



### EVENTS SCHEDULE

**SATURDAY, 5/29:** SKATING DAY  
RC Leroc

**SUNDAY, 5/30:** SKATING DAY  
DJ Rob Scott

**MONDAY, 5/31:** SKATING DAY  
DJ Rikky Rivera

**SATURDAY, 5/5:** SKATING DAY  
DJ Walden

**SUNDAY, 5/6:** SKATING DAY  
DJ Misbehaviour & DJ Alchemy

**SATURDAY, 6/12:** SKATING DAY  
DJ Julio & RC Leroc

**SUNDAY, 6/13:** NO SKATING  
PUERTO RICO DAY PARADE

**SATURDAY, 6/19:** SKATING DAY  
DJ Rikky Rivera

**SUNDAY, 6/20:** SKATING DAY  
DJ Misbehaviour & DJ Alchemy

**SATURDAY, 6/26:** NO SKATING  
NEW YORK TRIATHLON

**SUNDAY, 6/27:** NO SKATING  
NEW YORK TRIATHLON

### THE CENTRAL PARK SKATE CIRCLE

takes place every Saturday, Sunday and major holiday in 2003 from April 11th to October 31st. The music plays from 2:30pm to 6:30pm.

### OFFICIAL CPDSA CONTACTS:

**Lezly Ziering:** 212-777-3232  
**Bob Nichols:** 212-246-1344  
**On the Web:** [www.CPDSA.org](http://www.CPDSA.org)

### CPDSA COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Lezly Ziering - Chairman  
Bob Nichols  
Bill Levy  
Muhammed Abdul-Aziz  
Calvin Coleman  
Carol Spalding  
Steven Myrick  
Charles Threath

## In Retrospect

by Lezly Ziering

Every now and then we experience something that affects us profoundly and leaves us richer or happier or feeling that we were a part of something special, something unique. I felt this kind of emotional response on April 17th, of '04, as I'm certain many of us did, when I came out to witness the transformation of the Skate Circle into a magnificent work of art. AVAF's floorscape & Rama Chorpash's sleek and high tech rendering of our DJ booth made my heart skip a beat. All the planning and uncertainty of the preceding months - will the surface be skateable - will it get vandalized by some unfeeling cretin - will the funding run out - will the aerodynamic DJ canopy blow away in a heavy gust - will it be ready in time.

Just a note of interest in that regard - the original surface the floorscape was to be printed on, was to be donated by the 3M Corporation - this munificent, corporate behemoth pulled out the week before the event when they learned the surface was to

be used for skating. SIGN EXPO's ingenuity created a brand new material similar to 3M's to save the project.

On April 16th - in one day, the surface was installed and when we arrived on the following morning, last minute adjustments were still being made - but what a sight it was to behold! A swirling profusion of color and form, exquisite larger than life, vibrant figures, butterflies, otherworldly beasts, tropical flora and abstractions covering the entire skating oval in a breathtaking array of blazing images.

Rama's DJ booth dominated the center area - the 3 disc canopy seeming to float on air like an elegant futuristic kite about to sail off over our heads into the sunny skies that shown down upon us. What privilege I felt for us to be so honored by the Public Art Fund and these two brilliant artists.

The day proceeded with a commemoration speech by the director of the PAF, Tom Eccles, and a

performance by the Latino (she is Mexican and he is from Argentina) singing duo Los Super Elegantes who lip-synched to several of their CDs while rolling tenuously around the Circle on rented quads. The ceremonies completed, DJ Rob Scott swung into high gear, blowing it out with an amazing variety of old and new with a smattering of Brazilian sounds to complement the floorscape - a perfect capper to a most memorable day. The art, the music, the ambiance created an energy that permeated us all. The only problem we all experienced was that it was difficult too keep our eyes off the floor, which rewarded us with constant discovery of the nuances revealed in the floorscape.

We fussed over it, patched it and pampered it for the three weeks of its life - loving it, awed by its beauty and truly perplexed to fathom why it could not remain. I do not grieve its passing, I rejoice that it was. It will live in my mind's eye for as long as I am on this mortal coil.



Skaters get into the groove on the floorscape at the CPDSA's 2004 opening day - April 16th



avaf's beautiful floorscape and redesigned DJ booth

Photo ©2004, Ken Milne

# WANTED

**Members**   **Supporters**   **Contributors**  
**Donors**   **Commitment**   **Volunteers**

To perpetuate this highly valued and much loved source of recreation, relaxation and spiritual sustenance, we need your backing and your assistance, we cannot continue without your help!

and one of our CPDSA t-shirts. We will have t-shirts on sale at the Circle this Memorial Day weekend. Membership checks will also be accepted at the fundraising table at the south end of the circle.

This season we are emphasizing the importance of your membership in our organization. If you are not already a member please join. If you are already a member please renew. Individual memberships are a bargain at \$15 for the entire season. For \$25 you can get a membership

Your dues money helps defer the cost of Parks Dept. special events permits, police amplified music permits, transportation and storage costs, equipment maintenance and repair and all the other expenses we must cover to keep "our thing" alive.

人道

Michael F. Kelly L. Ac., ADS

Acupuncture & Chinese Herbs

914.548.7585  
 mkelly\_tcm@hotmail.com



Bob and Danuta celebrate opening day with a dance

If you would like to contribute stories or photos for consideration in our next newsletter (July 4th weekend), please contact:  
 marci@cpdsa.org

Photo ©2004, Ken Nelson



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Dr. Janis Brody  
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(St. Martin's Press)



Janis' book has been recommended by Publisher's Weekly, Jump Magazine, and Amazon.com's Top 10 Family List

Photo ©2004, Ken Milne

# The View from Skaters Road

by Bob Nichols

Opening weekend this year was an incredible high point for the Skate Circle. The Technicolor vinyl dreamscape covering the pavement of the main rink by "assume vivid astro focus" and the futuristic DJ booth and canopy by Rama Chorpesh took the Circle to a level of artistic and technical achievement undreamed of in 1979 by the first few skaters who first danced around a boombox on the Dead Road in Central Park.

The last time I remember anywhere near the same kind of exuberance was ten years ago on July 4th 1994 - the first day of skating after a long struggle by the CPDSA, successfully negotiating with the Guiliani administration to end a three month ban on skating to music in the park. That was the day the CPDSA Skate Circle began; "born on the Fourth of July" as it says on the back of one series of CPDSA t-shirts. That day we were so happy and so united as a community of skaters, we were dancing on air!

This year we were just as proud of ourselves and of the attention lavished on the Circle by the Whitney Biennial and Public Arts Fund. We were part of a world class piece of public art meant to honor the Skate Circle and all we had to do was be ourselves and skate - which we love to do.

It would be nice to look at the footage that appeared on Channel 1 and Channel 5 news on the 4th of July back in 1995, so that we could compare it to the media coverage we got this year on the "Totally Cool Show." If you can possibly get a chance, you should see the "Totally Cool Show" devoted to this year's opening day at the Skate Circle. Aside from being all about us, you will be impressed by the picture quality and sound - it has to be the best I have ever seen on Public Access TV.

Now that the vinyl has been removed and the Skaters Road looks like it did before the art project, there is an inevitable let down. We are left with the same

old gray pavement with cracks that need to be patched before they grow and the white rink guidelines that need to be repainted before they fade into oblivion. Once again, we have started talking about how nice it would be to get the whole Skaters Road resurfaced with a smoother paving material like the material used on the volleyball courts. We can dream, can't we?

Part of the problem of us getting a special skating resurface is that what we call our "Skaters Road" is officially "The Dead Road" and it is not strictly a recreational area. It is designated as a "mixed use area" that can serve as a parking lot for film production vehicles, a staging area for tents and tables when some large special events are held in the park, the finish line for the Olympics Triathlon bid or as the portapotty zone for some other event. Cars and trucks often leak oil, antifreeze and other fluids onto the pavement; if a portapotty leaks, we can only hope for a heavy rain to wash things clean before we come out again. Some of the tents are erected without proper footing and leave small holes in the surface that probably wouldn't bother anyone but a skater.

The CPDSA is investigating the feasibility of a special recreational surface for the road, but realistically, the best we can hope for this year is patching the worst holes and maybe freshening some of the guide lines. We could really use some help from someone good at pavement patching and line painting. It may not be a world class art installation, but it will still improve our skating experience and you don't have to be an artist to help.

The CPDSA wants to help you enjoy skating with us this summer. Our infrastructure - from the sound equipment to the first aid kit, to the website - is a resource you can use to enhance your skating experience; it will be even better for all of us if you find a way to give something back.

The Skate Circle Lives!



Lezly tries out the funky new floorscape on opening day.

Photo ©2004, Ken Milne



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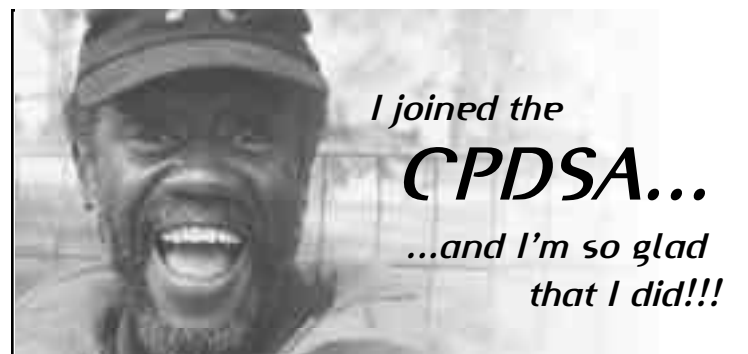
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The CPDSA would like to thank



for their generous support.



# Do You Just Skate and Split?

by Lezly Ziering

This is one of those cry for help articles. We have said it before in many ways, at different times, but it seems that there are not enough people giving of their time to keep the Skate Circle rolling. The work of this association is falling on the shoulders of fewer and fewer people and we are really beginning to feel the pressure. There have always been a small number of people who have carried the burden of making the decisions, negotiating with the powers that be, designing the sound system, going for the permits, working out the endless behind the scenes minutiae that allow this event to come to fruition each week and be the best that it can be. We are not asking for a heavy commitment in most cases - the majority of the tasks would take just a few minutes of your time.

At the event itself - we are required to have a designated number of staffers overseeing the event at all times and there is the setup and breakdown, a sweep of the area before the music starts and the mandatory cleanup afterwards, which encompasses not only the entire area we actually use but the path that borders the Skate Circle on the East and the hill and rocky area to the West. For one or two persons this is time consuming - for 4 or 5 it would be a breeze, requiring 5 minutes of their time of very simple work - we would supply a "grabber" or gloves and a bag and each person would take a small area and knock it off in no time. That said, we really need one or 2 more skaters to help push the equipment box up the hill to the storage area - this would make a hard job quick and easy.

Is there someone out there with 5 minutes to spare? I sincerely hope so - because it could all be so much simpler with a modicum of support. Please see me, Lezly, or Bob, Calvin or Charlie and give us your assistance - we would be most grateful.

We also have a number of committees that need personpower. For example - we would like to get some help from some of you computer mavens to assist with our membership database and we desperately need help keeping our web site updated - it ain't happening. We need audio techs who are capable helping with our sound system. A great help would be someone with creative ideas in the fields of marketing and fund raising. Do you have some special skill that might benefit the CPDSA? Please - share it with us. We need you to become involved -

not just in the good times - but in the various activities that make the good times roll.

In closing I would like to remind everyone that we have started a CPDSA e-mail list so that we can send any bulletins or items of interest and eventually, our newsletters to you. The list will be strictly for the use of the CPDSA, and all mail will be sent BCC so as not to compromise your privacy. And last but definitely not least we need your financial support for our burgeoning expenses - if you are new to the Skate Circle we need your donations and memberships. Basic membership starts at \$15. if you are a past supporter - that was then and this is now - it's re-up time. Be generous, but pledge what is comfortable for you. Keep skating alive!!!

## Join us!

# CPDSA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Contribution

\$15     \$25     \$50     \$100     Other \_\_\_\_\_

Check     Cash     Money Order

New Member     Renewal

Please cut out this membership application and mail it, along with your contribution, to the CPDSA headquarters address listed below.

You can get additional applications and more information from Lezly Ziering at the CPDSA Skate Circle, located mid-park at the foot of the bandshell. You can find us by entering Central Park at 72nd street and walking along Olmsted Way toward the center of the park. Just follow your ears. Listen for our dance music. You can't miss us.

Member # \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



**CENTRAL PARK DANCE SKATERS ASSOCIATION**  
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