

TRISTA (REDAVID) DEFILIPPIS was born in Maspeth, New York and raised in New Jersey. She holds a BFA degree in Dance (Magna Cum Laude) from the Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University and an MA in Dance and Dance Education (Academic honors) from New York University. She is proud to be among the last generation of the Murray Louis and Nikolais Dance Company performing nationally and internationally from 1994-2001. She served as rehearsal director for the company in Alberto del Saz's absence. Currently, she is a member of the Nikolais Legacy Committee that is responsible for preserving Nik's visions and his artistry in the modern dance world. She continues to teach the Nikolais technique in master classes in various dance institutions throughout the U. S including at the National High School Dance Festival in 2004. Trista has also performed with BEYONDANCE, Inc., Janetti/Haver, Acrodanse Theatre, FreeFall Dance Company, KDNY, and Thomas/Ortiz Dance. She has performed original works by Claudia Gitelman, Don Redlich, Ronald K. Brown, and Beverly Blossom. Mrs. DeFilippis' own choreography has been performed at various theaters and universities throughout the tri-state area. Since 2002, Trista has served as the Head of the Dance Department at the Hudson County Schools of Technology (High Tech HS) in North Bergen, NJ. She is a member of NDEO and Dance NJ. She works in conjunction with the Graduate School of Education at Rutgers University mentoring graduate students on their path to becoming dance teachers. Currently, Trista and her husband, Chris, reside in Hoboken, NJ with their son, Anthony and twin daughters, Stella and Olivia.