
Cultural Daily

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

Stopping Traffic

Ann Haskins · Wednesday, April 8th, 2026

Sig Alert dancing on a Hollywood rooftop; English ballet classic via New York in Costa Mesa; contemporary dance in West LA, Santa Monica, and Van Nuys; street dance takes the stage in Hancock Park; ballet fundraisers downtown and Beverly Hills; “escape” artists persist in Lincoln Heights; South Asian dance in Santa Monica; more SoCal dance this week, plus a peek at next week.

Live This Week (thru April 16)

Ballet with arrows

With a score Tchaikovsky considered superior to his own for *Swan Lake*, and choreography from a British master for a reigning ballerina at the peak of her powers, **American Ballet Theatre** brings Sir Frederick Ashton’s full-length *Sylvia*. Created for Dame Margot Fonteyn, ABT showcases four of its current reigning ballerinas in the central role. 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](#).



Catherine Hurlin and Isaac Hernández in American Ballet Theatre's "Sylvia." Photo courtesy of the artists

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'Espacio 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

When a body meets a body...

In an international exchange with the Italian Cultural Institute of Los Angeles, this venue hosts contemporary artist **Silvia Gribaudi**'s *R.OSA – 10 Exercises for New Virtuosités* 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

Unmasking

Our masks (and also pants), why we wear them and what we think they hide are explored by **Adie San Diego** in *Terms of Agreement*. An LA-based, Filipina-American choreographer, San Diego created the work in collaboration with her dancers, who brought their own thoughts...and masks. At Highways Performance Space, 1651 18th St., Santa Monica; Fri.-Sat., April 10-11, 8 pm, \$28, \$20 students/seniors. [Adie San Diego](#).

Best traffic jam dance, ever!

It's not live dance per se, but the Mandy Moore-choreographed traffic jam opening number for the film *La La Land* deserved an Oscar (Oh yeah, they don't give one for choreography), but still, the dance-drenched film is the opening of the spring/summer rooftop screening series at a true Hollywood setting, the rooftop of the Montalbán Theater, just south of Hollywood, 1615 Vine St., Hollywood; Fri., April 10, 7:30 p.m., \$29-\$56 (loveseat for 2) [LaLa Land screening](#).



Mandy Moore's choreographer for the opening of the film "La La Land." Photo courtesy of the artists

Ballet and more

In *Mutate*, LA-based choreographer **Masha Cherezova** brings an evening of dance, film screenings, and spoken word that is also a fundraiser for Blood Cancer United. Cherezova, a former professional ballet dancer and leukemia survivor, has recruited fellow dancers to perform, including Sklyar Campbell, former principal dancer at National Ballet of Canada and Houston Ballet. At LA Dance Project, 2245 E. Washington Blvd., LA Downtown Arts District; Sat., April 11, 8 pm, \$30-\$500. [Masha Cherezova](#).



Skylar Campbell. Photo courtesy of the artist

Street Dance show and tell

The electrifying dancers and choreographers of **Versa Style Street Dance Company** take the stage to demonstrate the *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](#).



Versa Style Dance Company. Photo courtesy of the artists

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

A bit more ballet

The pre-professional dancers of **Orange County Ballet Theater** perform in *Momentum*. At Irvine Barclay Theatre, UC Irvine, 4242 Campus Dr., Irvine; Fri., April 10, 7:30 pm, \$44-\$54. [The Barclay](#).



Los Angeles Ballet. Photo by Cheryl Mann

Gala season

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](#).

A Peek at Next Week (April 17-23)

Backhausdance at LA Dance Project, 2245 E. Washington Blvd., Downtown Arts District; Sat., April 18, 8 pm, [Backhausdance Backhausdance](#).

Donna Sternberg & Dancers — *Awe and Wonder* at L'espace Diavolo, 616 Moulton Ave., Lincoln Heights, 90031; Sat., April 18, 8 pm & Sun., April 19, 3 pm, \$39.19, \$33.85 students. [Donna Sternberg & Dancers](#).

LA Dance Festival 2026 at Brockus Project Studios, 618 B Moulton Ave., (free street parking), Lincoln Heights; Fri.-Sat., April 17-18, 8 pm, Sun., April 19, 6 pm, \$20, \$50 festival pass. Zelle 562-412-7429 or Venmo @brockusProjectStudios or cash at door. (Note your DATE when buying , tickets will be held at the door.)



BrockusRED. Photo by Denise Leitner.

Bodies in Play — *Dance is Pleasure* at Renberg Theater, LA LGBT Center, 1125 N. McCadden Pl., Hollywood; Fri., April 17, 7:30 pm, \$35-\$72. [Bodies in Play](#).

Rashaun Mitchell + Silas Riener — *Open Machine* at REDCAT, Disney Hall, 631 W. 2nd St., Downtown LA; Fri., April 17, 8 pm, Sat., April 18, 2 & 8 pm, \$27. [Rashun Mitchell + Silas Riener](#).

New Classics Ballet Theatre — *The Secret of the Clock* at Liya Art Center, 216 W. Las Tunas Canyon, San Gabriel; Fri., April 17, 2 & 7:30 pm, \$8-\$35. [New Classics Ballet Theatre](#).

Majestic Tango at Irvine Barclay Theatre, UC Irvine, 4242 Campus Dr., Irvine, Sat., April 18, 8 pm, \$34-\$120. [The Barclay](#).

LA Phil/Liquid Music/Thorton School of Music — *Crossing Open Ground* at Elysian Park, Griffith Park; Sat.-Sun., April 18-19, 6 pm, \$20. [Crossing Open Ground](#).

Parsons Dance — *40th Anniversary Season* at the Broad Stage, 1310 11th St., Santa Monica; Sat. April 18, 7:30 pm, Sun., April 19, 2 pm, \$52-\$99. [Parsons Dance](#).



Parsons Dance Company. Photo by Lois Greenfield

Nickerson-Rossi Dance — *The Dance Platform Gala* at the Palm Springs Art Museum, 101 N. Museum Dr., Palm Springs; Sat., April 18, 2 pm, \$25. [Nickerson-Rossi Dance](#).

MashUP Contemporary Dance — *Choreography Open Mic Night* at the Pickle Factory, 2926 Gilroy St., Frogtown; Sat., April 18, 8 pm, \$15. [Choreography Open Mic Night](#).

Japanese Dance — *Cherry Blossom Festival* at Shoseian ‘Whispering Pine’ Teahouse, Brand Park, 1601 W. Mountain St., Glendale; Sun., April 19, 10 am – 3 pm, free (tea service \$25 with reservation, call 310-849-5432). [Cherry Blossom Festival](#).

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