

# Stanford International Dancers

## January February & March 2018 Newsletter

### Schedule

#### January

- 5 **Svirači** - Live Macedonian and Bulgarian music
- 12 **CLOSED** - Church function
- 19 **CLOSED** - [Heritage Festival](#)
- 26 All requests

#### February

- 2 **Prof. Anton Andonov**  
- Bulgarian dance workshop
- 9 **Michael Ginsburg** - Balkan dance workshop (All Saints)
- 16&23 **Lew Smith & Melissa Miller**  
- Review of recently-taught dances

#### March

- 2 **Balkanton 340** - Live Bulgarian music (venue TBD)
- 9 **Gergana Panova**  
- Bulgarian dance workshop
- 16&23 **Adony Beniares** - International
- 30 All requests - **starts at 8:00**

**Teaching:** 7:30 - 8:30

**Request dancing:** 8:30 - 10:00

**Svirači**, featuring Jim Little (gajda, fiddle & tambura), Melissa Miller (kaval, vocals & percussion) and Lew Smith (tambura & percussion), plays Bulgarian and Macedonian music with a flair.

**Prof. Anton Andonov** is the Director of the department of choreography at the Academy for Music, Dance and Fine Art - Plovdiv, Bulgaria. He is also a dance competition judge and has been a guest choreographer in ensembles across Bulgaria, as well as being principal soloist and choreographer with ensemble "Trakia".

**Michael Ginsburg** has been interested in Balkan music and dances for many years, especially Macedonian and Serbian. He is an expert in the complicated rhythms of Balkan music and has made several research trips to Bulgaria and the former Yugoslavia. He is a regular instructor at Balkan Camp.

**Lew Smith** started folk dancing in 1966 and led folk dancing at UCSB in the late '60's and at SJSU in the early '70's. Lew is also a member of the Balkan band Svirači.

**Melissa Miller** (aka Ghanima Gaditana) has been folkdancing since childhood, and teaches and performs belly dance in the Bay Area and beyond. She also performs regularly with the band Svirači.

**Balkanton 340** specializes in playing great Bulgarian village music. Its members are Dena Bjornlie (gadulka & vocals), Hector Bezanis (gajda), and other musicians to be announced.

**Gergana Panova** was born in Sofia where she was a dancer and choreographer with the Philip Koutev ensemble for several years. She studied dance in Bulgaria and Germany, publishing many articles and two books on various aspects of dance. Over the last two decades she has conducted over 300 seminars and dance workshops in Europe, the Americas, and Israel.

Dancing since 2005, **Adony Beniares** is a dance generalist, enjoying all genres and folk dance types. He is a member of the Stockton Folk Dance Camp board and regularly runs the warm-up part of the Palomanians program.

Our main dance venue is **Bethany Lutheran Church, 1095 Cloud Avenue, Menlo Park**, Friday evenings from **7:30 to 10:00**. We are located 1 block north of Alameda de las Pulgas at the corner of Avy Avenue. Teaching runs from 7:30 to 8:30, followed by request dancing until 10:00.

A secondary venue is **All Saints Episcopal Church, 555 Waverley Street, Palo Alto** (downtown), Friday evenings from **8:00 to 11:00**. We will be meeting there only on **February 9th**.

Suggested admission is \$5, \$12 on live music nights, and \$15 for special events and workshops, but no one will be turned away for lack of funds. Students are half price and children are free. Call Owen at 650-966-1775 for information.

For an online version of this schedule, which will be kept updated with any late changes, see: <http://stanfordfolkdance.com>