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Downtown or Dell, Festivals Offer a World of Choices Around the Country

SUMMER STAGES



DANCE

By JENNIFER DUNNING

North Carolina

AMERICAN DANCE FESTIVAL Durham, June 5-July 20. This festival was where it all began, at Bennington College in Vermont in 1934, when the pioneers of American modern dance came together in a place that encouraged them to create. Seventy-five years of dance history will be celebrated here this summer in works by choreographers including Martha Graham, Asadata Dafora, Taley Beatty, Erick Hawkins, Donald McKayle and Hanya Holm. Younger elder statesmen include Pilobolus with Basil Twist, Bill T. Jones and Laura Dean. Shen Wei Dance Arts will perform, and Paul Taylor's company will perform his latest work, an evocation of the '60s in California to music by the Mamas and the Pappas. The festival has also drawn from the world, this summer presenting a festival of Japanese dance as well as new works from choreographers in Turkey, China, Mongolia and other only slightly less exotic-sounding nations. (919) 684-4444, americandancefestival.org.

BRUCE R. FEELEY

Shen Wei Dance Arts is among the many performers scheduled to appear at the American Dance Festival in Durham, N.C.