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# Cultural Daily

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

## Welcoming a Stochastic Season

Ann Haskins · Thursday, April 7th, 2022

Despite current unpredictabilities, the bloom of live performance continues with a trio of New York visitors in Beverly Hills, West Adams & downtown, classical South Asian dance in Northridge, al fresco dance fest in Leimert Park, flamenco in Hancock Park, site specific dance in a downtown park, plus more SoCal dance this week and a peek at next week.

### *Live This Week*

#### **Festival *al fresco***

Celebrating and showcasing Black and Latinx choreographers, **BlakTinx Festival 2022** presents two live outdoor concerts. Founder/director Licia Perez's continues to select choreographers that include both emerging and established dancemakers. A complete list and bios of this year's 20 participants are at the website. The audience is encouraged to consider this a picnic as much as dance performance, with blankets, chairs, hats and water encouraged and welcome. During Covid, BlackTinx joined the shift to an online streamed festival and found the streamed option expanded the festival's audience. With the return of the live event, this festival is making a streamed option available later on BlakTinx' YouTube channel. At Leimert Park, 4395 Leimert Blvd, Leimert Park; Sat., April 9, 1 & 5 pm, [BlakTinx Festival](#).



BlakTinx 2022. Photo courtesy of the artists

## A significant return

Nonchalantly passing a remarkable benchmark, the eponymous **Garth Fagan Dance** is welcomed back after a five year absence. The company has been known by different names since its 1970 founding, but the company's remarkable longevity now extends over fifty years. In 1997, choreographer Fagan gained wider public attention for his Tony-award winning dance moves for the stage version of *The Lion King*. At Nate Holden Performing Arts Center, 4718 W. Washington Blvd., West Adams; Fri.-Sat., April 8-9, 8pm, Sun., April 10, 3pm, \$25. [itsmyseat.com](https://itsmyseat.com)



Garth Fagan Dance. Photo courtesy of the artists

## It's complex

Choreographer Dwight Rhoden and his **Complexions Contemporary Ballet** arrive at the first of

two venues. The initial shows offer the west coast premiere of Rhoden's *Snatched Back From the Edges* along with *Stardust*, the choreographer's tribute to pop star David Bowie. The opening show includes a post-performance discussion with the artists. Later this month, the company moves to Orange County with a program that includes *Stardust* and a work set to Bach's music. At Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, Bram Goldsmith Theater, 9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd., Beverly Hills; Thurs.-Sat., April 14-16, 7:30pm, \$39-\$99. [The Wallis](#). Also at Irvine Barclay Theatre, 4242 Campus Dr., Irvine; Fri., April 29, 8 pm, \$30-\$130. [The Barclay](#).



Complexions Contemporary Ballet in "Stardust". Photo by Hagos Rush

## A revelatory ten

With its superbly trained dancers and a repertoire that has evolved while respecting the artistic legacy of its founder, the **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater** remains one of the most popular visiting dance companies. The troupe is offering three different programs: one reflects the commitment to develop new repertoire; one showcases Ailey's most beloved creations, and one marks Robert Battle's tenth anniversary as company artistic director, only the second artistic director since Ailey's death. Each program ends with *Revelations*, Ailey's glorious, gospel-infused signature work. At the Music Center, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, 135 N. Grand Ave., downtown; Wed.-Sat., April 6-9, 7:30pm, Sat.-Sun., April 9-10, 2pm, \$34-\$138. Tickets, program details, free events, & video previews at [Music Center](#).



Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in “Revelations.” Photo courtesy of the artists

## Moving it outside

For the al fresco performance, *Navigating the River*, **Donna Sternberg & Dancers** promises to lead the audience to sites throughout this park while unfolding the stories that makes the area historic. Info on the free event including parking at the website. At LA State Historic Park, 1245 N. Spring St., downtown; Wed. April 13, 12:15, free. [Donna Sternberg & Dancers](#).





Donna Sternberg & Dancers. Photo by Alaya Turnbough

## Mingling with the divine

Led by Raneer Ramaswamy and Aparna Ramaswamy, the celebrated **Ragamala Dance Company** brings classic South Indian Bharatanatyam dance in ***Fires of Varanasi: Dance of the Eternal Pilgrim***. The site specific work is described as a ritualistic tale of time suspended as humans interact with the divine. At the Soraya, Cal State Northridge, 18111 Nordhoff St., Northridge; Sat., April 9, 8pm, \$36-\$71. [The Soraya](#).



Ragamala Dance Company. Photo courtesy of the artist.

## Demystifying dance

For a company that can boast four decades introducing and demystifying modern dance for LA audiences, the current roster of young dancers continues the best traditions of **Benita Bike's DanceArt** in the aptly titled *Explore Dance*. At Mission College, AMP Theater, 13356 Eldridge Ave., Sylmar; Tues., April, 12, 7pm, free. [Benita Bike's DanceArt](#).



Benita Bike's DanceArt. Photo by dean Wallraff

## Festive flamenco

Dancer Antonio Molina "El Choro" joins the musicians and singers for the **Los Angeles International Flamenco Festival**. At the Wilshire Ebell, 4401 W. 8th St., Hancock Park; Wed., April 13, 8pm, \$35-\$75. [Tix.com](https://www.tix.com).

## Re-Tap

Live performance and film tell the story of the *Tap Dance Widows Club* as **Louise Reichlin & Dancers/ Los Angeles Choreographers & Dancers** take the stage. Performers include Jill Elaine Collins, Natalie Ellis, Katie McCulla, Emily McGuire, Coree McKee Gonzalez, Eve Metsäranta, Mcknnly Moren, Jestina Mundy and the choreographer Louise Reichlin.at Ruby G. Schulman Auditorium, 1775 Dove Ln., Carlsbad; Sat., April 9, 7:30pm, free. [Los Angeles Choreographers & Dancers](https://www.losangeleschoreographers.com).





Tap Dance Widows Club. Photo courtesy of Louise Reichlin

## Studio to stage

Showcasing a line-up of LA-based artists over six weeks, this edition of **REDCAT Studio** includes Pastiche Queen (4/5-10), The Revolution School (4/12-17), DeLanna Studi (4/19-24), Tarrah Krajnak (4/26-5/1), and Christina Catherine Martinez (5/3-8). At REDCAT Gallery, Disney Hall, 631 W. 2nd St., downtown; thru Sun., May 8, free. [REDCAT](#).

## 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](#).



TAIKOPROJECT in “Arts Grown LA”. Photo courtesy of the artists

## 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 [at Getty](#).



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

## The bugs have it

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

## A Peek at Next Week

**Los Angeles Ballet** – *Bloom* at The Broad Stage, 1310 11<sup>th</sup> St., Santa Monica; Thurs.-Fri., April 21-22, 7:30pm, Sat., April 23, 5pm, \$68-\$114. [Los Angeles Ballet](#).





Los Angeles Ballet. Photo by Reed Hutchinson

**Kevin Williamson** – *from the inside out* at Stomping Ground, 5453 Alhambra Blvd., El Sereno; Fri.-Sat., April 15-16, 8pm, Sun., April 17, 4pm, \$22. [from the inside out](#).

**LA Dance Project** at LA Dance Project studios, 2245 E. Washington Blvd., Arts District; Fri., April 15 & Thurs., April 21, \$30, \$10 30 years & under. [OvationTix](#).

**Les Ballets de Monte-Carlo** – *Romeo & Juliet* at Segerstrom Center for the Arts, 600 Town Center Dr., Costa Mesa; Fri., April 15, 7:30pm, Sat., April 16, 2 & 7:30pm, Sun., April 17, 1pm, \$29-\$99. [SCFTA](#).



Les Ballets de Monte-Carlo. Photo by Alice Blangero

**Barcelona Flamenco Ballet** – *Luxuriã* at the Alex Theatre, 216 N. Brand Blvd., Glendale; Sat., April 16, 8pm, \$31-\$106. [Alex Theatre](#).

**USC Gloria Kaufman School of Dance** at Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, Bram Goldsmith Theater, 9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd., Beverly Hills; Thurs-Fri., April 21-22, 7:30pm, Sat., April 23, 3 & 7:30pm, \$25-\$55. [The Wallis](#).

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