

Cultural Daily

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

Demystification

Ann Haskins · Thursday, April 20th, 2023

Locavore dance fest week 2 in Lincoln Heights, contemporary ballet conjures high school downtown, immersive contemporary dance in Santa Monica, an Arab/Israeli confrontation in West LA, Irish dance spectacle on tour, a peek at next week, plus more SoCal dance this week (April 21 to 27).

Live This Week

SoCal onstage

The performance centerpiece of week 2 in this year's *LA Dance Festival* comes on Saturday when nine companies provide a sampler of the SoCal dance landscape. The line up includes **Benita Bike's DanceArt, Inc., Ironstone Dance, X2 DANCE COLLECTIVE, Leah Hamel, Deborah Rosen and Dancers, The Dance Narrative Project, Ken Morris Project, Tashara Gavin-Moorehead, and Volta**. For Friday, festival artistic director Deborah Brockus has lined up a night of short dance films on Friday, assembled an impressive list of LA choreographers and dancers for a series of master classes throughout the weekend, and on Sunday, the festival hosts a combined audition for multiple dance companies. More info on week 2 and next week 3 at the website. Brockus Project Studios, 618 B Moulton Ave., Lincoln Heights; Fri.-Sun., April 21-23, 8 pm, and Fri.-Sat., April 28-29, 8 pm, Sun., April 30, 6:30 pm, \$15. [LA Dance Festival](#).



Deborah Rosen & Dancers. Photo by Tim Agler

Feeling like home

Now settled into their new studio/performance space, **Jacob Jonas/The Company** resumes performances with two weekends of Jonas' choreography under the banner *Blank Canvas at the Water Garden*. Both weeks include *Mind Cry* along with the premiere of *Getting Through, Going Through*. This week also has *Early Bird*, and next week the third work is *In a Rush to Do Nothing*. The Water Garden, 1601 Cloverfield Blvd., Suite 1000 North, Santa Monica; Fri.-Sat., April 21-22, Thurs.-Sat., April 27-29, 7:30 pm, \$50, \$35 under 35 years. [Jacob Jonas/The Company](#).



Jacob Jonas The Company. Photo by Jacob Jonas

Audience choice

In another sign that this venue is back and presenting adventurous dance, choreographer Seda Aybay and her **Kybele Dance Theater** go immersive with *Simyaci/Alchemist*. On arrival, audience members can choose to be an observer from their theater seat or become a participant with their personal movements blended with the rhythm of the performers and the choreography. Highways Performance Space, 1651 18th St., Santa Monica; Fri.-Sat., April 21-22, 7:30 pm, Sun., April 23, 3 pm, \$25-\$35. [Highways Performance Space](#).



Kybele Dance Theater. Photo courtesy of the artists

Dancing o' the Green

The current generation of high-energy, high-stepping dancers stop off on the celebratory 25th anniversary tour of the award-winning Irish dance and music spectacle **Riverdance**. Dolby Theatre, Hollywood & Highland, 6801 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood. Wed.-Fri., April 19-21, 8 pm, Sat. April 22, 2 & 8pm, Sun., April 23, 1 & 6 pm, \$39-\$149. [Dolby Theatre](#).



Riverdance. Photo courtesy of the artists

Can they just get along?

Combine dance with theater and pair an Israeli choreographer with an Arab dancer. It's the formula for the provocatively titled *We Love Arabs*. The work from Israeli dancer/choreographer Hillel Kogan and Arab dancer Mourad Bouayad promises both light-hearted and serious considerations of peace and power struggles when an Israeli choreographer is required to create a duet with an Arab dancer. Théâtre Raymond Kabbaz, 10361 W. Pico Blvd., West LA; Thurs., April 20, 8 pm, \$30-\$40. [Théâtre Raymond Kabbaz](#).



Hillel Kogan and Mourad Bouayad. Photo by Gadi Dagon

Drill teams in pointe shoes

An earlier version of *Homecoming* was presented at a fundraising event for **American Contemporary Ballet**. Now the company offers an expanded homage to the high school drill team—in pointe shoes. ACB Studios, Two California Plaza, 350 S. Grand Ave., 28th Flr., downtown; Fri.-Sat., April 21-22, Thurs.-Sat., April 27-29, Sat.-Sun, May 4-5, 8 pm, \$70-\$110. [American Contemporary Ballet](#).



American Contemporary Ballet. Photo by Asilda Photography

Easy going

The Brazilian dance troupe **Viver Brasil** is one of the family-friendly performances and activities at this week's *Grand Park Easy Mornings*. The three hours of activity begin at 10 am. Info and a full line up at the website. Viver Brasil performs at Grand Park, 200 N. Grand Ave., downtown; Sat., April 22, 1 pm, free. [Grand Park](#).



Viver Brasil. Photo courtesy of the artists

From the island

The series *Masters in Dance* continues with **Emiko Saraswati Susilo** demystifying *Balinese Movement*. Santa Monica College, CPC 304/308, 1900 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica; Wed., April 26, 10:15 am, free (limited seating, first come). [SMC](#).



Emiko Saraswati Susilo. Photo courtesy of the artist

A Peek at Next Week

Primera Generación Dance Collective — *(de) Color-Es* at Navel.la, 1611 Hope St., downtown; Sat., April 29, 5 & 8:30 pm, free with timed reservation. [Eventbrite](#).

Megill & Company — *Odd Birds* at Brand Library & Art Center, 1601W. Mountain St., Glendale; Sat., April 29, 5 pm, free. [Brand Library](#).

Paul Tylor Dance Company at The Music Center, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, 135 N. Grand Ave., downtown; Fri.-Sat., April 28-29, 7:30 pm, Sun., April 30, 2 pm, \$34-\$138. [The Music Center](#).



Paul Taylor Dance Company. Photo by Whitney Browne

Kate Hutter Mason & Kevin Williamson — *No Expectations* at The Stomping Ground, 5453 Alhambra Ave., El Sereno; Fri.-Sat., April 28-29, 8 pm, \$10. [Eventbrite](#).

Benita Bike's DanceArt at La Crescenta Library, 2809 Foothill Blvd., La Crescenta; Sat., April 29, 2 pm, free. [DanceArt](#)

USC Kaufman Dance at Wallis Annenberg Theater, 9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd., Beverly Hills, Fri.-Sat., April 28-29, 7:30 pm, Sat.-Sun., April 29-30, 2 pm, \$25-\$55, the Sunday matinee is a "pay what you will starting at \$10." [The Wallis](#).

Heidi Duckler at The Ebell of LA, 743 S. Lucerne Blvd., Hancock Park; Mon., May 1, 1 pm, \$60 [The Ebell of LA](#).

State Street Ballet — *The Jungle Book* at Lobero Theatre, 33 E. Canon Perdido St., Santa Barbara; Sat., April 29, 7:30 pm, \$38-\$58. [Lobero Theatre](#).

Backhaus — *Garden Flow* at Sherman Library and Gardens, 2647 East Coast Hwy., Corona Del Mar; Sat.-Sun., April 29-30, \$60-\$1,500. [Backhaus](#).



Backhausdance. Photo by Kira Bartoli

Max 10 — Electric Lodge, Scott Kelman Theater, 1416 Electric Ave., Venice; Mon., May 1, 7:30 pm, \$10. [Electric Lodge](#).

Inland Pacific Ballet — *Little Mermaid* at Lewis Family Playhouse, 12505 Cultural Center Dr., Rancho Cucamonga; Sat.-Sun., April 29-30, 11:30 am & 4 pm, \$62-\$73, \$32 children under 12, \$59 seniors. [Inland Pacific Ballet](#).

An Evening of Dance Benefit at Judy Morr Theater, Segerstrom Center for the Arts, 600 Town Center Dr., Costa Mesa; Sat., April 29, 5:30 pm. \$150, \$125 students. [Email](#).

CalArts Dance and CalArts World Music Festival Dance Concert at Sharon Lund Disney Theater, Fri.-Sat., April 28-29, 7 pm, \$2-\$10. **World Music Festival** at Wild Beast Stage, California Institute of the Arts, 24700 McBean Pkway, Santa Clarita; Fri.-Sat., April 28-29, 7:30 pm, Sun., April 30, 5 pm, free. [CalArts](#).

Of Note

Mix it up — The deadline is April 30 for dance companies to apply to be part of this year's **MixMatch Dance Festival** scheduled for August 17 and 18 in Santa Monica. Details and application at [Hart Pulse Dance Company](#).

Swing that wheelchair — Continuing its efforts to expand opportunities for disabled dancers, Marisa Hamamoto and her **Infinite Flow Dance** offer a free wheelchair swing dance workshop on Sat., April 22 from 12:15 to 3:15 pm at Atomic Ballroom, 17961 Sky Park Circle, Irvine. Info at [Infinite Flow Dance](#).

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