

DanceWeekend'21

WORKSHOP SERIES

SUNDAY MAY 2, 2021

10:30 Kids Dance Party with Julie McLachlan

Kids of all ages can join in for a fun and creative dance party to get things moving!

11:15 Hip Hop Choreography with Shameka Blake in partnership with dance Immersion

Exploring movement based in street dance styles. Focusing on textures, rhythm and intention.

12:00 pm Kathak with Bageshree Vaze

A workshop with Bageshree Vaze on Kathak dance basics, focusing on footwork and chakkars (spins).

1:00 pm Afro-Brazilian Dance with Newton Moraes

Explore elements of Brazilian Dance and Contemporary Dance for all levels.

2:00 pm RAQS SHARQI - Middle Eastern Dance Introduction with Yasmina Ramzy

In this workshop you will discover a few styles of Egyptian dance, their cultural context and how Raqs Sharqi movement is unique in the world of dance.

3:00 pm Flamenco with Carmen Romero

Carmen shares her personal way of teaching movement and rhythm through the language of flamenco. We will start with a warmup to get your brain and body ready to dance, then I will teach a few elements such as the arm and footwork into a sequence so that we can do it together like a short dance. I will share the music with you so that you can do it on your own and enjoy it when you like.

4:00 pm Rhythm & Groove with Rodney Diverlus

Pulling from jazz, funk, and afro-diasporic movement; This intermediate class is for the music-heads, and those who want to get down.

5:00 pm Vogue with Matthew Cuff

Let us bend those wrist and swish those hips. Learn the five elements if Vogue: Hands, Catwalk, Duckwalk, Floor & Dips. This performance style will keep you fit while looking fabulous. LOG ON. TAKE OFF. LET'S VOGUE.

6:00 pm Salsa with Jose Carret - in partnership with the TD Salsa in Toronto Festival

Salsa is one of the most popular dance in Cuba, a partnering dance and danced by everyone,Salsa is a lilted dance, it is also danced individually and mixed with steps from Rumba ,Mambo and Cha Cha Cha. Salsa is originally based on the Son, another popular dance, and evolved into the most recent version of cuban casino style.

This class will consist in learning the basics salsa steps and rhythms routines, that is needed to know prior dancing with a partner.

WORKSHOP LEADERS

Julie McLachlan

Holding her BFA in dance from York University, Julie McLachlan is a Toronto-based dance performer, choreographer and dance instructor. Julie has had the privilege of performing for Stand Up Dance, Le Groupe Apogee and is currently dancing with Love Letters Cabaret. Julie has presented choreography in The Chimera Project's Fresh Blood and The Toronto Fringe Festival. Recently at ImpulsTanz International Dance Festival in Vienna, Austria, Julie took part in workshops with world-renowned teachers and connected with dance artists from all over the world. As a retired competitive gymnast, Julie is also a certified gymnastics coach and specializes in teaching young dancers acrobatic skills.

Shameka Blake

In 2008, Shameka Blake founded Artists in Motion (AIM), a multi-disciplinary dance company, that bridges cultural and societal gaps by bringing different styles of dance under the same roof. In the last 13 years AIM has attained recognition, locally and internationally. Shameka's work has been featured at the APAP Convention in New York City, the BNL in South Africa as well as Toronto's Fringe Festival and the 2015 Pan Am and Parapan Am Games.

Shameka has produced 5 full length productions and is currently working on her 6th <BLM>. Lastly, she created the dance and arts event "1234 DanceArts", to encourage collaboration among fellow artists and explore different avenues of artistic expressionism; a platform for artistic unification across the GTA.

Bageshree Vaze is an Indo-Canadian dance artist and musician. Raised in St. John's, NL, she initially trained in Bharatha Natyam and studied Hindustani vocal music with her father, Damodar Vaze. She later trained in Kathak with Jai Kishan Maharaj in New Delhi and studied with the renowned vocalist Veena Sahasrabuddhe in Mumbai. Bageshree has choreographed numerous dance works and has five CDs to her credit. Her breakthrough album Tarana (released as Khanak through Times Music in India), a CD of songs adapted and arranged for Indian dance, is accessed by dancers worldwide. Bageshree has been commissioned by and has performed in major festivals. Bageshree's 2019 choreography 'A Hidden Princess' was nominated for three Dora Mavor Moore Toronto theatre Awards, including Outstanding Production, Outstanding Sound Composition and Outstanding Performance by an Individual. Bageshree has a Masters degree in Dance from York University, and a Bachelor's degree in Journalism from Carleton University. www.bageshree.com

Newton Moraes Dance Theatre is a company dedicated to the creation, performance and production of contemporary dance works to explore, maintain and develop the links between the arts of Canada and Latin America through the artistic vision and knowledge of its founder and artistic director Newton Moraes. This includes especially the examination of Brazilian culture and the development of new forms of contemporary artistic expression.

Yasmina Ramzy

Since 1981, Yasmina Ramzy has created more than 200 ensemble choreographies for 25 dance companies in Canada and the U.S. She is currently director of four successful dance companies—three of which are run fully online, with members from four different countries. Yasmina has adapted to meet the new digital landscape and started teaching online in 2018. In 2020, Yasmina produced 20 online performance videos with ensembles of dancers and musicians in different countries.

Over the course of her career, Yasmina has taught in more than 65 cities and produced 10 large international dance and music festivals, featuring discussions on Middle Eastern dance. In the festivals she presented some 1000 international solo and ensemble dance artists and more than 50 master teachers.

After receiving essential training from various teachers in Egypt and Syria, Yasmina performed extensively throughout the Middle East, primarily with the master musicians of Syria. She has created 10 full-length six-day productions, each featuring as many as 45 dancers and musicians. Her main dance company, Arabesque, previously toured in the U.S., Greece, Lebanon, Jordan, Syria and across Canada

Matthew Cuff

Matthew is a graduate of the School of Toronto Dance Theatre. With over 6 years of Ballet Contemporary, and Hip Hop Dance training, Matthew has performed in numerous events. He has also worked with established choreographers including Christopher House (TDT), Sean Cheesman (SYTYCDC), and Luther Brown (SYTYCDC). With his versatility and passion for dance and choreography, Matthew strives to strengthen the community of dance in Toronto.

Rodney Diverlus

(He/Him) is a Haitian-Canadian performance maker who samples from the realms of contemporary and jazz movement, physical theatre, puppetry and Afrikanic sensibilities. He uses the body and voice as sites to host movement, text, rhythm, and protest that weaves in ancestral, diasporic, and queer narratives of life and freedom. Described by the Dance Current as a “fresh voice on stage”, his works have been presented at the SummerWorks Performance Festival (burn, burned, 2019), Art Gallery of Ontario (in your eyes, the sparkle of gunpowder, 2017), Tableau d’Hôte Theatre (Blackout, 2019), Irie Music Festival (good afternoon, 2019), Dance Immersion’s Footsteps Across Canada Showcase (two to see, four to reason, 2016), and Annual Alberta Dance Festival (not now, maybe later?, 2015). He’s the recipient of the 2019 Canadian Stage Award for Direction and a Montreal English Theatre Award for Choreography Nominee.

Rodney has performed in dance, theatre, and opera, including four seasons with Decidedly Jazz Danceworks. He has interpreted works of Peter Hinton/Denise Clarke (Canadian Opera Company), Darryl Hoskins (Dietrich Group), Noemi Lafrance (The Bentway), Kevin Ormsby (Kashe Dance), Mumbi Tindyebwa, (IFT Theatre), Karen & Allen Kaeja (Kaeja d’Dance), Eddie Elliott (Red Sky Performance), Wind in Leaves Collective, Hannah Kiel, Michèle Moss, Christopher Walker, Tara Friedenber, and Linnea Swan. He recently joined 2020 Stratford Festival Acting Company.

In his work lies an obsession with Black queer moving bodies interacting with anomalous, often public performance spaces; be they bunker, phone screen, gallery, container, or the streets. Rodney moonlights as an activist and community advocate. He is a co-founder and lead organizer of Black Lives Matter –Toronto and has co-curated a series of large-scale public installations that blur the lines of protest and performance, most notably Dundas Square Die-in (2015), BLMT0tentcity (2016), #BlackPride (2016), #BlackPride Redux (2017), Won’t Back Down (2017), Defund Mural (2020).

Jose Carret

Cuban born Mr. Carret is an award-winning choreographer and principal dancer who has created more than 60 original works. He was principal dancer and choreographer with Danza Espiral from Matanzas, Cuba, and performed many renowned Cuban choreographers' works such as Narciso Medina's piece "Metamorphosis", a Cuban modern classic. He has created choreographies for the International Ballet competitions in Cuba and for the Youth America Grand Prix international competition (2018) held in Canada. Many of his awarded works are still part of the repertoire of several companies such as Danza Libre, Danza Fragmentada from Guantanamo, Cuba and Ballet Creole Canada, among others. As a principal dancer he toured in Spain, Canada, Martinica, Saint Kitts & Nevis and Guadalupe.

Mr Carret performed at the International Ballet Festival in Cuba and one his awarded piece "Invernal" was danced at a special gala in which a Dance Award was given to Prima Ballerina Absoluta Alicia Alonso. Mr Carret received many awards that were given by prestigious dance artists in Cuba such as : Narciso Medina , Clara Luz Rodriguez, Isidro Leonardo Rolando Thondike and Ramiro Guerra among others. Carret first shared his unique Cuban dance style and heritage with Canadian audiences in 2005 as a guest dancer with Decidedly Jazz Dance Works (Calgary) Dance Immersion's Erie Music Festival (2010) and the 24th International Dance Conference for Blacks in Dance (2012). His many credits include permanent guest teaching and choreographing for Toronto's Ballet Creole School and Company and guest choreographer for Ballet Jorgen Canada (2011-12 Solos and Duets series) Since 2015 he is a guest teacher at the acclaimed University of North Carolina's School of the Arts Dance Program (Winston Salem, USA). Jose is the Founding Artistic Director of Danza Corpus (Cuba) and Danza Corpus Canada (DCC). Danza Corpus Canada was awarded the Aboriginal and Culturally Diverse Training Grant by the Ontario Arts Council in 2014, 2015 and 2016 . In 2016, Mr. Carret served as the Ontario Arts Council's Artistic Advisor for Operational Grants. Mr Carret is the founder artistic director of International Dance Intensive TEADE, that takes place in Cuba every summer and recently has done the first International Virtual IX Version last July 2020 and Winter Virtual Version last Dec. 2020. He is a member of Dance Ontario and the International Dance Council (CID) UNESCO.

PRESENTING PARTNERS



dance Immersion is a charitable non-profit organization established by Vivine Scarlett in 1994 to produce, promote, and support dancers and dances of the African Diaspora. We offer presentation, skill development, and networking opportunities for Blacks in dance, serving artists who practice contemporary and traditional movement forms from Africa, the Caribbean, North America, South America, and Europe. We provide our services via three interconnected platforms: Education for artists and communities of all ages; Incubation of choreography by emerging and established artists; and Presentation of dance works to the public. With over 25 years in service, *dance* Immersion has experienced considerable success in connecting dance artists across Canada and around the world.

<https://danceimmersion.ca/>



Canada's largest Latino-themed cultural fiesta continues with the second annual virtual TV broadcast event featuring a jam-packed calendar of online virtual events including the best of Latino music, dance, visual arts, and culture.

This year's virtual festival of Latin culture will be broadcast nationally on TLN Media Group's TLN TV channel as a televised special event, taking TD Salsa in Toronto into millions of homes across Canada. The festival will also be streamed worldwide on tln.ca and featured across the festival's social media channels. This unique festival format proudly continues to support local artists throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, a mandate that has been important to TD Salsa in Toronto throughout its history. The vibrant lineup celebrates Latino culture through musical performances, the best in salsa class instructions, authentic food recipe demonstrations, Latin art showcases, colourful cultural group features and of course non-stop dancing!