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# Cultural Daily

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

## Pastorality

Ann Haskins · Wednesday, April 1st, 2026

Garden dancing in Santa Monica; “escape” artists persist in Lincoln Heights; South Asian dance in Santa Monica; contemporary dance in West LA and Van Nuys; dance films in Downtown LA; more SoCal dance this week, plus a peek at next week.

***Live This Week (thru April 9)***

## Mesmerizing

From flashy appearances in the Emmy and the Grammy awards, and *America’s Got Talent*, to years of world wide tours, the jaw-dropping, split second choreography of artistic director Jacques Heim and his LA-based **Diavolo/Architecture in Motion** has earned popular and informed acclimation. The company is home, reprising *Escape* that finds the dancers and gymnasts in a visceral exploration of individuals trying to break free. The tv appearances may have spread the word, but can’t begin to capture the interplay of the movers and crescendo of powerful movement in a live Diavolo performance. This chance for the live experience of **Diavolo** should not be missed. At L’Espace Diavolo, 616 Moulton Ave., Lincoln Heights; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm, Sun., 6 pm, thru Sun., June 14, \$39. [Diavolo-Veterans Project](#).



Diavolo/Architecture in Motion. Photo by George Simian

### Catching up with the Brits

The daughter of much admired Bharatanatyam teacher/choreographer Viji Prakash and a long-time LA presence in her own right, **Mythili Prakash** leads an all-female ensemble in *She's Auspicious*. The full-length dance and live music performance explores the lines between goddess and woman, along with the often starkly contrasting treatment afforded to each. Among the most respected contemporary Bharatanatyam artists, Prakash knows how to tell a story with detail, perception, and wit, plus that live music. Prior London performances of *She's Auspicious* garnered one of the four nominations for best new dance performance from Britain's Olivier Awards. The awards are set for April 12, this performance is at the Broad Stage, 1310 11th St., Santa Monica: Sat., April 4, 7 pm, \$40-\$75. [She's Auspicious](#)



Mythili Prakash. Photo courtesy of the artist

### All in a golden afternoon

Enjoy a walk through this new garden designed by Jill Jacobson-Bennett as **Donna Sternberg & Dancers** dance *In the Garden*. After moving among the pathways and foliage of this recently unveiled space, the dancers and audience can chat with the landscape designer. At Miles Memorial Playhouse exterior, 1130 Lincoln Blvd., Santa Monica; Sat., April 4, 3 pm, \$17.85. [Donna Sternberg & Dancers](#).



Donna Sternberg & Dancers. Photo courtesy of the artists

## When a body meets a body...

As part of its international cultural exchange with the Italian Cultural Institute of Los Angeles, this venue hosts contemporary artist **Silvia Gribaudo**'s *R.OSA – 10 Exercises for New Virtuositities* performed by **Claudia A. Marsicano**. Already presented internationally, the solo work strikingly challenges perceptions of beauty, performance, and the female body. At Théâtre Raymond Kabbaz, 10361 W. Pico Blvd., West LA; Thurs., April 9, 8 pm, free with RSVP at [Théâtre Raymond Kabbaz](#).



Claudia Marsicano in “R.OSA – 10 Exercises for New Virtuositities.” Photo courtesy of the artist

## Something old, something new

For the finale of its residency with students of CHAMPS (Charter High School of the Arts), **Los Angeles Choreographers & Dancers** joins CHAMPS student dancers for an afternoon of contemporary dance. The program includes *Heart*, the newest work from artistic director/choreographer Louise Reichlin, and selections from *Tennis Dances*, Reichlin's first work for her company in 1979. At CHAMPS Blackbox Theater, 6842 Van Nuys Blvd., Van Nuys; Thurs., April 9, 3:30 pm, free, reservation optional at [CHAMPS Charter High School](#).



LA Choreographers & Dancers. Photo courtesy of the artists

### Dance on film

Following up the recent showing of student works, **Heidi Duckler Dance**'s rooftop dance cinema series, *4D Dance Films*, showcases independent dance film makers. At the Bendix Building Rooftop, 12065 Maple Ave., Suite 1101B, Downtown LA Arts District; Fri., April 3, 7 pm, \$10. [4D Dance Films](#).

### *A Peek at Next Week (April 10-16)*

**Adie San Diego** — *Terms of Agreement* at Highways Performance Space, 1651 18th St., Santa Monica; Fri.-Sat., April 10-11, 8 pm, \$28, \$20 students/seniors. [Adie San Diego](#).

**Versa Style Street Dance Company** — *Origins of Street Dance* at the Ebell Theater, 4401 8th Street, Hancock Park; Sun. April 12, 4:30 pm, free with reservation at [Versa Style Street Dance Company](#)

**American Ballet Theatre** — *Sylvia* at Segerstrom Center for the Arts, 600 Town Center Dr., Costa Mesa; Thurs.-Fri., April 9-10, 7:30 pm, Sat., April 11, 2 & 7:30 pm., Sun., April 12, 1 pm, \$59-\$169. [American Ballet Theatre – Sylvia](#)



American Ballet Theatre's "Sylvia." Photo courtesy of the artists

**Masha Cherezova** — *Mutate* at LA Dance Project, 2245 E. Washington Blvd., LA Downtown Arts District; Sat., April 11, 8 pm, \$30-\$500. [Masha Cherezova](#).

**Los Angeles Ballet** — *20th Anniversary Gala* at Beverly Wilshire Hotel, 9500 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills; Sat., April 11, 5:30 pm cocktails, 6:30 dinner & performance, \$1,000-\$2,500. [Los Angeles Ballet gala](#)

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