

World News

We announced the sad news of the loss of two great influences in DMT, Dr Valerie Hunt and Warren Lamb, in our last issue. Just prior to publishing the last issue, we also received the news of the loss of another great influence in the movement world, Emilie Conrad. We invited other tributes to these great people who dedicated their lives to their work, and were pleased to receive for publication in *Moving On*, the memorial Address Dr Marcia Leventhal gave for Dr Hunt and a tribute to Emilie Conrad forwarded to us by Amber Gray.

Memorial Speech for Valerie Hunt (1917 – 2014) ---- June 7, 2014

Delivered by Dr Marcia B. Leventhal



Dr Valerie Hunt's Memorial was held on June 7, 2014, at a Center for Spiritual Living in Ojai California, to a selected group of persons who had worked with her and had been supporters of her projects.

Dr Marcia Leventhal worked closely with Dr Hunt, from the time she was her student at UCLA. As reported in our last issue, Dr Hunt was a "... scientist, author, lecturer and Professor Emeritus of Physiological Science at the University of California, Los Angeles", and "Best known for her pioneering research in the field of bioenergy. Her visionary approach coupled with a rigorous adherence to the highest scientific standards ... (which won her) international acclaim in the fields of physiology medicine and bioengineering (ONDAMED Newsletter 7 and courtesy of http://valerievhunt.com/VALERIEVHUNT.COM/Valerie_Hunt_Bio.html).

52 Years!!!!

That is the length of time Valerie was a guiding force in the shaping and defining of my life. Valerie, Val, Dr. Hunt—Scientist, Professor, Engineer, Artist Extraordinaire, Author, Shape Shifter---these are but a few of the descriptors we might use to attempt to define and contain the luminous Being named Valerie Virginia Hunt.

Einstein stated that there is no time, only SPACE; thus in a finger snap 52 years have passed, yet how? What? Where is the space? How has this Einstein named Space been shaped? Defined? Explored? Discovered? by this remarkable Woman who we all have called, Teacher, Mentor, Guide, Sister, Mother, and equally as important, GIRLFRIEND (definition—that special friend with whom who might Gossip! have a glass or two of a divine wine:-go shopping,---buying matching Mu Moos and Hawaiian shirts on the Big Island with Marilyn, Todd and Me after we had assisted Valerie in a workshop: traveling through London on the way to Stonehenge and Glastonbury and laughing hysterically as we kept getting lost going around the roundabouts; the sharing of intimate relationship secrets; basking in the glow of Valerie's penetrating aqua blue eyes, coral lipstick and matching nail polish, and having the audacity to ask her with no shame—"Val have you had any work done?" And I don't mean house or garden renovations! And Val looking straight back at me without a moment's hesitation, saying NO!! And then clearly "getting it", as we sat and had a quiet celebratory 95th birthday dinner and I could not believe that this sparkling Woman was 95---she could have passed for a well preserved 50---but, of course, in Valerie-land, there is not time passing, but space unfolding, so how could age become etched on a face when one is in constant growth, development and change? So, Girlfriend/Friend—one of the many personas (and clearly an unexpected persona from this

remarkable woman) - Our dear, brilliant, funny, earthy, Valerie,--holder of our space, resonator of our vibrations, allowing each of us to begin to evolve and unfold into a place/space of greater beingness, of deeper knowing—coming closer and closer to the oneness of all cells, all molecules, all biological and ephemeral entities.

What a journey, what a life; from Indiana to Florida, to NYC, Boston, Iowa, and finally, Los Angeles. Then setting down roots in Malibu in the beautiful home she designed with her Father; creating a breathtaking beautiful home, and ultimately, laboratory--a space filled with art, music, quiet areas for meditation and contemplation, flowers and views in which one could merge with sky, ocean, air, life.

Valerie V. Hunt, a Pioneer's Pioneer, a Scientist's Scientist, An explorer of SPACE--- both the INNER and the OUTER, A creator of MAPS before there was even the TERRITORY-- - oh yes, paradox after paradox when one attempts to capture the Spirit, the Essence the essential nature of a multi-faceted/ multi developed completely unique Woman. Actually, a modern embodiment of perhaps SHIVA--- Shiva who was God/Goddess of Creating and of Destroying; though Val usually referred to and seemed to be aligned with the Goddess, Kwan Yen---to me in the way she could with a word destroy old theory/myths and from the rubble discover the diamonds in which she could re-examine, re-build and create new theory to describe the phenomena she was discovering—makes Valerie a new-era Shiva.

How? Who? Where? Resided the authentic Val?

A rare creature of elusive essence—alighting occasionally; long enough to lead us into the newest stop on her unfolding journey of discovery and enlightenment. Did you know Val, Dr. Hunt, Valerie through her early seminal research in vibrational recordings; or maybe when she was discovering electromyographic changes in persons being Rolfed as neuromuscular blocks were being released on their bodies; perhaps you met her during her years of recording and reading Auras; or during the time when she found vibrational readings which could not be explained by neuromuscular, brainwave or galvanic skin responses; or when she was developing new instrumentation in order to record patterns of energy from the experiences she encountered with Rosalyn Bruyere and Emilie Conrad? Or maybe you knew her at

the beginning of her letting go of much of her traditional Scientific training and the start of beginning to isolate and conceptualize new ways of looking at human experience and behavior? Or perhaps later when Dr. Hunt became a pioneer in uncovering and isolating key elements in Energy Medicine? or in reading and exploring the Energy Field? Or even earlier in beginning to map and define movement observation and movement behavior?—my particular early legacy from Valerie.

How lucky, how blessed that Dr Valerie Hunt, a Professor of Physiological Science at UCLA and the Director of the Physical Therapy Division there somehow became key in the training and development of the dancers in the Dance Department. Those of us who were young, developing dancers, now in retrospect honor the legacy of Dr Alma Hawkins who “discovered” Val in the Physical Education Dept. and brought her to the Dance Department in that intuitive way, sensing that Valerie would teach the dancers much more than kinesiology and movement behavior. I suspect that Dr Hawkins, brilliant in her own right and the creator of this important Dance Department and discoverer of talent was probably like a big sister to Val. There was about 10 or 12 years difference in their ages and both had attended Columbia University for advanced degrees. So here comes Valerie, an esteemed Physiologist, Kinesiologist, willing to ground the Dance Majors at UCLA in the joy and discovery of their bones, muscles, joints, ligaments—how they came together, and how they moved. But for such a potentially dry and 2-dimensional topic, the year Course that Dr. Hunt created in Kinesiology for us Dance Majors, became a time of wonder, of discovery, of integration, and of great challenges as our brilliant Teacher, Mentor, Guide, Dr Hunt led us to organize and develop a deep understanding of our bodies.

And then, how when this was combined with our own developing creative processes, each of us soared to choreographic discoveries and intellectual integration in ways we could have never imagined. And of course, as Dr Hunt herself was evolving and developing and following her intuitive hunches as she traveled the world, exploring and meeting great thinkers, innovators, other great minds, she was able to return to UCLA and give us the gifts of her unfolding self. She taught us things that hadn't not only yet entered any University curriculum, but hadn't yet even entered anyone else's

Consciousness. What she began to form and to explore and to teach so impacted so many fields of study; but none more than the, at the time, the new profession of Dance Therapy. In our movement behavior lab we were taught how to observe, how to see beyond the concrete, 3-dimensionality of the movement, into the soul or essence of what was being expressed. For Dr. Hunt, Valerie, from her earliest professional days as a physical therapist, where she explored the full spectrum of the moving body, with and without limitations and/or handicaps, was searching for patterns, for interrelationships of behavior, or perceptions or potential---and early on had the realization that there was more to experience than what she knew from the physical body. Valerie believed, early on in her own training and development, that some patterns could be intuited not seen, per se, but probably had an interrelationship to perhaps the mind, or the spirit or the Soul.

Undoubtedly, many of you met Valerie after she took early retirement from UCLA to organize, to develop, to create some of the extraordinary moments of history which she shaped and discovered as she evolved the Bio-Energy Field Laboratory in Malibu.

Yet, for those of us at UCLA, early in her University career, it behooves us to honor how the hard work—the foundation of all her later innovations and discoveries began in a simple, humble way. Valerie's first two degrees were in Biology and in Science and she became a registered Physical Therapist in NY and later in California. This was even before she completed her Doctorate at Columbia University in Science Education.

Val felt that her physical therapy work laid the groundwork for her lifelong interest in and searching for patterns of interrelationships in many arenas---that as she could go beyond specifics on and in the body, her ability to expand and perceive larger patterns began to become formed. Her interest and expertise in the Physical and Biological Sciences led her as well to teaching in the Public Schools, and as a specialist in the YWCA, ultimately becoming an Assistant Professor in Iowa. Eventually she came to UCLA: still so young and her brilliance so recognized, she was often referred to as the "Baby Doctor". People hearing that term for the first time assumed she was working with newborn infants. She would have to tell them, "no, I just look so young, and I have my Doctorate"—(she was young, still in her 30's).

Another significant milestone in Valerie's developmental journey occurred when through a personal Psychoanalysis she was able to remember and recognize that as a small child she was not only a Mystic, but due to two near death experiences in one day, fell into an Autistic phase, which lasted several years. This recognition of deeply repressed part of her life eventually allowed her to have a remarkable ability for being able to communicate with comatosed children,

I share all of this early history of Valerie's because I believe it allows us to understand and honor that Valerie is a model of someone who from her own forming experiences and courses of study, was able to begin searching for answers in a very broad playing field. She is such a model for us all. Genius, probably, but boy did Valerie work hard. She was grounded, she did her homework and then some, and slowly evolved and developed, trusting each new intuitive concept, and allowing herself to build from her previous knowledge, always expanding, and never "resting on her laurels".

So here's a woman who is deeply educated in the Sciences, Biological and Physical, opening up to another realm entirely, the Metaphysical; embracing this new ground, place, space with her highly creative, intuitive self and her scientific ability. As Valerie stated in an interview she gave in 1991, "I hadn't really opened myself up until I started moving into the higher levels of consciousness, and thereby finding the extraordinary power of all Souls". It was from that realization she began to develop and evolve an extended model of the potential of the human being.

So when we consider the passing of time, the 52 years that Valerie was part of my life, we begin to understand as we look at Val's life that there is no Time; that the past, the present, the future exist simultaneously---but there is Space.

Valerie has taught us that space is infinite and infinitesimal. The limitations we have at this moment are the words we use to try to describe or capture what we have learned, our new perceptions and paradigms. The words limit us: They are heavy, they're elusive, they're concrete, they're ephemeral, they're precise, they're without borders or boundaries, but embodied and embraced by Dr Valerie Hunt. Her discoveries, her new definitions of an expanding reality, her own beingness,—we acknowledge and hold in awe, but the descriptions of what our soul's have

grasped, but our brains in our mind-field have not yet perceived---this is our frustration and our joy as we keep unfolding to newer perceptions guided by our Teacher, Mentor, Mother, Friend.

These are only descriptions that help us understand the universes that our dear, cherished Teacher, Sister, Mentor Mother, Friend has given us. It is in the everlasting and the ever elusive we learn to believe in the brilliant light and trust the felt, intuitive place. Valerie has taught us to live a life of trust, hope, vision, zone perfect creativity; that sometimes we need to tear down in order to build up and expand. So finally, we discover that our brilliant Metaphysical Scientist is a True Artist!—giving shape and form to the unseen so that us mere mortals may discover and uncover the elusive, not yet seen, but felt, unfolding universes. Our Val/Shiva—ShiVal has given us so much. Cherish it. Own it. Honor it. Embody it. Let it go so that we too may fly with the discoveries of the universes yet to be discovered.

And because Val's later in life work created a model for evolving and expanding of our full potential by "playing" in the ENERGY FIELD ("the ultimate energy of all its atoms which radiate through and around the body, allowing full and exquisite contact with the Universe"). Since we have learned then that all perception, all experience is first filtered in the field, before landing in the CNS and/ or the Brain-----might we take a moment to honor Valerie's profound legacy to us all by opening ourselves to our Field--crossing out of the boundaries of our dense bodies, and reaching for Val's Soul Song, there in the Field, taking it in any way into our Heart's Soul and offering it back out to the greater Universe of our embodied presence: family, friends, city, state, country, healing----- allowing ourselves to expand into the gifts we have been given by Valerie as we embrace, sense, EMBODY, own the Divine essence-----

NAMASTE



Photographs:

p. 40, front cover memorial service program

p. 43: courtesy of www.awaken.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/timthumb.php_.jpeg

For a list of Dr Hunt's numerous publications go to:

http://valerievhunt.com/ValerieVHunt.com/Valerie_Hunt_Publications.html

Dr Marcia Leventhal, Ph.D, BC-DMT, CMA, NCC, is an internationally lecturer, workshop leader and Professor and a lifelong student and research associate of Dr. Valerie Hunt. Following sixteen years as Director of the Grad. DMT Program at New York University, where she was an Associate Professor, Dr Leventhal then played, and continues to play, a significant part in the history of the development of dance movement therapy worldwide. She set-up training programs in countries that include Argentina, Greece, Japan, Great Britain and Sweden, and of course Australia. In Australia she is well known as the co-founder and co-director of the IDTIA, which she continues to support as a teacher and Supervision Consultant.

Emilie Conrad (1934 – 2014)



Sadly, another visionary and great lady has been lost to the movement community. Our condolences were expressed to Emily's family, friends and to the Continuum Community, in our last issue. We are pleased to publish a little more information about Emilie followed by the tribute from Amber Gray.

Emilie's life and work involved being the dynamic founder of Continuum Movement and a somatic movement pioneer. The following information has been drawn from www.continuummovement.com/emilie-bio.php

Emilie, who lived in Los Angeles, California, was considered a visionary whose work was used by a wide range of International professionals from various movement related fields.

As a teacher and lecturer, she led workshops throughout Europe, the US and Canada. She also received many awards for her work as a Somatics Pioneer.

The web information tells us that she was a dancer, "born and raised in New York City where she studied ballet and Afro-Haitian dance". Her earlier influences were from Sevilla Fort and Katherine Dunham. This led Emilie to her interest in Haitian dance after spending five years as a choreographer with a folklore company in Haiti.

Through her love of movement she was inspired to discover "the essential, primary movements common to all life forms that lie beneath cultural influence. These fundamental movements are a 'cosmology' of life, where form is fluidly mutable, dissolving and shaping itself anew."(p.1)

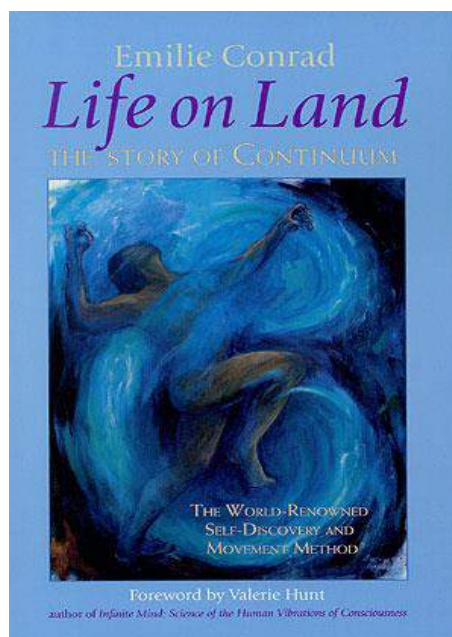
She taught at the Actors Studio, Los Angeles from 1963, directing many plays and performance works and enriching them with her choreography.

She pioneered a protocol for spinal cord injury in 1974, and from then until 1979, worked with Dr Hunt at UCLA as a Movement Specialist in a research study. This study is referred to as being ground breaking apparently "demonstrating that fluid, primary movement is essential in our ability to innovate. Enhancing these fundamental movements has a potential to create a rich intrinsic environment that brings forth new insights in our understanding of the human body and its potential to create alternate systems." (p.1)

Emilie was said to have a capacity for innovation and was an inspiration in the fields of Somatics, movement education, and physical fitness. She developed a "dynamic workout that strengthens by incorporating multiple angles in gravity to facilitate developing diverse muscular and skeletal relationships. In support of this she created equipment such as the Explore Board and the Flight Plan." (p.1)

"The Three Anatomies" was also one of her contributions, where she defines "three distinct tissue structures as the cultural, primordial, and cosmic anatomies" that help people to move beyond set patterns of movement.

Emilie also wrote "*Life on Land*" published by North Atlantic Press.



Tribute from Amber Gray



Emilie Conrad, Originator and Creator of Continuum Movement, passed away on April 14, 2014. Recognized as a pioneer in the field of somatics and movement arts, Emilie's life-long explorations of the fluid body and fluid movement as fundamental to not only health and well-being, but also to our humanity, established her work as a truly unique and innovative contribution to dance, movement and somatic therapies. Emilie's inquiry into the potential of the fluid system as an "alternative system" for challenged bodies who medical models of treatment offered little hope for, and as the source of our interconnectedness, or what she lovingly calls "species inclusivity", began in Haiti in the 1950's.

As a child Emilie experienced considerable suffering, and dance was her refuge. A scholarship with Katherine Dunham dance led her to Haiti in 1955, where she co-created the still dancing Ballet Bacalou, with choreographer and Mambo Odette Weiner. The fluid undulate that is core to Haitian dance captured Emilie's attention, as did the sacred form of dance that is mainstay to Haiti's rich ceremonial and healing tradition. When she returned to the United States in 1960, Emilie began to observe, move, and play with the wave motion as fundamental to human experience and as connector to all life forms:

"The concert of existence places me in resonance with our biosphere, meaning that at this moment there is no 'body' no separation; I am part of the swirl of bio-morphic unfolding. I am not bound by culture or language. The deepening of sensation allows me to be without category. I transfer the moisture of my cells, join the wet of the grass, the pour of the ocean, the stars that watch over the night. The plants breathe, my skin is wet, we are here. This fundamental umbilical to life without category is for me the first stage of sanity."

-Emilie Conrad

Life On Land

Continuum Movement will be carried on through the work of more than eighty teachers worldwide, each who spent time studying deeply with Emilie. Continuum as a movement and life practice informs many other somatic, movement and danced-based therapies and practices.

Emilie's courageous and creative physical presence will be missed; her spirit will continue to add sparkle to the world through every breath, movement and dance that is expressed.

Photographs:

p.44, courtesy:

www.wholewoman.com/library/wp-content/uploads/2010/10/EmilieConrad-300x257.jpg

p.45, courtesy:

www.continuummovement.com/images/em-home.jpg

Amber Gray is a Continuum movement teacher who worked very closely with Emilie. Amber is also a DMT who has, for many years, worked with people who have survived violation, human rights abuses, and terror. In her work Amber combines Continuum movement with DMT, somatic psychology, current trauma and neuropsychological research, movement therapy, life impressions bodywork, ritual, and creative arts.