

Dear dance friends in America, England and elsewhere,

After 39 years of teaching I have decided I will retire as a teacher of English country dance later this year. For several years health issues (in particular intestinal problems) have made fulfilling of commitments and travelling very difficult, both abroad and closer to home. The moment has come to step back

My summer trip to the US in July will be the last one I will undertake. Though it will be physically not easy for me, I am looking forward to it as I see it as an opportunity to spend time with good dance friends of long standing – a fond farewell indeed to the US dance community where I have taught with great pleasure in stimulating circumstances since 1985.

On 11 July I will lead an evening dance in Washington, DC; three days later, on 14 July, I'll team up with the band Hold The Mustard (with whom I produced my two CD's) for a workshop (of my own material) and an evening dance organized by the Princeton Country Dancers.

Then, from 14 till 21 July, I will be on staff at The New London Assembly (Connecticut), a week-long workshop of English country dance organized by and liaised with Amherst Early Music Festival. Last year I already had the pleasure to teach there – a most wonderful week with workshops, concerts, lectures and excellent dance music. I can't think of a better occasion to bring my teaching to a happy conclusion on 21 July, fittingly or not, as it is the Belgian national holiday.

Best wishes,

-- Philippe

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