel-Lute and music by **Spare Parts**
(Bill Matthiesen, Liz Stell, & Eric Buddington)



Keynote & Workshops \$15

Evening Dance \$10

Entire Day \$20

The Shaker Heritage Society at 25 Meeting House Road, Albany, is the site of Mother Ann Lee's first Shaker settlement in America. For more information: www.shakerheritage.org, 518-456-7890, x23, Shakereducator@gmail.com



This colloquium-style forum will begin with a key note lecture by noted Shaker music scholar, Mary Ann Haagen (Visiting Scholar at Dartmouth College and Director of the Enfield Singers). Preliminarily titled, "Can't You Sing and Dance A Little? - Shaker Marches, Dances and Motioning Songs," the lecture explores the Shakers' use of movement to generate and sustain spiritual energy in worship.

Two participatory dance workshops on Shaker and English Country dancing will include both discussion and demonstrations followed by an opportunity for all who desire to dance and learn the historic choreography.

The workshop on Shaker dance will be led by Dr. K. Michelle Arthur, Education Coordinator, Shaker Heritage Society and will include a variety of styles of songs and dances that span the nearly 250-year history of Shaker dance. For the first 50 years of Shaker history in America, movement to sung hymns was unique to each individual, and participants believed that their movements were directly inspired by heavenly or spiritual communications. In the 1820s after Mother Lucy Wright was named to lead the sect, set choreography was introduced to accompany the singing of the hymns.

The English Country Dance Workshop will be led by caller Melanie Axel-Lute and music will be provided by Spare Parts. Shaker tunes have often found their way into secular culture, such as the inclusion of "Simple Gifts" in the ballet "Appalachian Spring." Choreographers of modern English country dance, which traces its roots to dances done in the 1600s to tunes by Purcell and his contemporaries, have found Shaker tunes a rich source of inspiration. The program will premiere two pieces written expressly for the occasion by well-known English dancing master Colin Hume.

After a dinner break, the partners will host an English Country Dance in the 1848 Meeting House with music by Spare Parts and calling by Melanie Axel-Lute.



This event is supported in part by an Outreach Grant from the Country Dance and Song Society