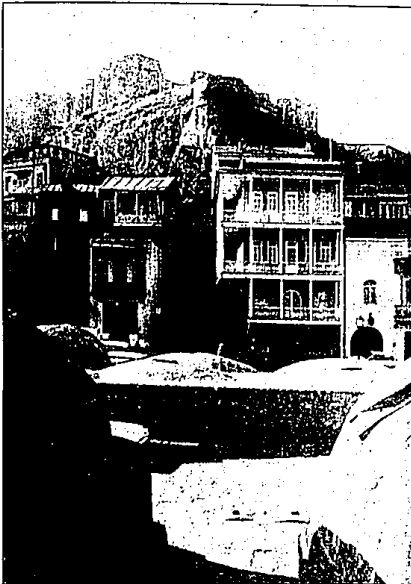


American choreographer visits Russia



This picture of the old city of Tbilisi (there's also a modern one) shows its famous hot sulphur springs with a fortress in the background.

By Corinne Abatt
staff writer

Jessica Sinclair said it took no time at all for her to assimilate into the way of life in Tbilisi, a city of 1.5 million in the Soviet Union province of Georgia near the Turkish border.

Sinclair, director of dance at Cranbrook Kingswood School in Bloomfield Hills, was invited to be a guest instructor/choreographer at a school of the arts there after she took a troupe of student dancers to the Soviet Union in 1989.

She left in mid-September and returned the first of November. "It was beyond expectations," she said. "It was the adventure of a lifetime. It was a professional challenge, but it touched so many parts of my life."

She was referring to dance, to teaching and to the fact that her father was born in the Ukraine.

She had studied Russian all summer with a private tutor in anticipation of the trip and it served her well. She thought she would have an American woman who had been her best friend as a roommate. Instead, she shared an apartment with a former ballerina from Georgia who was teaching folk dance.

"SHE COULD understand my Russian/Ukrainian and we had wonderful conversations."

When they were stumped in their discussions of dance, their different cultures and politics (a favorite topic in the Soviet Union), they turned to an English-Russian dictionary for help.

"After I was there for a while, I suddenly realized it had been days since I'd spoken any English," she said with a smile.

Her apartment was about 40 minutes drive from the school, but she was given a driver for her entire



Jessica Sinclair watches as three of her students in Tbilisi practice her contemporary dance about women.

stay and after they became friends, she said, "he called himself my manager."

She said, "Tbilisi is a center for dance. It has its own ballet company, its own opera company and its own philharmonic and at least nine theaters. These are people with a great cultural heritage."

MOST OF the dancers in her class at the school were about 18 years of age and very well trained. Most, she predicted, would be in professional companies within a year.

"They are very hard-working and very anxious to learn about modern dance. They haven't seen much modern dance, but Alvin Ailey's company did perform there while I was there and they were very well received."

Originally, she was to choreograph a work for the professional company in Tbilisi, but it was on tour. However, the dancers from the school will

use two of her works when they perform at a theater in Tbilisi and when they go on tour.

One, "Women," which she has done here with 14 women was transposed for seven as a kind of tribute to the women who were shot in a protest march in 1989 now referred

to as "Bloody Sunday" by the Russians.

"It was a real challenge for all of us. The piece required their input — they had to perceive their dancing in a different way. It's asking somebody to expose themselves in movement in a very personal thing," she said, explaining that these highly disciplined dancers were not used to that sort of thing.

"The second was a '60s piece for men and women with music by The Rascals. They liked it because they felt it was really American."

She went sightseeing, went regularly to market for fruit and vegetables, was surprised to find delicious watermelon readily available. Meat was available, but expensive and her roommate worried about the winter food supply.

SINCLAIR FOUND a warm, almost family feeling among the Georgians, a great sense of pride and caring for each other and no ghettoes of any kind in the city.

They showed her that there was a Christian church, a Jewish synagogue and a Muslim mosque in a three-block area pointed out that "these people all live in harmony and have for centuries."

COUPON
DINNER FOR TWO
Valid thru Thurs

VEAL	14.95
PARMIGIANA	14.95
CHICKEN	14.95
PICATA	14.95
ORANGE	14.95
ROAST	14.95
HOMEMADE LASAGNA	11.95

CHOOSE UP TO 2 Sides & 1 Dessert
Please print coupon before ordering. Good thru 1/1/91

Stille D'Amore
RESTAURANT
The Italian Way
Experience Italian Cuisine in the heart of the city.
Chef Owner: LUCIANO - Chef of Cuisine - Joe Agostini
Featuring Fresh Cakes and a Huge Selection of the Day

LIVE JAZZ
by Dolphin Dance
Every Wednesday 7:30-10:00
Live Pianoist

THURS.-FRI.-SAT.
Live Pianoist

32030 Plymouth Rd. - Livonia 423-0770

On the Town
DINING & ENTERTAINMENT

JANES HAS TASTE
And TASTE has Janes—
Read him every Monday

Mama Mia
DINNER FOR 2
Choice of:
Tenderloin Steak
Broiled Eastern Sard
Veal Parmesan
Homemade Lasagna
\$10.95
All 2022 only for each person for the selection.
All other meals: Soup, Tossed Salad, Bread and Butter, Fresh Drink, Dessert, or Coffee.
LIVONIA 427-1000 537-0740

GALA NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY
7:30 P.M.-2:30 A.M.
23632 Plymouth Road
The Karas House
\$75 per couple includes: Champagne at Midnight.
Hors d'Oeuvres & Dinner
Featuring: LASSING & SEAFOOD TABLE, Roasted Prime Rib, au herb butter, Truffled Potatoes, Scallops, Crabmeat in wine sauce, with tortellini, truffled, Brie, Pineapple Ham, Slow roasted tenderloin in wine. Cheese top rounds of Herb Au Jus, Truffled Shrimp, in cream mushroom sauce.
SALAD: MASHED POTATOES & SAUSAGE, all 1st A.M. COCKTAIL: P.M. 10
Dancing to "Opening Act" an Outstanding Band!
INFO: 592-4900 ALL RESERVED SEATING • PROPER ATTIRE

NOW SERVING SZECHUAN AND MANDARIN FOOD
MOY'S JAPANESE AND CHINESE Restaurant
OPEN MONDAYS DEC. 24th and DEC. 31st
CLOSED TUESDAYS DEC. 25th and JAN. 1st
ACCEPTING NEW YEAR'S EVE RESERVATIONS NOW!

Chinese Lunch 11:30
Chinese Dinner 3:30-10:30
For Reservations 427-3170

Japanese Lunch 11:30
Japanese Dinner 5:30-10:30
CLOSED MONDAY
16825 Middlebelt - Livonia

CELEBRATE IN STYLE
Regency West
25245 W. Seven Mile • Redford

7 Course Sit Down Dinner
Open Bar 6 p.m. - 2 a.m.
Live Band and Disc Jockey
Champagne Toast at Midnight
Hats, Noisemakers & Streamers
Early Morning Breakfast
\$75 Per Couple
Includes All Tax & Gratuity
Reservations 534-6285

CORSI'S
BANQUET HALLS
27910 W. SEVEN MILE • LIVONIA
(Between Inkster & Middlebelt)

\$80 per couple includes:
OPEN BAR
Family style dinner: Shrimp, scallops, beef, pork, chicken, lamb, beef & mushrooms, potato, vegetable, salad, rolls, bread, fruit, champagne toast.
LIVE MUSIC BY: TAXI
COCKTAILS 7:00 DINNER 8:00
INFORMATION - 531-4960

Celebrate New Year's Eve at the Italian Cucina!
59500 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth • 424-1444
Monday, December 31, 1990
Dinner served from 4:00 to 11:00 p.m.
Italian Hunt Club Lounge Open until 2:00

Tired of going to a restaurant on New Year's Eve and finding the menu limited with higher prices? Well, at the Italian Cucina on New Year's Eve as well as everyday, you will find our full menu with our regular menu prices, plus the following features:

Filet of Sole	17.95
Prime Rib	17.95
Crab & Shrimp	17.95
Beef Tenderloin	17.95

Reservations will be accepted for these larger parties.
Don't let this old acquaintance be forgotten on New Year's Eve Night!

Bonnie Brook
presents
"New Year's Eve"
with MORRIS LAWRENCE & the 7 PIECE BIG BAND
From 8:00 p.m. till 2:30 a.m.
Dinner Served at 8:30 p.m. • Cash Bar

FEATURING:
Dancing to Live Music
Party Favors
Delicious Hot Buffet
Continental Breakfast
Champagne Toast to bring in the NEW YEAR!

ALL FOR THE LOW PRICE OF
\$25.00 per person
Hurry - Limited Number of Tickets Available
FOR RESERVATIONS CALL: 534-2830
BONNIE BROOK COUNTRY CLUB
19990 Shawwassee Located on Telegraph between 7 & 8 Mile Roads

NOW OPEN
THE ALL NEW MITCH HOUSEY'S
We've Got It Here On NEW YEAR'S EVE
from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m.

DANCING to the John E. Cola Band

OPEN BAR
BREAKFAST
scrambled eggs & pork sausage served at 2 a.m.

ONLY \$50 per person
(INCLUDES ALL TAX & GRATUITY)
MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE
Time Choice of These Complete Dinners:
• PRIME RIB
• FILET MIGNON
• N.Y. STEAK SIRLOIN
• BROILED ORANGE ROUGHY
• BROILED YELLOW FIN TUNA
• STEAK (with Parsley Butter)
• CHICKEN SICILIANO
Reservations...425-5520

Reservations Accepted for
EARLY NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER
from 5 p.m. - Out by 9 p.m.

OPEN 6 DAYS
DAILY, MON.-SAT. at 11:00 A.M.

28500 Schoolcraft
(Opposite Littleton CRC)
LIVONIA • 425-5520

JOIN US FOR SUNDAY BRUNCH
9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Regular Menu after 4:00 p.m.)

\$6.95 per person
ALL YOU CAN EAT!

BANQUET FACILITIES and CATERING SERVICE AVAILABLE!

OPEN for Breakfast Sat. & Sun. 8 a.m. - Noon

79¢ SPECIAL (Kids and Seniors)
OPEN NEW YEAR'S EVE
Now taking reservations
Don't Miss Our **DINNER FOR 2 SPECIAL**

Mr. Steak
WESTLAND 3011 S. Water Rd. 721-1020
Roseville 293-5870
Warren 751-7480
Riverview 283-1722

EMBASSY SUITES
HOTEL LIVONIA
PRESENT
New Years Eve Mardi Gras

PACKAGE INCLUDES
• SET DOWN DINNER (Choice of Lobster, Filet Mignon or Chicken Embassy)
• OPEN BAR 6:00 p.m. - 1:30 a.m.
• RECEPTION IN PAIR MIP'S NIGHT CLUB 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
• CHAMPAGNE TOAST AT MIDNIGHT
• PARTY FAVORS
• BAND/DISC JOCKEY 9:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m.
• WAIT ON AIR PERSONALITIES
• "MORNING AFTER" BREAKFAST BUFFET
• LATE CHECK-OUT 4:00 P.M.

FOR RESERVATIONS CALL:
(313) 462-6000
19525 VICTOR PARKWAY
IN AVE FOR COORDINATE PARK 427 & 5 MILE ROAD

Mr. Z's STEAK HOUSE 537-5600
27331 FIVE MILE ROAD (Corner of Inkster)

NEW YEAR'S EVE
Early Bird Dinner until 6:00 p.m.

GALA NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY
9 p.m. - 4 a.m.
Complete Dinner, Champagne at Midnight, Party Favors, Pizza after 1:00 a.m.
\$35.00 per person plus tip and tax

Dance To Tommy C. & The Gamut Band