
Cultural Daily

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

Is a Solvent a Solution?

Ann Haskins · Wednesday, September 8th, 2021

Contemporary ballet in Costa Mesa, a dance fest part two in San Pedro, a Bollywood finale downtown, Shakespearean dancers in La Cañada Flintridge, all live! A dance film fest wraps in Hollywood, another film fest returns, SoCal dance online at the Music Center, online classes, more SoCal dance this week, and a peek at next week.

Live This Week

Towing the “LINES”

Anyone who missed the dynamic, *al fresco* performance by **Alonzo King LINES Ballet** at the Music Center in July gets a second chance to savor this San Francisco-based company's brand of contemporary ballet. King and his dancers perform in Orange County for one night only. The troupe returns with a different program centered on *Azoth*, drawing on a universal solvent as a metaphor for transforming the human mind and heart in the choreographer's words “into spritual gold.” Kingalways finds an extraordinary group of dancers who understand his distinctive approach that moves through movement, not just striking a pose. Segerstrom Center for the Arts, 600 Town Center Dr., Costa Mesa; Sat, Sept. 11, 7:30 pm, \$39-\$119. Info, tickets, and Covid protocols at [SCFTA](#).



Alonzo King LINES Ballet. Photo by R.J. Muna

The Bard under the oaks

Brian Elerding and Debbie Ortiz from **Lineage Dance** join with the professional actors, writers,

and improvisors of **Ensemble Shakespeare Theater** for *What You Will*. Performed outdoors under the trees, the performances are described as a Shakespearean “un-play,” actually a series of mini-plays bringing the performers’ individual and diverse backgrounds to reconsider and recontextualize the Bard of Avon’s stories and words. Descanso Gardens, 1418 Descanso Drive, La Cañada Flintridge; Thurs.-Sat., Sept. 16-18, 5:30 pm, \$20-25. More info and Covid protocols at [Ensemble Shakespeare Theater](#). Tickets at [Descanso Gardens](#)



Lineage Dance. Photo by Michelle Kolb

Two more to go

Keeping the hybrid format that remains prudent in the age of unpredictable Covid surges, the intrepid **San Pedro Festival of the Arts** (formerly the Tri-Arts Festival) combine live and online options for three different programs dealt out over three weekends this month. All shows are free. The festival opened last week with a half dozen films spotlighting mostly SoCal dance companies. Starting this week, live performance takes the stage with more than two dozen troupes in two different live performances at two different venues. Both shows have an online option. *This week* at Alvas Showroom, 1413 W. 8th St., San Pedro; Sun., Sept. 12, 4 p.m., free. *Next week* at Anderson Memorial Senior Center (on the lawn), 828 S. Mesa St., San Pedro, Sun., Sept. 19, 1 p.m., free. [San Pedro Festival of the Arts channel](#). Previews, a complete line up of performers, Covid protocols, live performance registration, and more at [Tri-Arts Festival](#).



Louise Reichline & Dancers at San Pedro Festival of the Arts

A goodbye summer dance

Bollywood is the dance genre closing out this summer's **Music Center Dance DTLA**. The free dance lesson at 7 p.m. is followed by a chance to dance under summer stars. Join in or sit back and enjoy the free dance show. It's come now or wait until next summer. Details at the website. Music Center, Jerry Moss Plaza, 135 N. Grand Ave., downtown; Fri., Sept. 10, 7 pm to 11 pm, free. Covid protocols and other info at [Music Center LA](#)



Dance DTLA. Photo courtesy of the artists.

They're going Hollywood!

An east coast dance film festival winds up its local debut as **Dances With Films (DWF/LA)** after a two-week run at Hollywood's legendary Chinese Theater. Before it ends, the festival offers still more features, short films, and even shorter films. TCL Chinese Theater, Hollywood & Highland, 6925 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood; thru Sun., Sept. 12, Details on the extensive line up of films, previews, ticket prices, Covid protocols, and more at [Dances With Films](#).



Forgotten Song, a film in Dances With Films (DWF/LA). Photo courtesy of the artists.

A Peek at Next Week

- **Blue 13** at Heritage Square, Lincoln Heights; Fri.-Sat., Sept. 17-19, 7:30 pm, \$30-\$75, \$10 students. [Blue 13](#).
- **Leela Dance Collective** at multiple LA locations and times; Wed.-Sun., Sept. 22-26, free to \$10. [Leela Dance](#)
- **Danza Floricanto/USA** open a new studio at Floricanto Center for the Performing Arts, Casa Mexicano, 2900 Calle Pedro Infante, Boyle Heights; Sat., Sept. 18, 1-5 pm, free. [Floricanto Center for the Performing Arts](#)
- **National Dance Day** at Argyros Plaza, Segerstrom Center for the Arts, 600 Town Center Dr., Costa Mesa; Sat., Sept. 18, 4-8 pm, \$10. [SCFTA](#).

New Online This Week

They're back with more

When theaters shuttered with the pandemic, dance and its audiences went online and began expanding the possibilities of dance on film. LA choreographer **Jacob Jonas and his Jacob Jonas/The Company** gathered artists from around the world to produce 15 original short dance films under the banner *Films.Dance*. In January 2021 the films started rolling out over four months, one each Monday, all free. The project earned boasting rights as many of those films went on to win awards at other film festivals. This week begins *Films.Dance Round Two*, again with dance, dancers, and filmmakers from around the world. The original films, a preview, and e-mail sign up for free weekly film delivery at [Films.Dance](#)



“Films.Dance Round 2.” Photo courtesy of the artists.

Online Encores

L.A. dance gets a little love

The third season of the Music Center’s digital series *For the Love of L.A.* keeps adding new videos filled with curated dance, music, and visual arts. The season includes South Asian-American dance with **Shalini Bathina** and 17-year old **Shreya Patel**, Japanese influenced dance in a film directed and performed by **Kyoko Takenaka**, contemporary dance set in Leimert Park from **Brianna Mims**, an excursion between beach and backyard from **Maya Alvarez-Coyne**, Albertosy Espinoza’s **LA Fusion Dance Theater**, and more. Online free, at [Music Center](#).



Brianna Mims. Photo courtesy of the artist.

Online Dance Classes

Get thee to a dance class!

On-line dance classes continue on zoom, instagram, other on-line platforms, and increasingly in person. Many classes free, low cost or suggesting a donation. One central, constantly updated source on dance classes and in-depth reporting on SoCal dance, [LA Dance Chronicle](#) lists on-line

dance classes including any cost and contact info. Grab a chair or clear off a corner of the room and use this time to dance. [LA Dance Chronicle](#).



Dance classes.

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