September Update....

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- VOTE 4 US: Whats On Awards 2013
- What is Pranayama? Why is it important?
- Yoga Posture of the Month: Ardha Chandra Chapasana (Sugar Cane Posture)
- Pilates Move of the Month
- Lactose intolerance or bacterial imbalance?
- Bi-monthly "Yin -Tensive" class with Penny Love

Workshops and events.....September and October

Backbending Workshop with Laura Farrier



Date: 7th September

VOTE 4 US: Whats On Awards 2013



We are so excited to have been shortlisted for a "Whats On Award". Please spend 5 minutes and vote for ZenYoga!! Go to www.whatsonawards.com Big thanks!!!

What is Pranayama? Why is it important?

Hatha-Yoga comprises of pranayama and asanas (bodily postures). We focus on pranayama in this article. The Sanskrit work "prana "means 'cosmic energy' or 'vital force'. It also signifies 'life' or breath'. "Ayama" means control of this prana. Hence pranayama means the control of vital force by concentration and regulated breathing. Without prana, there can be no life, for it is the soul of all force and energy. It lives in each living being and thought is the highest and most refined action of prana. As we breathe, the movement of lungs inhaling air is the expression of prana. Pranayama is not simply the breathing, but the control of the muscular force activating the lungs.



Every living being can easily absorb prana through fresh air in the process of 3 kinds of breathing- normal, deep and controlled yogic breathing. With normal breathing, the amount absorbed is normal. With deep breathing, the volume absorbed is increased and with controlled Yogic breathing we are able to store a large quantity of prana in the brain and nervous centers. This may be used in emergency moments in life when we have to overcome unexpected difficulties. This store of prana also builds up our resistance to

2013Time:1:30pm – 3:00pm Location:DMC Studio Level: Anyonewith some Yoga experience

Open to Bhakti Workshop with Laura farrier and Melissa Ghattas



Date: Friday 13th September 2013 Time: 3:00pm-4.30pm & 5.00pm-7:00pm Location: DMC Studio

Chaturanga Workshop with Liz Terry



Date: Friday 20th September & Friday 22nd November Time: 12pm – 2:30pm Location: DMC Studio

Transformational Yoga

contagious diseases. In contract, if we breathe irregularly, the equilibrium of the pranic current will be disturbed provoking a number of disorders within. Prana is accumulated where our mind is concentrated. There is deep affinity between the prana and the mental force. Thought is the absolute master controlling prana-energy. Just as we can make ourselves feel ill or weak by thinking negative thoughts so can we cure ourselves by replacing these with optimistic ones. Hence correct and rhythmic breathing creates harmony within the body as well as the nervous system. Speaking from a physiological sense, pranayama can help towards proper functioning of various systems at work within the body. For example take the kidneys and bowels, the inhalation, exhalation and holding of the breath cause continuous considerable movement and massage. The surrounding nerves and muscles are strengthened. They benefit not only from the exercise during pranayama but also for the remaining part of the day. The same holds for the lungs. Healthy breathing causes the chest muscles to be stretched to the maximum and the lungs are opened as far as possible, thus are better prepared to carry out their tasks. Let's practice the basis for al breathing patters - Complete yogic breath. It consists of three parts: - (i) abdomen, (ii) middle part of the chest - rib cage/thorax, (iii) upper chest or collar bones. Almost all breathing practises are done through the nose as is this one. To experience this, sit straight, place one hand on the abdomen and the other hand on the rib cage. Breathe in slowly; feel the abdomen expand first, then the rib cage, and finally feel the air filling the upper chest. As you breathe out; let the abdomen cave in first, and then the rib cage. This should be practiced on a regular basis before moving onto other pranayamas. To breathe is to live. Breath is ever present and our only companion. Right from the moment a new born baby fills its lungs, to the last gasp of a dying man. "Life is nothing, but a series of breaths"

By Diana Azavedo, www.radianceofyoga.com

Yoga Posture of the Month: Ardha Chandra Chapasana (Sugar Cane Posture)

Here is a deeper expression of *Ardha Chandrasana* (1/2 Moon Posture, Adrha - 1/2 Chandra - Moon). Where does Sugar Cane fit in? Who knows but its a beautiful variation to explore once you are stable and balanced in Ardha Chandrasana. A balancing posture which creates strength in the stabilising leg and core, while offering a powerful heart opener and asymmetrical backbend.

Step 1: Virabhadrasana 2 (Warrior 2) Inhale reach forward



Step 2: Exhale take your hand (same as stabilising leg) to the floor OR block in front of the foot

Step 3: Inhale to lift back leg up to hip height, point or flex foot, reach other arm up to the sky (directly above you're supporting arm or keep hand on waist). You are in Ardha Chandrasana)

with Emily Gilchrist



Date: Friday 27thSeptemberTime:12pm – 2:30pm Location:DMC Studio Cost: AED 250Level: All levels welcome

Sequencing Workshop for Yoga Instructors and daily Vinyasa Flow classes with Julie Martin



Sequencing workshop: 17th - 19th October Daily Vinyasa classes:17th -23rd October Location: DMC Studio

Sacred Dance with Julie Martin



Date/Time: Wednesday 23rd October/ 6.30 –

Option to stay here, breathing, finding your balance, steady gaze to the floor or top hand. **Step 4:** Exhale bend the floating knee, grab foot and Inhale push the foot into the hand. You are in Ardha Chandra Chapasana :) If you are here, its helpful to take the supporting hand to the side, rather than exactly under your shoulder!

Modifications:

If finding your balance in the centre of the room is challenging, use the support of a wall behind you and follow Steps 1 -3 and open yourself into Arha Chandrasana. *Where ever you are, practice with awareness and patience. Breathe deeply and be open to new physical possibilities.*

By Melissa Ghattas, Yoga Instructor, 500+ hours | Yoga Alliance Certified

Pilates Move of the Month

This is a great exercise to engage your core muscles. In addition it strengthens the lower back, gluteus (buttocks) and hamstrings, as well as mobilising the spine.

1. Start: Lie on your back, with knees bent and hip distance apart.

- 2. On the Inhale: engage in your core
- & gluteus (buttocks)
- 3. Exhale: roll the spine off the mat.
- 4. Inhale: hold
- 5. Exhale: roll back down through the center of your spine.

By Tracy Kotecha, STOTT Pilates Instructor



Lactose intolerance or bacterial imbalance?

8pm **Location:** DMC Studio

Traditional Ashtanga Vinyasa Workshop With Ajay Kumar from Mysore, India





Dates/ Times: Thursday
24th Octoter 6 -
8pm Friday
25th October 8 - 10am, 1 -
3pm and 4 -
6pm Saturday
26th October 8 - 10am, 1 -
3pm and 4 -
6pm Location:
DMC Studio

The inability to process milk, or specifically its sugar lactose, is one of the most common food intolerances experienced amongst adults nowadays. The scientific explanation has always blamed a lack of the enzyme lactase to break down the sugar. However, many sufferers may not be truly lactose intolerant from a clinical perspective. In fact this may all be due to imbalances in our gut flora. We need some of the bacteria housed in our gut to metabolise lactose, specifically the good bacterial strain bifidobacteria. Such bacteria can be killed off as we age due to overuse of antibiotics, steroids, bad diet, stress etc. So look after your gut, eat a diet rich in prebiotics (foods that fuel your friendly bacteria) such as artichokes, garlic and onions and steer clear of foods that the bad bacteria will thrive on such as sugar and nasty processed foods!

By Victoria Tipper, Nutrition Coach, victoria@dubaihtc.com, Dubai Herbal & Treatment Centre, www.dubaihtc.com

Bi-monthly "Yin -Tensive" class with Penny

Love

Day: every 2nd and 4th FRIDAY of each month Time: 8.30 – 9.45am Venue: Emirates Hills Studio



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