

Cultural Daily

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

What Else Can a Metro Ticket Buy?

Ann Haskins · Wednesday, May 29th, 2019

A biblical flood considered in Lincoln Heights, a quartet of dance troupes take the light rail in Santa Monica, new choreography downtown, a fish dances in Chinatown, Australian cirque in Santa Ana, and more SoCal dance this week.

5. A Latinx dance fest

Evolving out of a community Brazilian dance class taught by Marina Magalhães, this venue hosts the *Dancing Diaspora Festival* with two days of Latinx dance, music, classes and more. The first night closes with a performance and on the second night a jam closes the festival. Announced participants for the Saturday show include **José Richard Aviles, Dana Fitchett, Allison Gray, Marina Magalhães, Bianca Medina, Vera Passos & Rachel Hernandez, Primera Generación Dance Collective, and Tatiana Zamir**. All events are free, but given the venue's limited space, come early. Once things fill up, folks will be turned away. A complete list of classes and other events at the website. Pieter 420 W. Avenue 33, #10, Lincoln Heights; performance: Sat., June 1, 8 p.m., jam: Sun., June 2, 5 p.m., free. <https://pieterpasd.com>.



Marina Magalhães. Photo courtesy of the artist.

4. Believing a myth

The relatively young company **Psychopomp** brings a quintet of dancers in *Relics: Return To Clay* inspired by cultural and religious aspects of the myth of the Great Flood. The dancers are Maijalisa Miltz, Kaycee Jannino, Andrew Corpuz, Abraham Meisel and Annelise Bucher. Artistic director Shenandoah Harris choreographed. Diavolo Dance Theater Studios, 616 Moulton Ave., Lincoln Heights; Fri., May 31, 8 p.m., \$10-\$13 in advance, \$15 at door. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/relics-return-to-clay-tickets-61590268150>.



Psychopomp. Photo by George Simian.

3. Progressively new dance

Considerable dance is featured in the latest edition of this quarterly series showcasing new work and works in progress. *Studio: Spring 2019* includes **Lindsey Lollie** with *Wind Down* danced in front of giant electric fans while in *Muscle Memory*, choreographer **Sadie Yarrington** promises to

employ the audience as a chorus. **Marina Magalhães** draws on her Brazilian heritage in her new duet *Apoio/Support*, in *Manecdotes*, **Rian James Alcid** considers how male stereotypes affect boys in dance, and **Jasmine Lin** looks to her Taiwanese heritage in *Morning Exercise*. REDCAT, Disney Hall, 631 W. 2nd St., downtown; Sun.-Mon., June 2-3, 8:30 p.m., \$15, \$12 students. <https://www.redcat.org/event/studio-spring-2019>.



Lindsey Lollie. Photo courtesy of REDCAT.

2. Tidal climate considerations

The reality of climate change as well as impacts on the environment and health are explored in *Ebb & Flow: Chinatown 2019*. Anchored by host **Heidi Duckler Dance** and its impressive architectural fish sculpture, this free, site specific event includes a day of dance workshops and community performances throughout the afternoon and concludes with a professional performance at 7:30 p.m. The evening's choreographers include **Moises Josue Michel**, **Candy Yi** in collaboration with **Chantal Cherry**, **Carissa Songhorian**, **JA Collective** and the host company with Duckler's new work titled *Further*. A complete schedule is at the website. Los Angeles State Historic Park, 1245 N. Spring St., downtown; performance: Sat., June 1, 7:30 p.m., free with reservations (strongly suggested) at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ebb-flow-chinatown-tickets-59920897016>.



Heidi Duckler Dance. Photo courtesy of the artists.

1. A third instigation

In *Transit Dances III*, instigator Donna Sternberg returns with four dance troupes to surprise and delight riders along a Santa Monica stretch of the Expo light rail line. The event is free with a Metro ticket. The fun begins at the 26th Street/Bergamot station and moves west to the 17th and the 4th Street stations. At each stop tour guides lead audience members to a performance site and after the performance the audience reboards and travels on to the next stop. Though focused in Santa Monica, the participating performers reflect SoCal's extraordinary diversity including New Zealand dance from **Nga Anahera Maori**, Bollywood from **Blue 13**, and contemporary dance from both **B. Dunn Movement** and host company **Donna Sternberg & Dancers**. Route begins at 26th St./Bergamot Metro Stop (details and map at Santa Monica Expo Line), Santa Monica; Sat., June 1, noon & 1 p.m., free with metro ticket. www.dsdancers.com.



Donna Sternberg & Dancers. Photo by Donna Sternberg.

Other dance of note:

Danielle Agami and the dancers of her troupe **Ate 9** conclude their season with a performance in an intimate setting, the living room at The Ruby Street, 6408 Ruby St., Highland Park; Thurs., 30, 8 p.m., \$40 (includes a party). <https://www.ate9dancecompany.com/>.



Ate 9. Photo by Cheryl Mann Productions.

Classical (ballet) and non-classical (everything else) dance are among the seven performance

categories in this year's **Music Center Spotlight** program. Drawn from all over SoCal, two high schoolers selected as finalists in each category perform. The ballet finalists in this 31st edition are **Petra Johnson** from Duarte and **Darrion Sellman** from Reseda. The non-classical dance finalists are **Lilah Horton** from Santa Ana and **Zack Sommer** from San Diego. Well known prior Spotlight participants include Misty Copeland now dancing with American Ballet Theater as well as singers Adam Lambert and Josh Groban. Music Center Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, 135 N. Grand Ave., downtown; Tues., June 4, 7 p.m., \$20. <https://www.musiccenter.org/spotlightfinale>.

The Wooden Floor has built a reputation for the high quality of its dance performances and the organization's positive off-stage impact in the lives of its young dancers. Founded to provide a safe haven and after school activities, dance became an important focus and 36 years later remains so. Irvine Barclay Theatre, 4242 Campus Dr., Irvine; Thurs.-Fri., May 30-31, 8 p.m., Sat., June 1, 2:30 & 8 p.m., \$15-\$30, \$7.50-\$15 students & children under 13 years. <http://thebarclay.org/>.



Milka Djordjevich. Photo courtesy of France Los Angeles Exchange (FLAX).

The interplay of the architecture contained in R.M. Schindler's famous concrete "Slab-Tilt" Schindler House in West Hollywood and artist Alison Knowles' 1960's intermedia piece *The Play House* is grist for *Shelter or Playground-The House of Dust at the Schindler House*, a series of performative investigations. The four month exhibit launched with a day of performances from an international roster of choreographers including locally-based **Milka Djordjevich**. Djordjevich's work is the only dancemaker who received a repeat showing, twice a month but performances end this weekend. Details on the architecture and avant garde movement that inspired this event and the extended endeavor that incorporates Djordjevich's performances at <https://makcenter.org>. Schindler House, 835 N. Kings Rd., West Hollywood; Sat., June 1, 3 p.m., free. <https://makcenter.org>.

For its spring show **LA Unbound** brings a mix of hip hop, tap, jazz, contemporary dance and more to the stage. El Portal Theatre, 5269 Lankershim Blvd., North Hollywood; Sat., June 1, 4 & 8 p.m., \$16-\$29. <https://ci.ovationtix.com/371/production/1010235>.



LA Unbound. Photo courtesy of the artists.

Under the banner *Pinnacle*, students from the **Trudi Zipper Dance Institute** perform works by George Balanchine, Jerome Robbins, and Benjamin Millepied. Ramón C. Cortines School of Visual and Performing Arts, Grand Arts High School Concert Hall, 450 N. Grand Ave., downtown; Sun., June 2, 6 p.m., \$10. <https://www.colburnschool.edu/calendar/>.

The latest edition of Santa Ana Sites, the city-sponsored arts performance series brings the Australian contemporary circus company **Circa** to town with *Circa: What Will Have Been*. No wild animals, just talented performers doing wild things to entertain. The Yost Theater, 307 N. Spurgeon St., Santa Ana; Thurs.-Fri., May 30-31, 8 p.m., \$20 general, \$15 Santa Ana residents, \$25 at door, \$12 students. <https://www.santaanasites.com/>.



Circa. Photo by Sarah Walker.

Dancer **Bertha Suarez** provides the dance component of Numi Opera's inaugural production *Der*

Zwerg (The Dwarf). Based on Oscar Wilde's story *The Birthday of the Infanta*, the choice of this rarely performed opera reflects what the opera company's founder/artistic director Gail R. Gordon describes as "bringing modern relevance to lesser-known operas of all eras." Theater at the Ace Hotel, 929 S. Broadway, downtown; Thurs., May 30, 7:30 p.m., Sun., June 2, 2 p.m., \$35-\$75. 888-929-7849, <https://www.numiopera.org/purchase-tickets>.



Bertha Suarez. Photo by Dave Corwin.

In advance of the June 15 opening of tap-filled musical *Dames at Sea*, this venue is sponsoring a 4-1/2 hour **Time-Step Marathon**. Tappers will be welcomed to a portable tap surface on the sidewalk outside the theater and given a 15-minute time slot to demonstrate their time step or talk about their favorite dance step. Sign ups are required and slots will be filled on a first come first serve basis. Video of famous tap dancers will fill any gaps to ensure ongoing entertainment. Register with Diane Siegel at diane.siegel@sierramadreplyhouse.org. A live feed over Facebook will carry the performances. Sierra Madre Playhouse (under the marquee), 87 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre; Sat., June 1, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m., free. <http://www.sierramadreplyhouse.org/>.

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