

Cultural Daily

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

If Evel Knievel Could Dance

Ann Haskins · Thursday, July 9th, 2026

Experimental dance in Venice Beach risk-taking arts festival; tap masters in Huntington Beach; impromptu contemporary dance in El Sereno; hip-hop Underground Railroad musical in Pasadena; clown pas de deux in Atwater Village; more SoCal dance this week, plus a peek at next week.

Live Dance This Week (thru July 16)

Time stepping

In *A Night in Time*, tap masters shift from faculty to performers, taking their tap shoes to the stage to conclude the **OC Tap Festival**. After leading five days of classes, workshops, and dance making, this performance culminates this summer's fest. Announced performers include Anthony Morigerato, Bella Silva, Cartier Williams, Leah Silva, Leo Manzari, Linda Sohl-Ellison, Mary Thomas, Max Pollak, Melissa Tannús, Sam Weber, Sarah Reich, and Steve Zee. The evening Includes a number choreographed by Morigerato and Williams danced by festival participants. At the Shorebreak Resort, 500 E. Pacific Coast Hwy., Huntington Beach; Sun., July 12, 8 pm, \$25-\$45. [OC Tap Festival Concert](#).



Cartier Williams. Photo courtesy of the artist

Round two mystery

Continuing with their second intimate, in-progress performance, aptly named *Vol. II, G?R Project* (Scout Nankin and Eliza Loran) returns. The performers are McCall Olsen and Baylie Olsen. At location in NorthEast LA, address provided with ticket reservation; Sun., July 12, 8 pm, \$15. [GER Collective](#).



GE?R Project. Photo courtesy of the artist

Daredevil Festival

Co-produced by the adventurous Venice arts institutions Electric Lodge and Pacific Resident Theater, the second **Daredevil Arts Festival** has over 50 dance, theater, music, and experimental performances jam-packed into two weeks from July 10 to 19. Here are some of this week's dance and movement events. The website [Daredevil Arts Festival](#) has full listings of all the events.

In *Sqrm*, **Carole Kim** and dancers Michelle Shiu-lin Lai, Kate Morales, Carmela Hermann Dietrich, and Joyce Lu/Chenhui Mao translate Alice Notley's epic poem *The descent of ALETTE* into movement, live installation and sound. At the Electric Lodge, 1416 Electric Ave., Venice; Sat., July 11, 3 pm, Sat., July 18, 3:30 pm, \$16.74. [Carole Kim](#).

In *Routing*, **Sanchita Sharma** focuses on the experience of migration, borders and building bridges toward belonging. At the Daredevil Arts Festival, Electric Lodge, 1416 Electric Ave., Venice; Sat., July 11, 4:30 pm, Sun., July 12, 2 pm, \$16.74. [Sanchita Sharma](#).



Sanchita Sharma. Photo by Corey Haynes

In *1518: The Dancing Plague*, **Hannah Ponturo** satirizes a documented outbreak of mass hysteria that led to uncontrollable dancing. Cast includes Britney Shields, Nicole Souza, Ryabrae 'Ngaide, Tallulah Jones, Gilberto Ortiz, Ann Marie Howard, and Don Berman. At the Electric Lodge, 1416 Electric Ave., Venice; Sat., July 11, 6:30 pm, Sun., July 19, 2 pm, \$16.74. [Hannah Ponturo](#).

With the subtitle *A Hollywood Tale*, **Kick Boom Theater** offers *Anatomy of a Back* with movement and song set to live percussion. Performers include Kate Faye, Jennie Griffin, Michael Heger, Tyler Marquis, and Logan Spahitz. At the Daredevil Arts Festival, Electric Lodge, 1416 Electric Ave., Venice; Sun., July 12, 3:30 pm, Fri., July 17, 9 pm, \$16.74. [Kick Boom Theater](#).

Via Cahuenga

The family-friendly *Journey Through Cahuenga* brings **Indigenous Dance** to this outdoor venue. Performers include Dennis Garcia, Chad Hamill/naq'ymi, Eric Hernandez, and Carolyn M. Dunn, with host DeLanna Studi. At the Ford Theatre, 2850 Cahuenga Blvd. East, Hollywood; Sun., July 12, 11:30 pm, \$13 (+\$2 fee). [Journey Through Cahuenga](#).



Eric Hernandez. Photo by Eric Emmo

Send in the clowns

Created and directed by Hank Jacobs, who also acts as the "ringmaster," **The Great Clown Bank Show** is described as a "burlesque on income inequality in 15 circus acts." Promising a blend of dance and circus, including a clown pas de deux, the show will include a weekly guest circus act. At the Open Fist Theater Company @ the Atwater Village Theater, 3269 Casitas Ave., Atwater Village; Fri., 9 pm, Sat., 8 pm, Sun., 7 pm, thru Sat., Aug. 1, \$35.25, \$31.25 seniors, \$22.25 students. [The Great Clown Bank Show](#).



Mexodus. Photo by Thomas Mundell

Southbound escaping

Choreographer **Tony Thomas** provides the moves as the award-winning hip-hop musical *Mexodus* unearths the story of a southbound Underground Railroad that led 4,000 to 10,000 enslaved people to seek freedom in Mexico. The two-person show began at Berkeley Repertory Theater which also nurtured *Ain't Too Proud*, the hit Motown musical about The Temptations. *Mexodus* moved east after highly successful runs, including off-Broadway where it picked up impressive attention. Thomas is the choreography part of the artistic team led by creators/performers Brian Quijada and Nygel D. Robinson and director David Mendizábal. At the Pasadena Playhouse, 39 S. El Molino Ave., Pasadena; Thurs.-Fri., 8 pm, Sat., 2 & 8 pm, Sun. 2 pm (beginning July 19, thru Sun., Aug. 2, \$40-\$127. [Mexodus](#).

Sign of summer

Watch or join in as the Friday night summer series **Dance DTLA** celebrates *salsa* this week. Instruction precedes the free dance. All free. A complete list of upcoming dance genres at the website. At the Music Center, Jerry Moss Plaza, 135 N. Grand Ave., Downtown LA; Fri., July 10, 17, 24 & 31, Aug. 7 & 14, 7-11pm, free. [Dance DTLA](#).



Dance DTLA. Photo courtesy of the Music Center

Another sign of summer

Part public performance, part participatory dance party, and free! The outdoor **Tuesday Night Dance** series hosts the second of two Tuesdays devoted to Bollywood dance. See the website for dance styles coming up on Tuesdays thru Aug. 25. Line Dance Segerstrom Center for the Arts, Argyros Plaza, 600 Town Center Dr., Costa Mesa; Tues., July 14, 6:30 pm. free. [Tuesday Night Dance](#).

A Peek at Next Week (July 17-23)

Nannette Brodie Dance Theatre & South Coast Dance Arts Alliance — *The Blessing of the Pacific* at Belmont Beach across from Alamitos Bay (cross streets Ocean Blvd. and Bayshore Dr., Long Beach; Sat., July 18, 6 pm, free. [Blessing of the Pacific](#).



Nannette Brodie Dance Theatre. Photo courtesy of NBBDT.

Ariana Chavez / Leanna Fodor — *A Dance for Dionicia / Water and Rock: A Study on Fluidity and Rigidity* at Daredevil Dance Festival, the Electric Lodge, 1416 Electric Ave., Venice; Sat., July 18, 8:30 pm, Sun., July 19, 3:30 pm, \$16.25. [Ariana Chavez & Leanna Fodor](#).

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