SHORT TRACK

One by one, the skaters glide into their starting positions, shaking the last jitters from their powerful legs as the announcer calls their names. On the line, they crouch, motionless, balanced only on the pinpoint tip of one skate and the razor-thin blade of the other, which they’ve wedged into the ice parallel to the start line for maximum leverage. The crowd hushes. Skates glint. Muscles tense. This is how all short track races begin. But the way in which this one—the
men's 1000 m final—ends is stunning, even in the fast, furious and notoriously unpredictable world of short track speed skating.

Ahn Hyun-Soo, 16-year-old junior world champion from South Korea, then American Apolo Anton Ohno, a rebellious teenager turned skating dynamo. To Ohno's right is Li Jiajun, China's defending champion. Ahn on his heels, Li and Turcotte close behind. Ohno sprints toward the finish line, a gold medal just meters away. But suddenly everything changes: Li makes contact with him, then catches a skate and falls into an orderly line that moves with unexpected serpentine grace. Korea's Ahn takes an instant lead, then fall into an orderly line that moves with unexpected serpentine grace. Korea's Ahn takes an instant lead, then tumble to the ice helplessly. Tripped up by Li's fall, Ahn goes down, too, then sliding in a despairing attempt at recovery, which takes down both Ohno and Turcotte. Only straggler Steven Bradbury is still on his feet, and in a matter of seconds he has moved from last to first. Hang on a minute, I've been sliced by a skate and will require stitches, struggles to his feet and flings his body over the line to claim the silver. Turcotte follows him, winning the bronze.

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Delighted spectators experienced short track's fickle nature again and again at the Salt Lake City Games, where the differences between first and last, elation and devastation, glory and infamy, were the tiniest of margins: one width of a paper-thin steel blade, a few hundredths of a second, a skate thrust over the finish line just barely ahead of another, a shoulder shifted inches off course. Unlikely gold-medal winners were not uncommon.

By February 16, the next night of competition, the world was out. Short track was a wild card, a rough-and-tumble, high-speed thrill ride. Fans donned stick-on "soul patch" beards in honor of Ohno's pass attempt, and the gold would go to Ohno. Kim threw down the flag and kicked at the ice in anguish. Choi Min-Ji, who had finished third, was the silver, and the fourth finisher, Canada's Marc Gagnon, won the bronze. While Kim and his fans were enraged, Ohno was elated by his bronze. "They can just go throw me in the shower and bury me," said Ohno. "I got a gold medal!"

Korea won back to back's 1000 m relay final, in which the team, made up of Choi Eun-Kyung, Cheol Min-Kyung, Park Hye-Won—four-time Olympic competitors in the event—polled well ahead of China in the final two laps to win the world record and win the gold—Korea's third straight Olympic victory in the event. "It felt like a great match," said Choi Eun Kyung later. "We finally did it, we worked hard," added Cheol Min Kyung.

Short tracks last night, February 23, began with the 1000 m final. A much anticipated rematch between Ohno and Kim never happened. Ohno was eliminated and was disqualified during the third round. In the eagerly-anticipated final round, Canada's Captian-pages 1st and 2nd place—and Smith took the bronze. This proud moment for Canada would only be outshined later that evening, when the Canadian team (Cagnon, Cuilmette, Eric Bédard, François-Louis Tremblay and Turcotte) won the men's 5000 m relay, making Gagnon the most medal winning male short track skater in Olympic history. But Canada wasn't the only nation celebrating. In the ladies' 3000 m relay, Yang Yang (A) smashed a national barrier for winning her country's first Olympic gold in the 300 m, won again. Yang (S) led early, but she was soon passed by Yang (A). Korea's Ko Eun-Hye pushed for the lead, but Yang (A) held her at bay and took the gold. Ko finished second, and Yang (S) third. "Each day, I have more passion for my sport," said the jubilant Yang (A). "This gold medal is very important to me, but the value of the experience of being here exceeds even the value of the gold medal!"

For four memorable nights at the Salt Lake Ice Center, first became last and last became first. A nation's greatest hope was realized. Another's expectations were shattered. History was made. And the differences between first and last, elation and devastation, glory and infamy, were the tiniest of margins: one width of a paper-thin steel blade, a few hundredths of a second, a skate thrust over the finish line just barely ahead of another, a shoulder shifted inches off course. Unlikely gold-medal winners Steven Bradbury was right about short track, just about anything can happen. And at the Salt Lake 2002 Olympic Winter Games, just about everything did.
New Zealand's Mark Jackson, Bulgaria's Miroslav Boiadiev, Japan's Satoru Terao and Belgium's Wim de Deyne compete in the men's 1000 m.

The United States of America's Apollo Anton Olmo leads Italy's Fabio Carta and Korea's Kim Dong-Sung on the 152-meter oval at the Salt Lake City Center.
Korea's Kim Dong Sung and New Zealand's Mark Jackson (top) and the Netherlands' Cees Juffemans and Canada's Marc Gannon (bottom) compete in the preliminary heats.

"I just gave my best and I think, like a star or something. I want my name to be lit up." - American Apolo Anton Ohno, above, on his victory in the 300 m.

Source: Bibliothèque du CIO / IOC Library
"I don't know if everything sits perfectly well in my stomach about how I won the race. But, I'm justifying it within myself through the last 10 or 12 years of what I've put into this sport. I've been on a massive roller-coaster ride...I've paid my dues, I reckon." - Gold medalist Steven Bradbury of Australia

"I need to think about having won two gold medals first," said Canada's Marc Gagnon when asked how it felt to be the most decorated man in Olympic short track history.
On turns in short-track, skaters lean inward at an angle of almost 50 degrees.

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Canada's Alanna Kraus and Japan's Chikatfe Tanaka battle for position in the ladies' 1500 m.

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Source: Bibliothèque du CIO / IOC Library

Source: Bibliothèque du CIO / IOC Library
Members of China's and Canada's teams compete in the men's 5000 m relay.

Short track skaters start each race by sprinting on the ice to try to claim a position near the front of the pack.
China's Yang Yang [A], in front, claimed her country's first-ever gold in the Olympic Winter Games by winning the ladies' 500 m.
Canada would leave Salt Lake City with six short track speed skating medals.

SHEILA METZNER
FIGURE SKATING BEGINS IN COMPLEXITY -
THE LAWS OF PHYSICS TESTED, THE HUMAN BODY A PRECISE
MACHINE THAT JUMPS, SPINS AND GLIDES ACROSS THE
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CENTER. TEN DAYS LATER, IT ENDED IN THE SIMPLEST OF

When someone gives you a kick in the butt, you go forward, right? - David Pelletier
He and Jamie Salt, who won a gold medal after a controversial judging decision, relax
backstage after their exhibition performance on February 22.
On February 9, Russians Elena Berezhnaya and Anton Sikharulidze, two-time pairs world champions, skated a nearly flawless short program. They performed a triple loop-side-by-loop spin, in perfect unison and completed the program with solid athletic technique. They earned the first-place spot going into the long program. "Many things happened in the last four years, good and bad ones," said Sikharulidze. "To be here and skate well is just great."

In the final free skate session, she and a skating partner had become unsynchronized during a side-by-side camel spin. Berezhnaya, "I'm very happy it's all over, and it's closed." It was a significant moment in Olympic history, but for both pairs, simply one of relief. Said Pelletier, "It's great we've got an American man back on the podium," he said. "Any of the three of us U.S. skaters for the men's event could have medaled, and it was just really happy for us."

The controversy had also turned competitors into colleagues. "The four of us were a part of history," said Pelletier. "Obviously, it was a rough few days, but we were happy to put some closure to it and we can go on and be friends. Our gold medal is everybody's."

The three-part competition began with the compulsory program, in which all 24 couples were paired off. The Russians, Tar Devita and Yulia Lipnitskaya, were strong. The pair made four errors, including a Schröder step, stepping out of the landing in the double Axel. Skating to the music from "La Ronde," their technical score was 60.93, while their component score was 59.6. They totaled 119.56, second place. For Yagudin, whose complicated spins and original moves had earned him first place, the coast was suddenly much clearer. And when he substituted two extra throws for the free program, skating to music from "The Blue Danube," Yagudin seemed ready to end the duel with Plushenko.

With incredible timing and execution, he performed no less than five triple jumps, with fast and furious footwork between each. Having been preached skating basics as a kid because he was so small and weak, Yagudin's moment had arrived. He was already crying with joy when his scores were announced, including four 6.0s. blush on the board. It was the first time in history a single skater had earned more than one 6.0. "I was in a fog," he said. "I heard this: I won the only guy who got to the Olympics... I became not just a jumper, but also a skater on the ice."

Plushenko, meanwhile, had succeeded sufficiently to earn the silver, with a flamboyant performance and complex moves. American Timothy Goebel had started the Olympics in jumps of four revolutions, skated just after Plushenko and earned the bronze with a strong technical program and a carefree attitude. He skated to "The American in Paris." He also became the first male figure skater to land a quadruple Salchow (in the short program) and three quads (in the free) in an Olympic competition. Goebel was the first U.S. athlete to win a medal in men's Olympic figure skating. "It's great we've got an American man back on the podium," he said. "Any of the three of us U.S. skaters for the men's event could have medaled, and it was just really happy for us."

If figure skating is a balance between artistry and athleticism, ice dancing tips to the side of artistry. Before the Salt Lake 2002 Games, some questioned whether the sport, part of the Olympic program since 1976, belonged there. With fewer compulsory moves than pairs skating, and fewer judges' points in the free dance portion of the event, the partnerships were freer to explore the boundaries of the sport. It was the first time since the 1980s that figure skating was not the only skating discipline in the Olympic program. Though the sports were separate, the skaters were allowed to compete in both.

The three-part competition began with the compulsory program, in which all 24 couples were paired off to perform one dance each of the spinning and the Blue's, French's Marine's, American's and Canadian's pieces. "It's just like a picture is a piece of history," said Pelletier. "Obviously, it was a rough few days, but we were happy to put some closure to it and we can go on and be friends. Our gold medal is everybody's."

While the world debated the outcome of the pairs competition, it nearly missed the men's event, in which Russians Alexei Yagudin claimed one of the most outstanding performances of the Games. Before the short program, held just one night after the pairs lee dance, it seemed that the gold medal match-up would be between Yagudin and Evgeni Plushenko, three-time Russian champion. Though countrymen, they were known for a fierce rivalry in which each tried to outjump, outchoreograph and outperform the other.

The free skate then featured the opening quadruple toe loop in the short program, landing in hand place. For Yagudin, whose complicated spins and original moves had earned him first place, the coast was suddenly much clearer. And when he substituted two extra throws for the free program, skating to music from "The Blue Danube," Yagudin seemed ready to end the duel with Plushenko. With incredible timing and execution, he performed no less than five triple jumps, with fast and furious footwork between each. Having been preached skating basics as a kid because he was so small and weak, Yagudin's moment had arrived. He was already crying with joy when his scores were announced, including four 6.0s. blush on the board. It was the first time in history a single skater had earned more than one 6.0. "I was in a fog," he said. "I heard this: I won the only guy who got to the Olympics... I became not just a jumper, but also a skater on the ice."

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Liberty, set to music mixed with parts of Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech. Their performance was packed with spins, spirals and synchronized movements, including the "gender bender" pose with Anissina lifting Peizerat. Barely edging out Averbukh and Lobacheva, who were second and the silver medalists by a 5-4 judging split, the duo captured France's first Olympic ice dancing gold medal. Winning bronze was Fauri Polli and Margaglio of Italy.

Oftentimes considered the marquee event of any Olympic Winter Games, the ladies' figure skating competition was in 2002 dominated by four names—Michelle Kwan, Irina Slutskaya, Sasha Cohen and Sarah Hughes—even before it began. Kwan, the United States of America's silver medalist at Nagano in 1998, was more determined than ever to win a gold medal. So determined, in fact, that she fired her longtime choreographer and then her coach of nine years, shortly before the Games. Her career included six national and four world championships and 27 scores of 6.0. All it was missing was Olympic gold, and she would go for this final piece without a coach.

Russia's Slutskaya began figure skating to cure chronic bronchitis and ended up becoming the four-time European champion. She was poised to become Russia's first woman to win the Olympic figure skating gold. Known for landing difficult jumps, Slutskaya was the first woman to perform a double Biellmann spin with a foot change, a move in which she grasps the blade of a skate behind her back, pulls it over her head and spins, switching feet halfway through the move.

Cohen of the United States was a 17-year-old whose grace and flexibility had already commanded serious attention from judges in the figure skating circuit. And then there was Hughes, an American figure skating prodigy who learned to tie her own skates at age 3 and performed her first double Salchow (a distinctive move that requires taking off and landing on different edges of the skate) at age 5. Her natural prowess was tempered by a down-to-earth attitude: Unlike most skaters, Hughes trained from home. She was an excellent student, and hoped to become a doctor someday.

There were few surprises in the short program, with Kwan finishing first, Slutskaya second, Cohen third and Hughes in fourth. In the long program, everything changed. Of the four, Hughes skated first, in a stunning, flawless performance, landing seven successful triple jumps and nailing a difficult triple toe loop-triple loop combination. As the crowd roared and flowers rained down, Hughes threw her arms upward, radiant, with the overwhelming joy of an athlete who has just performed at her very best.

But there was more to come. Cohen fell on her triple-jump combination, only to be followed by Kwan, who fell out of a triple flip and landed poorly on another. Encouraged by cheers from the audience, she landed these mosaic triple jumps: Salchow, Lutz and toe loop. "I made a few mistakes," she said, "but I kept on going strong." Then, Slutskaya skated, with a shaky triple flip in a program that lacked her usual strength and speed.

Hughes, who was backstage with her coach Robin Wagner at this point, still didn't think it was possible to win gold. Suddenly, a rambunctious cameraman, who had heard the judges marks, told her she had won the gold. Hughes and Wagner fell to their knees, shrieking, completely in shock. She was the first figure skater ever to vault from fourth to first place in a tricky scoring system introduced in 1992. "In the past, I've held back, not always given it my all," said Hughes, still trying to grasp this truly Olympic moment. "Tonight, I just said, 'I have nothing to lose.'"

Nothing to lose, indeed. After causing one of the biggest upsets in Olympic history (Slutskaya won silver, Kwan, the bronze) and celebrating her gold medal with her brothers and sisters late into the night, Hughes was already turning her attention toward conquering another challenge: her college entrance exams. "My next goal," she said, "is to get in the high 1500s on my SATs."
U.S. skater Michelle Kwan captured first place in the ladies' short program on February 19. "I felt America behind me—and that was incredible," she said.

ELISABETH O'DONNELL

While preparing for the Salt Lake City Games, American Sarah Hughes was most looking forward to sharing meals with other athletes at the Olympic Village cafeteria. Shown here during the short program, Hughes was soon sharing gold with the world.

ELISABETH O'DONNELL
A powerful jumper, Russia's Irina Slutskaya was the first woman to land a triple Lutz-triple loop, the first woman to land a Salchow-triple loop combination and the first woman to perform a double Biellman spin with a foot change.

Known for her classical elegance, Russia's Maria Butyrskaya assists in designing her costumes.
When I got on the ice, I couldn’t believe it was finally here. The moment I waited for my whole life.

— Sasha Cohen, United States of America

I can’t be perfect all the time,” said Russia’s Alexei Yagudin. “I’m not a machine.” Yagudin was near perfect in Salt Lake City, however, earning a record four 6.0s and winning the men’s gold.

Source: Bibliothèque du CIO / IOC Library
Yosuke Takeuchi of Japan performs a camel spin during the men’s free program.

Alexander Abt of Russia landed in fifth place after the men’s free program.
Slovakian Olga Bestandigova and Josef Bestandig, siblings, compete in the pairs competition.

MICHAEL SEAMANS

Bestandig tosses his sister in a throw triple loop move during the pairs competition. The two are five-time national champions.

MICHAEL SEAMANS

Source: Bibliothèque du CIO / IOC Library
Gold medalists to français: Marina Anissina and Gwendal Peizerat of France teamed up after Anissina, deserted by her partner, wrote a letter to Peizerat from her native Russia. She remembered seeing him at a competition. He answered six months later, when his own partner retired.

Anissina, above, followed in the footsteps of her mother, Irina Cherniyeva, who competed in pairs skating at the Sapporo 1972 Olympic Winter Games.

MICHÈLE LEHANE

IAN LOGAN

Source: Bibliothèque du CIO / IOC Library
Ice dancers Marika Humphreys and Vitali Baranov of Great Britain present their routine for original dance.

Naomi Lang of the United States, shown here with her Ice Dancing partner Peter Tchernyshev, is a member of the Karuk tribe and the first female Native American to compete in the Olympic Winter Games.

Source: Bibliothèque du CIO / IOC Library
Gold medalist Sarah Hughes dedicated her exhibition performance, one night after her own gold, to those who suffered on the attack of September 11, 2001.
OLYMPIC VILLAGE • AS FORTRESSES GO, the Salt Lake 2002 Olympic Village, located in the city’s historic Fort Douglas area, was among the finest. Set high in the foothills of the Wasatch Mountains, in the glow of the Olympic Cauldron, it was a mythical land filled with the world’s greatest athletes—but kept strictly off-limits to outsiders. Miles of fencing, security guards and surveillance cameras did not just protect thousands of men and women, they preserved peace of
inside, inside as well, individuals from 77 delegations were united as one community as they unfurled flags from dormitory windows, unpacked good luck charms and began to resonate. Tomorrow, or the next day, or even next week, they would compete, with overwhelming expectations pinned on a blip in time. But for now, there were glorious, unfettered hours in which they could contemplate, focus and simply imagine, in a place that soon became less of a fort and more of a blessed sanctuary. These were the hours in which Olympians could simply be Olympians.

It was a place of peace and a place of discovery. Night and day, athletes found camaraderie, comfort—and the musical talents of their fellow residents—in the CoffeeHouse. From Prince Albert of Monaco, a five-time Olympian, to Jayaram Khadka, representing Nepal in its first Olympic Winter Games, they found equality in the simple dormitory lodging and along snow-covered walkways. Families, such as Argentinean siblings and alpine skiers Macarena, Maria Belen and Cristian Javier Simari Birkner, found a second home in the Olympic Village. Individuals such as Kenya's Philip Boit and Cameroon's Isaac Menyoli, their country's sole athletes in the Games—found family. Shiva Keshavan of India found an old friend: Kang Kwange-Bae of Korea, from whom he had borrowed crutches after becoming injured in a 1997 luge event. They had not seen each other since the Nagano 1998 Games. And most everyone found a little bit more about hope, about dreams and about courage.

Photographers could enter the Olympic Village only through tight restrictions, with one exception: Montana-based artist Raymond Meeks. He invited athletes to his small studio in the International Zone, where they could have their picture taken, if they pleased. The result is a remarkable collection of relaxed and intimate portraits, which reveal athletes beyond the boundaries of their sports and capture some of the most precious moments of the Salt Lake 2002 Games.
Dinah Browne, U.S. Virgin Islands, Luge

Sisters Amanda and Jaime Fortier, Canada, Cross-Country Skiing

Source: Bibliothèque du CIO / IOC Library
LIUTAUAS BARILA, LITHUANIA, BIATHLON (LEFT)

NICHOLAS FONTAINE, CANADA, FREESTYLE AERIALS

Source: Bibliothèque du CIO / IOC Library
Masanori Inoue, Japan, Bobsleigh

Irina Terentjeva, Lithuania, Cross-Country Skiing

Source: Bibliothèque du CIO / IOC Library
OLYMPIC MEDALS PLAZA – IT WAS THE HEARTBEAT OF THE OLYMPIC SPIRIT: AN AMPHITHEATER IN DOWNTOWN SALT LAKE CITY CREATED FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF HONORING OUR NEWEST OLYMPIC HEROES AND SHARING THEIR GLORY WITH THE WORLD. OLYMPIC MEDALS PLAZA WAS FREE TO THE PUBLIC, OPEN TO THE STARRY SKIES—AND THE HOTTEST PLACE TO BE FOR TWO WEEKS IN FEBRUARY 2002. NEVER BEFORE HAD OLYMPIC LAURELS BEEN PRESENTED ON SUCH A SCALE: 20,000 FANS FLOCKED TO THE VENUE EACH EVENING FOR MEDALS.
Ceremonies, concerts and fireworks. An extraordinary line-up of headline artists, including Dave Matthews Band, Macy Gray, *NSYNC, Alanis Morissette and Marc Anthony, paid tribute to the inspiring achievements of the athletes with rock-the-house shows.

As dramatic and memorable as the shows it hosted was the stage itself, encapsulated by the giant Hoberman Arch. Made of 96 translucent panels and symbolizing the Salt Lake 2002 theme of Light the Fire Within, the Arch suspended acrobatic dancers, dangling by silk sheets, from its silver beams. It retreated to reveal the Heroes Cauldron, lit from the Olympic Flame on February 9 and illuminating the podium. Medalists were led to the stage by a Child of Light. For the first time in Olympic history, gold medals were presented last, allowing a prolonged celebration of bronze and silver medalists before admiring the gold medalists and the playing of his or her national anthem.

Standing on the podium, surrounded by such grandiosity—and by so many people—was an experience for which the athletes were often wholly unprepared, despite their extraordinary accomplishments. Members of the Finnish nordic combined team battled pre-Medals Plaza jitters by donning business suits to accept their medals because, as team member Jari Mantila said, "You want to look good up there." American Tirsoe Gale, bursting just wide gold for a fearless, bone-rattling skeleton ride, could barely find the courage to walk toward the podium. "Lea Ann [Parsley] had to drag me out there," she said. "This was way harder than what I did today. We practice our sport over and over. We never practice standing up to front of our home crowd and hearing our national anthem."

These were times of overwhelming emotion, when speed skater Derek Parra, the first Mexican-American to win a medal in the Olympic Winter Games and behemoth Vorster Flowers, the first African-American to win winter gold, cried silently, the tears running down their faces and dripping from their chins. These were tears of wonder, when the newly crowned Olympian champions looked down to inspect their medals, to see if they were real. Swiss ski jumper Simon Ammann laughed and laughed at this peculiar but pleasant predicament, winning not one but two gold medals. Australian Alisa Camplin simply bounced on the podium. "I was so excited, I didn't know what to do," said the gold-medaling aerialist. "I just started jumping up and down."

But above all, Olympic Medals Plaza provided times of transcendence for all who gathered there, nights of glitter and splendor, when all things seemed possible. "I feel like I sprouted wings, and I'm showered with joy," said Germany's Silke Kraushaar, after receiving the bronze medal for women's luge. "I'm in heaven right now."

"I should enjoy what I'm seeing right now, because this is just amazing. The people in America are great. They cheered for us as much as they did for their own." — Doubles luge gold medalist Alexander Resch of Germany on what ran through his mind as he stood on the Olympic Medals Plaza podium.
Creating a cathedral of champions, towering banners of athletes
surrounded Olympic Medals Plaza, reminding audiences of the power to...
Olympic Medals Plaza was the most ambitious project of its kind in Olympic history. Its centerpiece was the Hoherman Arch, a 30,000-pound structure that spirated outward and upward. Designed to open like the iris of an eye, the Hoherman Arch revealed the Olympic Medals Plaza stage and Heroes Cauldron, which was lit by the Olympic Flame.

Source: Bibliothèque du CIO / IOC Library
Dave Matthews Band performed at Olympic Medals Plaza on opening night, February 9.

In a city of less than a million, more than a million visitors, total, strolled through Salt Lake Olympic Square, the pedestrian-only festival surrounding Olympic Medals Plaza.

Source: Bibliothèque du CIO / IOC Library
"It was mind-boggling," said silver medalist Danny Kass (left) of the Medals Ceremony he, gold medalist Ross Powers (center) and J.J. Thomas (right) experienced after the American sweep of men's halfpipe. It was the first U.S. sweep of any Olympic Winter Games since 1998.
"To win as a team is different than to win as an individual. Today, it was the team that won, and not just the four racers..." - Cross-country win by a team to the delight of its leader. Peak Red, Smiley, shown here with teammates and other medalists from Italy and Germany, superstars.
OLYMPIC ARTS FESTIVAL • IN ANCIENT GREECE, THE OLYMPIC GAMES WERE FESTIVALS OF NOT ONLY SPORT, BUT ART. TOP MUSICIANS WERE PRAISED ALONGSIDE CHARIOT-RACE WINNERS FOR THEIR TALENTS. THE SALT LAKE 2002 OLYMPIC ARTS FESTIVAL CONTINUED THIS TRADITION BY SHOWCASING SOME OF AMERICA'S BEST ART AND ARTISTS, WHILE EMBRACING THE CULTURE OF THE AMERICAN MOUNTAIN WEST. FROM ICE-CARVING COMPETITIONS AND POETRY READINGS TO BUD GREENSPAN'S DOCUMENTARY FILMS AND CONCERTS BY THE MORMON
“Dancers and athletes do the same kind of things... relying on this inner faith to get to the finish.”

basic human emotions through theater, movement and athleticism. "Hustle, années acrobats who are among the finest in the world, and are burning their flame as hot as they can burn it, while you can,” said Jamison. “That’s the joy of it. That’s the passion of it.”
"He likes to get the kids involved, whether it's singing or clapping. He has fun with it."

- Children's Dance Theatre's Laura Moyer, 16, of folk singer Pete Seeger (above)

Children's Dance Theatre costume designers Cynthia Turner and Nancy Cook created more than 600 costumes by hand for the group's performance on February 11.
Linda-Denise Fisher-Harrell performs Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's "Revelations."

"We have no ice, but we are still trying to glide." - Artistic Director Judith Jamison

Renee Robinson has been dancing with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater for 20 years.
Benny Greene on piano and Bob Cranshaw on bass perform as part of the Russell Malone Quartet.

Jazz guitarist Russell Malone, center, with Bob Cranshaw on bass and E.J. Strickland on drums, performs at the Rose Wagner Performing Arts Center.

Source: Bibliothèque du CIO / IOC Library
Chihuly's "Olympic Tower" consisted of 119 pieces of red glass.

More than 1,300 pieces of blown glass meticulously arranged on Plexiglas and suspended overhead created Dale Chihuly's "Persian Pergola Ceiling."
Tony Award-winning dancer Savion Glover danced to a version of "The Star-Spangled Banner" on February 22 at Ahravanel Hall.

Along with his step-on-clay "Library jazz," foot and hip-hop rhythms to create hip hop style of dance called "hitting."

Source: Bibliothèque du CIO / IOC Library
Participants in the Olympic Command Performance Rodeo enter the ring at the Davis County Legacy Center in Farmington, Utah.

Kyle Bowers of Brooks, Alberta, practices for the bareback riding competition.

Source: Bibliothèque du CIO / IOC Library
Athletes who wish to participate in the Olympic Games devote their years to training mentally and physically. Allan, too, sought to make his art the best, to meet Olympic standards.

- Anna Marie Houser, widow of the late sculptor Allan Houser (1936-1994), whose "Meeting on the Trail," above, was displayed at Washington Square in downtown Salt Lake City.
We were bewildered by the sudden arrival of the Closing Ceremony on February 24. Had 16 days really passed since we last gathered in Rice-Eccles Olympic Stadium to light the cauldron and welcome the world? Was it really time to say goodbye? As we took our seats, we tried to make each moment last just a little longer, snapping our final photos of the Olympic Flame against the blue and burnished sky of sunset, already replaying in our minds highlights of the Games. From Jim
Shea Jr.'s skeleton run to Janica Kostelic's medal haul to Canada's hockey victory that day, more than 2500 Olympians had shown us their power to inspire and had taught us about our own potential to Light the Fire Within, with their courage and their capacity for greatness.

And tonight, these heroes would lift our heavy hearts with their abundant joy. As they entered the stadium, the athletes did not march, but spilled forth, arm in arm, no longer separated by nation but bound by friendship. Some were entertainers, others danced and skipped their way to the stands. Season’s rights up, they had walked this stadium in athletes, they now marched as Olympians.

A sense of celebration, mixed with a bit of sadness, continued throughout the evening. Two giant dinosaur puppets, voiced by legendary Utahns Donny and Marie Osmond, cracked jokes and swung an enormous tail in the northeast corner of the stadium. *NSYNC kicked off an unprecedented, nightlong concert form a variety of artists by singing the national anthem, which was followed by the sweeping American Musical set. Kurt Browning skated to Dianne Reeves' jazz, a moving platform carried K.I.S.S around the ice, with Kjisti Yamaguchi and Katarina Witt skating and pyrotechnics exploding to the sounds of "Rock and Roll All Night." Earth, Wind & Fire, Gloria Estefan, Harry Connick, Jr., and tap dancer Savion Glover with skaters Ilia Kulik and Dorothy Hamill all added to the medley. Later, in a surprise appearance, Willie Nelson sang "Bridge Over Troubled Water," adding a note of melancholy to an otherwise lighthearted lineup.

We were also sobered, momentarily, by the passing of the Olympic Flag to Torino, Italy, host of the 2006 Olympic Winter Games. Salt Lake City Mayor Rocky Anderson's hand lingered on the flagpole during the handover, but as Torino presented singers and slides of Italian culture, we understood that the Olympic Spirit would carry on. We sighed in protest when Jacques Rogge announced that the Olympic Flame would be extinguished, but were reassured by his words. "Keep this flame alight," said Rogge, who called the Salt Lake 2002 Games superb and inspiring. "Promote the Olympic dream in your countries. You are the true ambassadors of the Olympic values."

And the final chapter of the story of the Salt Lake 2002 Olympic Winter Games was concluded with the Children of Light, who had symbolically carried the fire throughout the past two and a half weeks, returning with skater Scott Hamilton to say goodbye and sing "Happy Trails to You" with the audience. The Child of Light passed his lantern to a child from Torino, representing the transfer of hope, peace and honor to the next host.

The Olympic Flame disappeared into the night sky, with Renee Roca and Gorsha Sur skating to the sounds of Charlotte Church and Josh Groban. We knew the Games were gone. The party, however, had only just begun, with Moby, Christina Aguilera and Bon Jovi rocking the stadium while skaters covered the ice in ultraviolet paint and giant white snowballs bounced through the audience. The athletes poured onto center stage, dancing long into the night, long after a fireworks extravaganza of 10,000 explosives launched throughout the city and along the Wasatch Front at a rate of 37 shells per second. They, too, weren't quite ready to say goodbye. Said Canadian lug athlete Mike Moffat, "It's for sure been the greatest two weeks of my life."
In a state known for its archaeological discoveries, Utah's First Family, 75-foot-tall dinosaurs, entertained the audience.

Source: Bibliothèque du CIO / IOC Library
The audience marveled as aerialists suddenly tumbled out of giant white balloons that floated across the stage.

JOHN HUEY

Representing figure skating, snowboarding, skeleton, freestyle skiing and ice hockey, the balloon performers reminded fans of the hundreds of incredible moments they had seen in these and other sports of the Salt Lake City Olympic Winter Games.

STEVEN CURRIE

Source: Bibliothèque du CIO / IOC Library
Eric Singer, Gene Simmons, Paul Stanley and Ace Frehley of KISS perform "Rock and Roll All Nite," as fireworks explode from their revolving platform and from the ice.

Source: Bibliothèque du CIO / IOC Library
Giant white "snow" balls bounce through the audience and onto the athletes, who spilled from the stands onto the field.

"Olympians, we cheered all of you, not just our own. We saw in you the universal greatness of the human family." — Salt Lake 2002 President and CEO Mitt Romney

Source: Bibliothèque du CIO / IOC Library
"The Stick Man Ballet" kicked off an all-star party for the athletes, which included performances by Moby, Christina Aguilera and Bon Jovi.
Nearly 2000 cast members joined together for the Closing Ceremony.

"Volunteers, you are, with the athletes, also champions of these Games. Your generosity and profound kindness have won our hearts. You are marvelous." - IOC President Jacques Rogge at the Closing Ceremony. A volunteer, above, celebrates with short track gold medalist Apolo Anton Ohno of the United States of America.

Source: Bibliothèque du CIO / IOC Library
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

These were passionate Games. These Games, these Games. Salt Lake City will never forget you. — Legendary Olympic athlete Jean-Claude Killy

Source: Bibliothèque du CIO / IOC Library
years, Nemeth opened his own studio in Boston in 1998. Nemeth's clients include The Boston Globe, Esquire, Fortune Small Business, Volkswagen, Coca-Cola and Converse. He shot events at every Salt Lake 2002 venue. "Being one foot from the athletes is an amazing rush," he says. "It was the closest thing to being starstruck." With more than 15 years experience as a successful commercial photographer, and to recognize photographers who could do the same, make this book unique in Olympic publishing. Huet also created the iconic images of athletes that were winning book Soul of the Game, which chronicles the history of street basketball. Winning such awards as the World Press Photo of the Year and the Robert Capa Award from the Overseas Press Club. Among the cameras he used at the Salt Lake Games, he shot with digital cameras and long lenses, "I wanted to challenge myself to use the same equipment photographers used 50 years ago," he says. "And I got many strange looks."
GLEN CELLA, BONNIE CELONA, W IVAN  GENOESE, RAND CENTER, CLAUDIA CENTONZE, TINA CEPELNIK, CHRISTOPHER CERVANTES, JULIE CESSNA, JAMIE CETRARO, YULIYA CHADOVICH, ALICIA CHADWICK, DAWNETTE CHADWICK, HAROLD CHADWICK, LYNN CHADWICK, NATALIE COMSTOCK, WES COMSTOCK, BRODI E CONDIE, JAMES CONDIE, JUDITH CONDIE, NANCY CONDIE, SHANNON K CONDIE, MARCI ...  CHARLES CONDRAT, BRANDON CONDREN, DIANE CONCDON, JUNE CONGDON, WILLIAM CONCDON, WENDY CONCLETON, ROBIN CONK, SHELLEY CHAMBERS, SHELLY CHAMBERS, SHERRIE CHAMBERS, STU CHAMBERS, CATHERINE CHAMBLESS, DOMINIQUE CHAMBLESS, ROSS CHAMBLESS, ENRIQUE CHAMELEON, AMANDA CHAMPERO, MARGARET CHAMPS, ROBERT CHAMPS, JOYCE CHAMPS, JAMIE CHAMPS, BRIAN CHAMPS, MARY CHAMPS, THOMAS CHAMPS, NANCY CHAMPS, RONALD CHAMPS, JAMES CHAMPS, WILLIAM CHAMPS, CHRISTINA CHAMPS, AMANDA CHAMPS, DAVID CHAMPS, MICHAEL CHAMPS, ROBERT CHAMPS, ROBERT CHAMPS.