

## Press Release

Grupo Macondo is a multicultural dance troupe composed of professional and non-professional dancers of all ages, nationalities and backgrounds who, since 1995, have performed popular and folkloric dances of Indo-Afro-Ibero America.

**Boulder, CO. May 1, 2009** - The local dance troupe will perform at the Boulder Public Library on Tuesday May 19 at 7:00 PM. The program this year presents a short history of Latin popular dance, opening with an Orixá dance from Brazil. Orixás are pure, spiritual forces of nature, worshipped in Africa and brought by enslaved Africans to the Americas. Orixá song, dance and rhythm provide the foundation for Latin popular dances. Following the Orixás, there will be folkloric dances such as Rumba from Cuba and Samba from Brazil. Then, the program moves on to social dances with presentations of Cuban Son, Cha-cha-cha and Mambo. Finally, we end with modern social dance including a swing from the Blue Moon Dance Company, An Afro-Latin dance by Nii Armah and Norma, and a very modern salsa by Lindsay and Rico from Streetside Dance Studio.

### About Carmen Reina de Nelson

Carmen Reina de Nelson, the Guatemala-born director of Grupo Macondo, has been teaching and performing in the Boulder Community since 1990. The performance this year features a number of local artists and dance teachers who share Nelson's love and respect for Latin popular dance forms. As Carmen likes to say, "Latin popular dance should nurture the spirit rather than the ego and should come from the heart. This is the voice of a culture, with deep historic and religious roots. At Grupo Macondo, we try to replace the prevailing "hot and sexy" image with a genuine and respectful appreciation of the tradition and cultural significance of our Latin popular dances."

Grupo Macondo wishes to thank the Boulder Arts Commission for its grant in support of this performance and the Boulder County Arts Alliance who serves as fiscal agent.

### Images, Events and Blog

<http://www.macondodance.com>

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