

Cultural Daily

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

Nurturing the New

Ann Haskins · Thursday, July 27th, 2023

Everything is tip tap in Mid-City, incubated ballet in Irvine, a folkloric anniversary in Orange, samba at sunset downtown. more SoCal dance this week (July 28 to August 3) and a peek at next week.

Live This Week

Got the knack

Over the decades, *National Choreographers Initiative (NCI)* artistic director Molly Lynch has consistently shown her knack for incubating new choreography. Each summer, Lynch deftly assembles four choreographers with 16 dancers to produce new danceworks over an intense three weeks. The choreographers this year are **Kristopher Estes-Brown, Ye Li, Ian Schwarner, and Carrie Ruth Trumbo**. The dancers on summer hiatus from professional ballet companies include Anwen Brown, Katie Deutch, Lester Gonzalez, Joseph Hetzer, Elizabeth Kanning, Michelle Katcher, Daniel Kubr, Saho Kamagai, Clay Murray, Cameron Pelton, Andrew Rossi, Sophie Savas-Carstens, Sean Sessions, Hunter Solomon, Sophie Williams, and Lily Wills. The finale, a one night performance, always comes with the caveat that NCI's goal is not to produce finished works but to give the choreographers the time and the dancers to bring new ideas to life. Despite that disclaimer, this is often a first look at works that later become part of the repertoire of professional companies. The evening invariably sells out, but there is also a livestream option. Irvine Barclay Theatre, University of California Irvine, 4242 Campus Dr., Irvine; Sat., July 29, 8 pm, \$20-\$60. Livestream-\$20. [The Barclay](#).



National Choreographers Initiative (NCI) Photo by Dave Friedman

Tapping into Hollywood

A week of workshops and coaching from a stellar line up of tap masters concludes with three shows open to the public. Hosted and produced by Debbie Allen, the All-Star Concert on Saturday also is an homage to her mother and avid tap fan, Vivian Ayers Allen. Saturday's *All-Star Concert* is the marquee event with more than a dozen tap stars that include LA-based tappers like Melinda Sullivan, Joseph Wiggan, Maud and Chloe Arnold of *Sophisticated Ladies* (the Arnolds also are co-producers with Allen). Still, Friday's *Tap Jam and Party* is likely the most fun, and Sunday's student showcase offers a chance to spot the promise in the upcoming generation of tappers. Festival and shows at Shonda Rhimes Performing Arts Center, Debbie Allen Dance Academy, 1850 S Manhattan Place, Mid-City; Tap Jam-Fri., July 28, 8 pm, All-Star Concert-Sat., July 29, 6:30 pm, Student Showcase-Sun., July 30, 6:30 pm, \$30-\$50. Complete festival info at tickets at [Hollywood Tap Fest](#).



Melinda Sullivan. Photo by Lee Gumbs

Nearing gold

Marking the approach of 50 years celebrating Mexican folkloric dance, **Relámpago del Cielo Grupo Folklórico (RDC)** offers *Querido Mexico (Dear Mexico)*. Mariachi Santa Monica provides the live music. Musco Center for the Arts, Chapman University, 415 N. Glassell, Orange; Sat., July 29, 7:30 pm, \$38-\$48. [Musco Center for the Arts](#).



Relámpago Del Cielo. Photo courtesy of the artists

Next dance, next chance

Part participatory, part performance, the free, al fresco summer series **Dance DTLA** continues, this week showcasing Samba. A (beginner or refresher) lesson at 7 pm is followed by a chance to dance or just watch and enjoy until 11 pm. If this week is not your style, the full line up of upcoming dance options is at the website. Music Center, Jerry Moss Plaza, 135 N. Grand Ave., downtown; Fri., July 28, 7 pm, free. [Music Center](#).



Dance DTLA. Photo courtesy of the Music Center

A Peek at Next Week (Aug. 4 to 10)

Flamenco Arts Festival — *Alfonso Losa Flamenco: Espacio Creativo* Lobero Theatre 33 E. Canon Perdido St., Santa Barbara; Fri., Aug 4, 7:30 pm, \$51-\$106; *Sol y Lunares* — pre-concert fest 6 pm, free to ticket holders, Gala Afterparty \$36. Info and tickets at [Lobero Theatre](#)

Peace on Your Wings — JACCC's Aratani Theatre, 244 San Pedro St., Little Tokyo; Sat., Aug. 5, 2 & 7:30 pm, Sun., Aug. 6, 2 pm, \$20-\$75. [JACCC](#).

DanceDTLA — *Afro-Cuban Rumba and other Cuban Rhythms* at the Music Center, Jerry Moss Plaza, 135 N. Grand Ave., downtown; Fri., Aug. 4, 7 pm, free. [Music Center](#).



Leela Dance Collective. Photo courtesy of the artists

Leela Dance Collective — Electric Lodge, 1416 Electric Ave., Venice; Sun., Aug. 6, 3 pm, free

w/reservation.

2023 Flamenco Benefit for Flying Doctors (LIGA) — Warner Brothers Performing Arts Center, Burbank; Sat.-Sun., Aug. 5-6, time, ticket price and link to come.

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

This entry was posted on Thursday, July 27th, 2023 at 6:51 am and is filed under [Music](#), [Dance](#), [Performing](#)

You can follow any responses to this entry through the [Comments \(RSS\)](#) feed. You can leave a response, or [trackback](#) from your own site.