

# Cultural Daily

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

## Russian About a Telenovela

Ann Haskins · Wednesday, April 27th, 2022

It's down that wonderland rabbit hole in Long Beach, a telenovela streams from West Hollywood, a mansion gets literary in Beverly Hills, a stardusted farewell in Irvine, contemporary choreography in Frogtown, family-friendly dance downtown, plus more SoCal dance this week and a peek at next week.

### *Live This Week*

#### A folktale goes telenovela

Filmed in West Hollywood neighborhoods known for their large Russian-Jewish population, **Heidi Duckler Dance's** latest project *Counter Intelligence: The Story of Sister Alyonushka and Brother Ivanushka*. is an episodic, danced, retelling of a Russian folktale. A few years back, Duckler and her troupe presented its first telenovela project that traveled throughout metro L.A. , each installment unfolding live at a different venue. This time, Duckler and her assembled dancers, actors, musicians and writers take the danced story viral, screening each part on Youtube, Facebook, and Twitch. After the adventure begins this week, new episodes stream on subsequent Sundays beginning July 10. The finale on August 7 will be online and also screened live at the company's Bendix Building home downtown. Dancers include Andrea Burr, Rebekah Denegal, Darrel "Friidom" Dunn, Raymond Ejiofor, William Jay Ylvisaker, and Ching Ching Wong. Online, May 1, 6pm, then Sundays., July 10 thru Aug. 7, 6pm, free (donations encouraged) with registration at [Eventbrite](#).



Heidi Duckler Dance. Photo courtesy of the artists

## All in a golden afternoon

Join spunky *Alice* and head down a rabbit hole into choreographer Moses Pendleton's reimagined



wonderland with the dancers and conjurers of **MOMIX**. At Carpenter Center for the Performing Arts, Cal State University Long Beach, 6200 Atherton St., Long Beach, Sat., April 30, 8pm, \$45. [Carpenter Center for the Performing Arts](#).



Momix' "Alice." Photo courtesy of the artists

### Who says he's so great?

F. Scott Fitzgerald's celebrated jazz age novel inspired choreographer Janet Roston to create *The Great Gatsby* as a dance theater work for her **Mixed eMotion Theatricals**. This outdoor performance involves walking. The audience is encouraged to wear walking shoes and also invited to don 1920's attire. At Greystone Mansion, 455 N. Rexford Dr., Beverly Hills; Wed.-Fri., April 27-29, 7pm, \$15. [Greystone Mansion](#).



Mixed eMotion Theatrx in “The Great Gatsby.”. Photo by Erin Herzog.

## Tour break

In March director Tina Berkett led **BODYTRAFFIC** to New York’s Joyce Theater and soon they’ll will be leaving again for performances in Vancouver Canada and at the prestigious Jacob’s Pillow Festival in Massachusetts. This event offers a chance to enjoy these compelling dancers in an informal setting. At Mimoda Studio (at Paper or Plastik), 5772 W. Pico Blvd., West Adams; Sun., May 1, 3pm, free with reservation at [BODYTRAFFIC](#).



BODYTRAFFIC. Photo courtesy of the artists

## Almost farewell

Choreographer Dwight Rhoden and his **Complexions Contemporary Ballet** wind up their SoCal



tour with *Stardust*, the choreographer's tribute to pop star David Bowie and a work set to Bach's music. At Irvine Barclay Theatre, 4242 Campus Dr., Irvine; Fri., April 29, 8 pm, \$30-\$130. [The Barclay](#).



Complexions Contemporary Ballet's "Stardust". Photo by Hagos Rush.

### Something in the way they move

LA-based choreographer **Kensaku Shinohara** worked with a mix of diverse artists for *joe: An Interdisciplinary Dance Performance*, considering the productive confusion, playfulness and onstage danger when human beings move. At Japan American Cultural & Community Center, George J Doizaki Gallery, 244 S. San Pedro St., Little Tokyo; Sat., April 30, 1 & 7pm, [JACCC](#)



Kensaku Shinohara. Photo courtesy of the artist.

## Dancin' in the library

Working with music from John Coltrane to JS Bach, a family-friendly workshop that draws on performance by **City Ballet of Los Angeles** opens the annual *Dance Series* at the Brand Library & Art Gallery, 1601 W. Mountain St., Glendale; Sun., May 1, 4pm, free. [Brand Library/a>](#).

## What she's been working on

Work from current choreography resident **Waeli Wang** is showcased in this performance presented by **MashUp Contemporary Dance Company**. At Frogtown Creative Studios, 2926 Gilroy Street, Atwater Village; Sat., April 30, 7pm, \$25. [Eventbrite](#).



Waeli Wang. Photo courtesy of the artist

### It's an encore

In a coda to the mainstage performance in April, **Los Angeles Dance Festival's Fringe Festival** presents rising performers as this year's festivities wrap up. At Brockus Project Space, 618B Moulton Ave, Lincoln Heights; Sun., May 1, 6pm, free. [Los Angeles Dance Festival](#).

### About to bug out

In *OVO*, the world of insects is the topic as the incomparable **Cirque du Soleil** concludes its tour here. Expect the signature combo of acrobats, dance, comedians and other daredeviltry at Microsoft Theater, 777 Chick Hearn Ct., downtown; thru May 1, various dates, times & prices at [Microsoft Theater](#).





Cirque Du Soleil. Photo courtesy of the artist

## Better than a band-aid

The al fresco, family-friendly **The Arts Heal L.A.** features dance among scheduled performances. Look for **Ballet Folclorico do Brasil**, **Pas d'ASL Dance Company**, **Straight Up Abilities**, and **Kizuna Taiko**, plus magician Allen Oshiro and artmaking workshops. Music Center, Jerry Moss Plaza, 135 N. Grand Ave., downtown; Sat. April 30, 9:30am-1pm, free [The Music Center](#).



Ballet Folclorico do Brasil. Photo courtesy of the artists.

## Gimme a 10!

**Keith Johnson/Dancers** and **Pranamya Suri** are two dance participants in this month's edition



of **Max 10** with its format of ten performances, each ten minutes. At Electric Lodge, 1416 Electric Ave., Venice; Mon., May 2, 7:30pm, \$10. [Eventbrite](#).



Keith Johnson/Dancers. Photo by Lost Hearts Productions

## Museum dancing

As part of its exhibition *Poussin and the Dance*, the Getty Center commissioned several notable LA choreographers to create dance films that respond to Poussin's art. The results, *Poussin Projected: Screening Contemporary Dance Films*, are viewable online and the Poussin artworks

are viewable in person until May 8. Exhibition at the Getty Center, Harold M Williams Auditorium, 1200 Getty Center Dr., Brentwood; thru Sun., May 8. Dance films viewable at [Getty](#).



Chris Emile for “Poussin and the Dance.” Photo courtesy of the artists

## Dancers in the park, drummers in the library

LA-based dance, music, and drumming ensembles offer free performances at parks and libraries throughout LA in the Music Center’s *Arts Grown LA*. Performances include folkloric troupes, Taiko drummers, and more, continuing into June. A complete list of groups, venues, and performance details at [Music Center](#).

## A Peek at Next Week

**Orange County Dance Festival** at Rose Center Theater, 14140 All American Way, *Rising Artists* Fri., May 6, 7pm, *Professional Concert* Sat., May 7, 7pm, \$20, benefit reception \$75-\$125 [Rose Center Theater](#).

**Danza Floricanto/USA’s Cinco de Mayo in Pasadena** at ARC Pasadena, 1158 E. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena; Sat., May 7, 8pm, \$15 in advance, \$20 at door, \$10 seniors & student at door only. [Danza Floricanto](#).





Danza Floricanto/USA. Photo by Frank Sandoval.

**CalArts Dance** at REDCAT at Walt Disney Hall, 631 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> St., downtown; Fri-Sat., May 6-7, 8:30pm, \$15, \$20 students, livestream Sat., May 7, 8:30pm, \$15. [OvationTix](#).

**MOMentum Place** at Theatricum Botanicum, 1419 N. Topanga Canyon Rd., Topanga Canyon; Sun., May 8, brunch noon (\$30), show \$35 advance, \$40 at door, \$15 students, \$10 12 year & under. [Theatricum Botanicum](#).



MOMentum Place's Lexi Pearl. Photo courtesy of the artist.

**High Voltage** at Electric Lodge, 1416 Electric Ave., Venice; Fri., May 6, 8pm, \$10. [Eventbrite](#).

**Nickerson-Rossi Dance** at Brand Library & Art Gallery, 1601 W. Mountain St., Glendale; Sat., May 7, 5pm, free. [Brand Library](#).



Nickerson-Rossi Dance. Photo courtesy of the artists

**Westside Ballet's *New Horizons*** at The Broad Stage, 1310 11<sup>th</sup> St., Santa Monica; Sat., May 7, 7:30pm, \$75, Sun., May 8, 2pm, \$45. [Tix.com](#).

**Mahkween Reflect *Showcase on Mental Health***. At Rose Park, 8<sup>th</sup> & Orizaba, Long Beach; Sat., May 7, 7:30pm.

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