



MEDIA ALERT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 9, 2018

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**City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs
Presents the Inaugural
DCA LA Dance Platform
*A Showcase of Dancers and Choreographers
From LA's Dynamic Dance Scene***

Wednesday, June 6 to Saturday, June 9, 2018

Los Angeles – The City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) (www.culturela.org) is pleased to announce the 2018 **DCA LA Dance Platform**, a community-curated selection of programming that will run concurrently with the Dance USA Conference (www.danceusa.org/annual-conference) taking place Wednesday, June 6 through Saturday, June 9, 2018.

Led by DCA, the platform will provide an immersive and educational experience, which pays homage to the city's rich history of dance. Talented dance professionals, curators, educators, funders, and presenters have been invited to learn and engage with the city's compelling dance scene, showcasing its breadth, excellence, and diversity.

"Los Angeles is a global capital for creative excellence and artistic diversity," said **Mayor Eric Garcetti**. "The Dance Platform will inspire, dazzle, and captivate audiences with extraordinary work by some of the world's most gifted performers."

Modeled after the famous Tanz Messe in Dusseldorf, Germany, **DCA LA Dance Platform** has joined with internationally-renowned industry leaders in the field to explore LA dance both currently and historically through dance events, panel discussions, and showcases. The programming, occurring during the week of the Dance USA Conference, will convey a new narrative that highlights the richness and complexity of the LA dance community.

"Through this exciting new initiative, we hope to reclaim the narrative of LA's century-old dance history," said **DCA's General Manager Danielle Brazell**. "In many ways, LA has been this hidden city of dance for a century, and now this important art form is being rediscovered by local communities and visitors alike."



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Using Dance USA Conference as a catalyst, DCA has partnered with American Dance Abroad and other LA-based presenters to produce a curated selection of LA's top established and emerging choreographers and companies. These events will take place at some of the city's leading performing arts institutions: **Grand Performances, The Ford Theatres, Luckman Fine Arts Complex, L.A. Dance Project, Downtown Dance & Movement Center, Diavolo Dance Studio, and Brockus Projects Studio.**

DCA LA Dance Platform events will give dance practitioners opportunities to connect, dialogue, and showcase new and in-progress works. All artists were pre-selected, vetted, and invited by DCA in consultation with an informed group of LA Dance Professionals. The artists who were selected represent a cross-section of the established, emerging, and commercial dance artists in the city's vibrant dance community.

"LA's dynamic, energetic dance community articulates a visually kinesthetic interpretation of the city's milieu, while also evoking the strong cultural connections between Los Angeles, our nation, and the global dance community," says **Ben Johnson, DCA's Performing Arts Division Director.**

Johnson continued: "LA dance is presented in every nook and cranny in LA and eschews the modernist and postmodernist view towards Europe, while at the same time, looking toward Latin America and Asia, as well as toward a radical hybrid practice based in experimentation and innovation through an LA lens. LA dance believes in risk, experimentation, and innovation, and it appeals to the imagination of the Angeleno."

RELATED PROGRAMMING (IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER):

Tuesday, June 5, 2018

L.A. Dance Project presents LIVE from 2245

Benjamin Millepied, Artistic Director

Tuesday, June 5 - Saturday, June 9, 8 p.m.

L.A. Dance Project Studios, 2245 East Washington Blvd, LA, CA 90021

Tickets: \$25 single tickets; student & group discounts available

www.artful.ly/la-dance-project

www.ladanceproject.org

Program A: Tuesday, June 5, 8 p.m. and Friday, June 8, 8 p.m.

Noé Soulier - Second Quartet

Benjamin Millepied - Bach Studies (Part 1) [LA Premiere]

Program B: Wednesday, June 6, 8 p.m. and Saturday, June 9, 8 p.m.

Martha Graham - Duets

Benjamin Millepied - Hearts & Arrows and On the Other Side



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Wednesday, June 6, 2018

Grand Performances

Mari Riddle, Executive Director

Presenting L.A. DANCE PARTY/USA

Wednesday, June 6, 9 p.m.

California Plaza, 300 & 350 S. Grand Ave, LA, CA 90071

Tickets: Open to General Public – Free

www.grandperformances.org

It's a nightcap of music, dancing, and interactive fun designed to capture the energy and creativity of dance makers, movers, and shakers in celebration of LA's vibrant dance scene. We're extending an open invitation to share the floor and make your mark at the start of Dance/USA's historic L.A. gathering. Produced by Grand Performances in collaboration with Los Angeles Performance Practice. Final artist lineup to be announced soon.

Friday, June 8, 2018

The Ford Theatres

Presenting Lula Washington Dance Theatre

IGNITE @ The Ford

Friday, June 8, 8:30 p.m.

Ford Amphitheatre, 2580 Cahuenga Blvd E, LA, CA 90068

Tickets: www.fordtheatres.org/calendar/lula-washington-dance-theatre

For this joyous evening of dance, Lula Washington Dance Theatre, one of LA's most beloved contemporary dance companies, will perform work from three renowned choreographers: Kyle Abraham, Rennie Harris, and David Rousève, alongside choreographies by Lula Washington and Tamica Washington-Miller.

Program:

- Lula Washington - *OPEN YOUR EYES* (2016) – Music by Earth Wind & Fire
- Tamica Washington-Miller - *There Is Always Tomorrow* (2016) Music by Marcus Lamar Miller
- Kyle Abraham - *Hallowed* (2014) Music by Cleo Kennedy and Bertha Gober
- Rennie Harris - *Reign* (2010) Music by James "JT" Wilconson
- David Rousève - *Enough?* (2016) Music by Aretha Franklin



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Saturday, June 9, 2018

DCA PRESENTS: International Dance Scene – Panel Discussion

Saturday, June 9, 4 – 5:30 p.m.

Diavolo Dance Studio

616 Moulton Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90031

Tickets: Free and open to the public. Seating limited to capacity.

Hear perspectives from highly-respected international dance curators discussing their curatorial practice, how they view American dance, and what they are experiencing in LA. Dance curators from Bulgaria, Poland, Uruguay, Singapore, Mexico, China, Germany, and Tunisia will be on this panel. This is a must-attend event for any artist/presenter looking to work outside of the United States. Moderated by American Dance Abroad.

Luckman Fine Arts Complex at Cal State LA

Presenting Syncopated Ladies, Los Angeles Contemporary Dance Company, Versa-Style Dance Company, and CONTRA-TIEMPO | Urban Latin Dance Theater

Saturday, June 9, 8 p.m.

5151 State University Drive, LA, CA 90032

Tickets: www.luckmanarts.org

This spectacular night will feature four of LA's leading dance companies.

Program:

Syncopated Ladies – Chloe Arnold, artistic director - *Syncopated Ladies: Live* (2017)

Los Angeles Contemporary Dance Company – Kate Hutter & Genevieve Carson, artist directors – *EBBA* (2016) choreographed by Genevieve Carson

CONTRA-TIEMPO | Urban Latin Dance Theater – Ana Maria Alvarez, artistic director – *joyUS* (premiering Fall 2018)

Versa-Style Dance Company - Jackie Lopez & Leigh Foaad, artistic directors - *Box of Hope* (2016) choreographed by Lopez and Foaad.



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Los Angeles Performance Practice
Presenting Milka Djordjevich
Saturday, June 9: 10 p.m.
Sunday, June 10: 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.
Ghebaly Gallery, East Washington Boulevard, LA, CA 90021
www.performancepractice.la/

Program:

Milka Djordjevich's *ANTHEM* (2017)
Questioning contemporary dance's predisposition towards neutrality, authenticity, and the de-sexualization of the female body, ANTHEM embraces theatricality, virtuosity, and sass. The work weaves together existing and imagined vernacular dance styles to explore labor, play, and feminine-posturing. Four women execute a repetitive yet complex movement vocabulary that evolves as they rotate hypnotically within the confines of a square. Over time, the meditative rigor of their steps dissolves into a tangle of commotion, blurring the distinction between the mundane and the glamorous.

About the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)

As a leading, progressive arts and cultural agency, DCA empowers Los Angeles's vibrant communities by supporting and providing access to quality visual, literary, musical, performing, and educational arts programming; managing vital cultural centers; preserving historic sites; creating public art; and funding services provided by arts organizations and individual artists.

Formed in 1925, DCA promotes arts and culture as a way to ignite a powerful dialogue, engage LA's residents and visitors, and ensure LA's varied cultures are recognized, acknowledged, and experienced. DCA's mission is to strengthen the quality of life in Los Angeles by stimulating and supporting arts and cultural activities, ensuring public access to the arts for residents and visitors alike.

DCA advances the social and economic impact of arts and culture through grant-making, public art, community arts, and strategic marketing and development. DCA creates and supports arts programming, maximizing relationships with other city agencies, artists, and arts and cultural nonprofit organizations to provide excellent service in neighborhoods throughout Los Angeles.

For more information, please visit culturela.org or follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/culturela; Instagram [@culture_la](https://instagram.com/culture_la); and Twitter [@culture_la](https://twitter.com/culture_la).

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