

Cultural Daily

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

Theatrical Moves

Ann Haskins · Thursday, August 7th, 2025

Strolling along the mid-summer performance season, the longest running musical sashays into Santa Monica; a Shakespearean lover's fate is reconsidered downtown; while a Canadian visitor postpones his Santa Monica show this SoCal dance week, plus a peek at next week.

Live This Week

Canadian blended and postponed

Blending Bollywood, Indian classical dance, and western contemporary moves, Canadian **Chase Constantino** is a recognized choreographer as well as a finalist in *Canada's Got Talent*. The scheduled performance of his *Priya (Beloved)*, scheduled for two performances this weekend at Highways, has been indefinitely postponed according to Constantino's Instagram page. Stated reason: "Unforeseen circumstances." Highways Performance Space, 1651 18th St., Santa Monica; Fri.-Sat., Aug. 8-9, 8 pm, POSTPONED. [Highways Performance Space](#).



& Juliet. Photo by Matthew Murphy

Two chances for "What if?"

Exploring what would have happened if, after finding Romeo dead, she had decided not to die with

him, the Tony-nominated **& Juliet** opens for a month-long run downtown before moving for another run in Costa Mesa. Ahmanson Theater, Music Center, 135 N. Grand Ave., Downtown; opens Wed., Aug. 13, then Tues.-Thurs., 7:30 pm, Fri., 8 pm, Sat., 2 & 8 pm, Sun., 1 & 7 pm, thru Sun., Sept. 7, \$51-\$259. [Center Theater Group](#). Also at Segerstrom Center for the Arts, 600 Town Sept. 9-21. [SCFTA](#).



Raven Scott in “The Fantasticks.” Photo courtesy of the artist

Easy to remember

History’s longest running play, *The Fantasticks*, currently is steps away from the runway at Santa Monica airport. The song source for *Try to Remember*, *Much More*, and *Soon It’s Gonna Rain*, this is not known as a dancing musical, but choreographers Jennifer Oundjian and Erik Hall make the most of the dancing sections in this compact space (after this show, the respected **Ruskin Group Theatre** moves nearby where it will have two theaters, perhaps with space to add dance to its theater offerings, following the lead of West LA’s *Odyssey* and the *Sierra Madre Playhouse*). The cast, all strong singers, also can move, particularly Raven Scott who has CalArts in her background. She hasn’t a line or a song, yet as “The Mute” occupies space in a way that commands the eye whether she’s dancing, or a wall, or a witness propelling the musical along. **Ruskin Group Theatre**, 3000 Airport Ave., Santa Monica; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm, Sun., 2 pm, thru Sun., Aug. 24. \$30-\$45. [The Fantasticks](#).

A Peek at Next Week: (Aug. 15 to 21)

Grandeza Mexicana Folk Ballet Company — *Serenatas y Bodas de México* at the **Ford Theater**, 2851 Cahuenga Blvd. East, Hollywood; Sat., Aug. 16, 8 pm, \$75-\$102. [Grandeza Mexicana Folk Ball](#).

WonderLand with UniverSOUL Hip Hop Dance Company at **Ford Theater**, 2850 Cahuenga Blvd. East, Hollywood; Sun., Aug. 17, 11:30 am, \$13. [UniverSOUL Hip Hop](#)

Raiford Rogers Modern Ballet — *Islands in the Sea* at Luckman Fine Arts Complex, Cal State University Los Angeles, 5151 State University Dr., Lincoln Heights; Sat., Aug. 16, 7 pm, \$24-\$63. [Ticketmaster](#).



Raiford Rogers Modern Ballet. Photo courtesy of the artists

Ballet Folklórico Flor de Mayo — *6th Annual World Itotia Festival* at the Broad Stage, 1310 11th St., Santa Monica; Fri., Aug. 15, 7 pm, \$25. [Ballet Folklórico Flor de Mayo](#). Also at 3rd St. Promenade, 1351 3rd St., Santa Monica; Sat., Aug. 16, 3 pm, free.

LUME Collective — *Desolation* at Stomping Ground, 5453 Alambra Ave., El Sereno; Sat.-Sun., Aug., 16-17, 6 & 8:30 pm, \$12-\$25, Zoom \$14 (6 pm shows only). [LUMA Collective](#).

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