See CHICAGO DANCE

# CHICAGO DANCE MONTH

APRIL 2018

EVERY DAY IS A *DANCE*

RODGERS AND HAMMERSTEIN'S
South Pacific
DIRECTED BY
VICTOR MALANA MAOG
APRIL 5
–JUNE 17
DRURY LANE
THEATRE
630.530.0111 • DruryLaneTheatre.com • Free Parking • 100 Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace, IL

## See Chicago Dance Events

*These events are free and open to the public. Running time for each event is approx. 60–90 minutes. Schedule subject to change.*

**Chicago Dance Month Kickoff Celebration**
Tuesday, March 27, 4:30 PM
Preston Bradley Hall at the Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington
Participating artists: Cerqua Rivera Dance Theatre, Deeply Rooted Dance Theater, Winifred Haun and Dancers, Natya Dance Theater, Visceral Studio Company

**Open Studio Fridays**
March 23–May 11, 4:30 PM
Chicago Cultural Center,
1st Floor Dance Studio
Go behind the scenes with a different dance company each week. Meet the artists, see fresh choreography, and even learn a few moves!
Open Studio lineup: Concert Dance Inc, DantzTheatre Ensemble, Duncan Dance Chicago, South Chicago Dance Theater, and more

**Mid-Month Pop-Up Performances**
Tuesday, April 10, 4:30 PM at Block 37, 108 N. State Street
Performances by Cattywampus, Cocodaco, Desueño, NOMI, Noumenon, and others

**Chicago Dance Month Celebration and Scavenger Hunt**
Monday, April 30, 4:30–6 p.m.
A progressive event that starts on the steps of the Chicago Cultural Center and continues down Michigan Avenue to the Riverwalk
Site-specific performances offer interactive opportunities to find clues and win prizes! Includes Ballet 5:8, Movement Revolution Dance Crew, REIdance Group, Sildance/AcroDanza, Trifecta Dance Collective, and others to be announced

SILDANCE/ACRODANZA BY ALEXANDRA YASINOVSKY

# WELCOME TO CHICAGO DANCE MONTH!

STAFF (LEFT TO RIGHT): JACQUELINE KLING, HEATHER HARTLEY, SURINDER MARTIGNETTI, KATHERINE STEWART

Dear Dance Fans,

Happy April, everyone! All of us at See Chicago Dance (formerly known as Audience Architects—more on that in a moment..) love the month of April because it's our annual opportunity to shine a spotlight on Chicago's amazing, diverse, and wildly talented dance community. Now in its sixth year, Chicago Dance Month is a bonanza of more than 70 great dance events, including breathtaking performances, many offered with "Hot Deal" ticket discounts, as well as workshops, classes, and numerous free events. With a hint of spring in the air, April is the perfect time to explore the rich variety of styles and creative partnerships at work in nearly every Chicago neighborhood, making our city one of the nation's most exciting places to experience dance.

In addition to the fantastic roster of events our member organizations are producing this month, See Chicago Dance presents three fantastic free showcase performances featuring 24 companies, produced in partnership with the fabulous folks at the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events and Block 37. The festivities start with the **Chicago Dance Month Kickoff Celebration** Tuesday, March 27. All are welcome to an afternoon performance under the Tiffany Dome in Preston Bradley Hall at the Chicago Cultural Center. We then offer a completely different roster for our Mid-Month Pop-up Performances April 10 at Block 37 and close things out April 30 with an all-ages Chicago Dance Month Celebration and Scavenger Hunt along the Riverwalk.

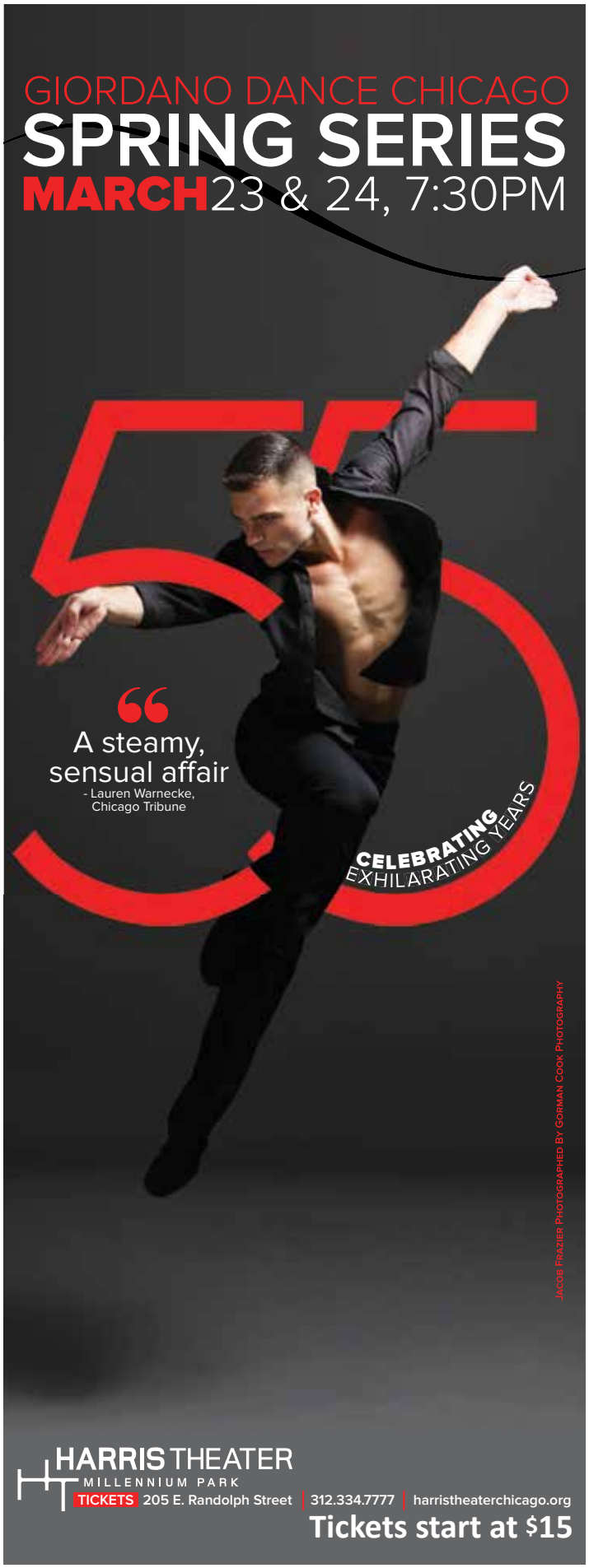
In addition to all the great programming, we've also been hard at work on a five-year strategic plan, resulting in some exciting changes. Since its founding in 2006 as Audience Architects, our nonprofit has worked behind the scenes to host **SeeChicagoDance.com**, a comprehensive website promoting more than 200 dance organizations through free listings, an events calendar, previews and reviews by professional critics, special deals, and much more, making it one of the largest dance-specific sites in the country. We've also expanded our services for the dance industry beyond the Web, offering numerous professional development opportunities. To better serve our patrons and dance artists/organizations and reduce confusion between the two identities, we're streamlining our name and evolving our brand to match the website—***Audience Architects becomes See Chicago Dance***. Since April is our busiest and highest profile time of the year with Chicago Dance Month, it makes perfect sense to launch new endeavors now. We are simultaneously revealing a refreshed website that simplifies navigation and offers even more information about the wealth of opportunities to enjoy dance in Chicago, including expanded reviews, more discounts, and enhanced services, such as job postings and audition notices. All this activity derives from our refined sense of purpose, which we sum up in our new vision statement:

***To fearlessly inspire an ever-growing inclusive community to share in and spread the power of dance in Chicago***

See Chicago Dance believes in the transformative power of dance, and we hope you share in our vision for the future of our dance community and our city as a dance leader. We also hope you enjoy all the great content in this brochure and on our refreshed website. Most of all, we hope you **go see dance** this April—and beyond!

Heather Hartley
Executive Director, See Chicago Dance

For information on dance events during Chicago Dance Month, check out the listings in this brochure. For the most up-to-date list, as well as tickets and other details, visit **seechicagodance.com**.



PORSCHA SPELLS BY LUCAS ANTI

# MOVING DIALOGS

Building and engaging dance audiences for Chicago-area dance organizations, and advocating for dance in Chicago, is a big part of our work, but it's not all we do. Among our other programs, we explore how dance relates to and enhances other artforms in our multicultural, multiethnic, and multi-ability city with Moving Dialogs, an annual discussion series.

Moving Dialogs brings audiences and artists together for groundbreaking performances that aim to broaden and deepen understanding of the unique and sometimes surprising ways dance intersects with culture at large. Previous editions of Moving Dialogs have covered topics including feminism, diversity, and more. This year, See Chicago Dance is proud to bring you the latest installment of Moving Dialogs: Culture in Motion!

With three sessions spanning April to June, this unique series, which represents a collaboration between Chicago-area dance companies and cultural museums, explores the ways interpretive dance can add to the tangible objects and experiences in museums. Choreographers from three dance companies partner with curators from three museums to learn about the museums' collections and heritage, selecting objects that inspire them. Then, based on the partnering curator's advice, the choreographers create a dance that illuminates those objects and the cultural heritage they represent.

The three participating dance companies—VADCO/Valerie Alpert Dance Company, Chicago Dance Crash, and Synapse Arts—are partnering, respectively, with the Chinese American Museum of Chicago, the Haitian American Museum of Chicago, and the Indo American Heritage Museum, with each hosting one of the three events. The events take place on April 3, May 9, and early June, and each lasts two hours, featuring the creative interpretation of the choreographer, a performance, and an open interaction with the audience. The curator, choreographer, and a moderator talk about their creative process, with those attending having a chance to dialog with the speakers and learn more about their decision-making and the art. All the events emphasize openness, dialog, and interaction with the audience.

SYNAPSE ARTS BY

Moving Dialogs aims to develop an understanding about the surprising and exciting ways dance might activate the objects and culture contained within the partnering museums. We hope the experiences help us gain insight into how a dance-driven creative interpretation might be successful in the future.

VADCO BY JOHN A FERRANTE

SG-MUNTU DANCE THEATRE OF CHICAGO BY WILLIAM FREDERKING

## FEATURED EVENT:

### Chicago Human Rhythm Project's STOMPING GROUNDS

Chicago Human Rhythm Project's (CHRP's) fourth annual STOMPING GROUNDS, a collaborative, citywide festival running April through June, showcases nine accomplished percussive dance companies spotlighting various cultural traditions: CHRP's Stone Soup Rhythms (American tap), Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater, Mexican Folk Dance Company of Chicago, Muntu Dance Theatre of Chicago (African), Trinity Irish Dance Company/ Trinity Irish Dance Ensemble and, new this year, the Black Hawk Performance Company (Native American), Chicago Dance Crash (urban fusion), and Natya Dance Theatre (Indian).

"STOMPING GROUNDS embodies CHRP's core mission: to present performance, education, and community development programs that foster artistic excellence and social reconciliation," said CHRP Founder and Director Lane Alexander. "Our first concert 30 years ago featured CHRP, Ensemble Español, Trinity, and Najwa Dance Corps. Finding common ground through rhythmic expression was important then and may be more important today. We've taken programs to neighborhoods around Chicago since 2000, and we're currently in 15 city wards."

Each STOMPING GROUNDS "Performalogue" showcases several companies in performance and open rehearsal and offers free dance instruction, culturally specific arts and crafts, and dialogue among artistic directors, artists, and audience. Most events are free or cost $5. Performalogue partners include the Chicago Cultural Center, Beverly Arts Center, Irish American Heritage Center, National Museum of Mexican Art, DuSable Museum of African American History, Garfield Park Conservatory, and Millennium Park's Pritzker Pavilion.

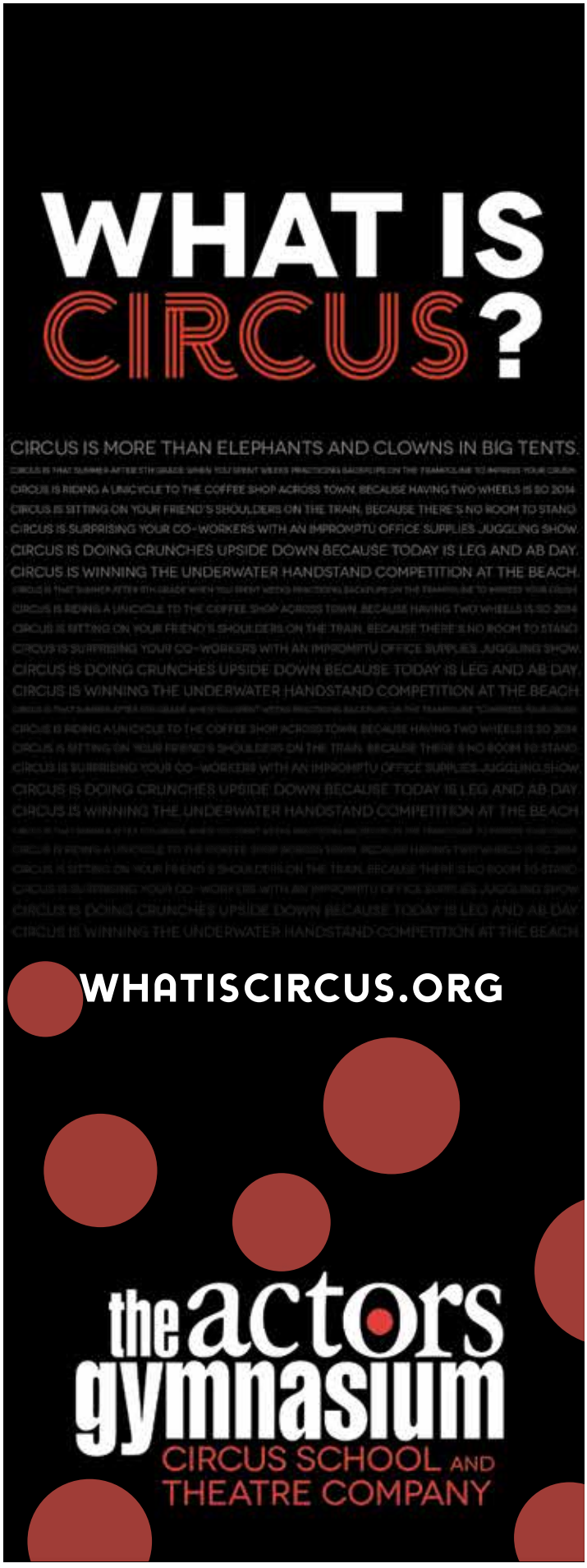
CHRP also offers nearly 4,000 underserved Chicago Public Schools students from eight schools its education program, "We All Got Rhythm," which includes a lecture/demonstration featuring STOMPING GROUNDS artists, master classes, and a professional development seminar for teachers.

Engaging Dance Audiences (EDA), a program of Dance USA funded by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, provides major support to CHRP (the only Illinois dance organization selected) for STOMPING GROUNDS, with additional funding from the Chicago Free-For-All Fund at The Chicago Community Trust, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events.

"We've provided economic investment to a segment of the dance community that has not enjoyed proportional investment and in dis-invested neighborhoods," commented Alexander. "We've celebrated our common heritage through rhythm to build affinity between people and communities and push forward toward social reconciliation."

STOMPING GROUNDS culminates with a Grand Finale June 7 at the Pritzker Pavilion, which kicks off CHRP's 30th Anniversary Season. **For a schedule of events, check this brochure or visit chicagotap.org.**

ENSEMBLE ESPAÑOL SPANISH DANCE THEATER BY WILLIAM FREDERKING

# I get asked a lot of questions about dance.

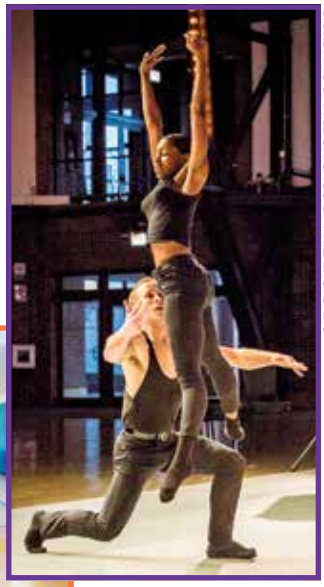
## It usually starts something like, "So, I don't know anything about dance, but…"

Here's the good news: You already know what you need to know about dance.

Most dance is non-verbal (some groups like to talk onstage), leaving audience members to draw meaning from movement, which is admittedly harder than it sounds. Many viewers resort to one of two tactics when watching: First, can you find a story through the dancers' movements, facial expressions, or interactions with the audience or each other? Can you relate the story to something you've experienced in your own life? If not, don't fret. A lot of dance is presented as a non-linear narrative or with no narrative at all. There may be no discernable beginning, middle, or end. There may be a narrative that is unknown to you due to cultural or geographical differences between you and the choreographer.

CERQUA RIVERA DANCE THEATRE BY LEO MISERENDINO

Some viewers prefer to respond to shapes and geometric patterns of a dance, as how one might engage with a piece of visual art. One can observe the forms individual bodies make or consider the ways those bodies move together onstage. Some respond positively to spectacle—flashy lights, costumes, and seemingly physical impossibility of certain dance forms—while others prefer to see the honest humanity of the people onstage. Still others respond to the sounds and rhythms of the music in coordination with the dancers, who might also be creating noise with their voices, feet, or other body parts. (Aside: In a recent conversation about the Nobel Laureate poet Joseph Brodsky, his dear friend Mikhail Baryshnikov said that Brodsky would see dance only because "occasionally great music is played.")



GIORDANO DANCE CHICAGO BY PHILAMONJARO

If what you see and hear isn't appealing to you, that's OK, too. Dance can sometimes seem visually and sonically dissonant, and this can and does feel uncomfortable, leaving audience members questioning what they should be feeling and scratching their heads searching for meaning. Those who love dance relish in these ambiguities, while others are left confounded by the form.

VOLUNTEER MIKE ANESTOR BY PHILAMONJARO

When Audience Architects, now operating under the identity See Chicago Dance (SCD), launched more than a decade ago, the organization and its companion site, seechicagodance.com, sought to build and engage dance audiences by providing a central location to research shows, buy tickets, and read critical reviews. Throughout this history, See Chicago Dance has welcomed viewers at all levels of engagement—no previous dance experience required, no need to preface questions with, "I don't know anything about dance, but…"

With lectures, open-studio sessions, sampler packs, and free pop-up performances scattered throughout Chicago Dance Month, in addition to a year-round, comprehensive guide to dance performances of all types, SCD provides all sorts of opportunities for those wishing to take a deeper dive with dance to "try before you buy."

AUDIENCE MEMBERS AT WRIGLEY SQUARE BY PHILAMONJARO

But a critical part of this mission to build and engage dance audiences recognizes that it's not just about us. SCD acknowledges that dance companies sometimes need to meet us halfway, and the resources SCD provides to the dance community helps them to better connect with their current audiences and bring new faces through theater doors. SCD member companies who have taken full advantage of the myriad professional development tools have seen their operating budgets grow, their messaging in organizational missions and marketing materials refined, and their artistic output improved.

Everything SCD does rests on the basic assumption that dance in Chicago is worth seeing. It is, thanks in no small part to their efforts. SCD literally makes Chicago dance better, securing Chicago's status as a world-class city for dance. But don't take my word for it; do what they say and see some Chicago dance this month.

*—Lauren Warnecke,*
*Chicago dance writer and critic*

DANCING PETALS BY PHILAMONJARO

# CHICAGO DANCE MONTH EVENTS

For venue/event locations, see map on page 10.

March 20
**Desueño Dance Open Rehearsal**
Desueño Dance
Dovetail Studios for Dance & Fitness
Tuesday 8:30pm, FREE

March 21-25
**In/Motion Dance Film Festival**
Loyola University Chicago
Wednesday-Sunday, $0-20

March 22
**Center Stage**
Hedwig Dances and more
Ruth Page Center for the Arts
Thursday 7pm, $5

**SEE CHICAGO DANCE EVENT!**
March 23
**Chicago Dance Month 2018**
**Open Studio Fridays**
See Chicago Dance with
Chicago Dance Crash
Chicago Cultural Center
Friday 4:30pm, FREE

March 23
**Global Dance Party**
Barrio Flamenco
Old Town School of Folk Music
Friday 8:30pm, $12

March 23 & 24
**Season 40 Spring Series**
Hubbard Street Dance Chicago
Auditorium Theatre
Friday & Saturday 7:30pm, $25–110

March 23 & 24
**Spring Series**
Giordano Dance Chicago
Harris Theater for Music and Dance
Friday & Saturday 7:30pm, $15–75

March 24–May 12
**Vaudezilla! Burlesque Spectacular**
Vaudezilla
Stage 773
Saturdays 10:30pm, $20

March 25
**Spring Open Rehearsal**
Winifred Haun & Dancers
Lou Conte Dance Studio
Sunday 4:30pm, FREE

**SEE CHICAGO DANCE EVENT!**
March 27
**Chicago Dance Month 2018**
**Kickoff Celebration**
See Chicago Dance
Chicago Cultural Center
Tuesday 4:30pm, FREE

March 29 & 30
**The Mysterious Disappearance of The Second Youngest Sister**
RE|dance group
Hamilton Park
Thursday & Friday 7:30pm, $15–20

March 30
**Broadway Dance for Kids**
Nancy Teinowitz
Old Town School of Folk Music
Friday 2pm, $14–15

**SEE CHICAGO DANCE EVENT!**
March 30
**Chicago Dance Month 2018**
**Open Studio Fridays**
See Chicago Dance with Simantikos
Chicago Cultural Center
Friday 4:30pm, FREE

March 30
**DanceChance**
DanceWorks Chicago
Lou Conte Dance Studio
Friday 7pm, $3

March 30 & 31
**Coddiwomple**
Cattywampus Dance
Ruth Page Center for the Arts
Friday & Saturday 8pm, $20

April 2
**STOMPING GROUNDS (Kick-Off!)**
Chicago Human Rhythm Project
Chicago Cultural Center
Monday 6pm, FREE

**SEE CHICAGO DANCE EVENT!**
April 3
**Moving Dialogs: Culture in Motion**
Chicago Dance Crash co-presented by
See Chicago Dance and
Chicago Cultural Alliance
Haitian American Museum of Chicago
Tuesday 6pm, FREE

April 5
**Adult Contemporary Class**
**CDM Free Class**
Cara Shear
Joel Hall Dancers & Center
Thursday 1pm, FREE to new students

April 5
**Everyday People/Everyday Action**
Clinard Dance, Cultura Pilsen
Joseph Regenstein Library
Thursday 6pm, FREE

April 5–7
**In a Rhythm**
Bebe Miller Company
The Dance Center of
Columbia College Chicago
Thursday–Saturday 7:30pm, $10–30

**SEE CHICAGO DANCE EVENT!**
April 6
**Chicago Dance Month 2018**
**Open Studio Fridays**
See Chicago Dance with
Winifred Haun and Dancers
Chicago Cultural Center
Friday 4:30pm, FREE

April 6 & 7
**POINT | LINE | PLANE**
Hedwig Dances
Ruth Page Center for the Arts
Friday 7:30pm, Saturday 2pm & 7:30pm,
$15–25

April 6 & 7
**SPRINGFIVE**
Visceral Dance Chicago
Harris Theater for Music and Dance
Friday & Saturday 7:30pm, $25–70

BALLET 5:8 BY PHILAMONJARO

MOVEMENT REVOLUTION DANCE CREW BY PHILAMONJARO

PERCEPTUAL MOTION, INC. BY PHILAMONJARO

April 6 & 7
**Modern Motions**
Chicago Repertory Ballet
The Athenaeum Theatre
Friday & Saturday 8:00pm, $22-37

April 7
**Flamenco Dance-Bulerias**
Maya Tatiana
Old Town School of Folk Music
Saturday 3pm, $25

April 8
**Everyday People/Everyday Action**
Clinard Dance, Cultura Pilsen
National Museum of Mexican Art
Sunday 3pm, FREE

April 9
**Advance/Pro Ballet Class**
**CDM Free Class**
Betsy Herskind
Joel Hall Dancers & Center
Monday 9:30am, FREE to new students

**SEE CHICAGO DANCE EVENT!**
April 10
**Chicago Dance Month 2018**
**Mid-Month Pop-up Performance**
See Chicago Dance
Block 37
Tuesday 4:30pm, FREE

April 12
**Free Dance Day with Synapse Arts**
Synapse Arts
Loyola Park
Thursday 10:30am, FREE

April 12
**Sabar Dance Workshop**
Idy Ciss
Old Town School of Folk Music
Thursday 7pm, $19–20

April 12–15
**Okwui Okpokwasili: "Poor People's TV Room"**
MCA Stage
Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago
Thursday–Saturday 7:30pm,
Sunday 2pm, $30

April 12–15
**Shen Yun**
Shen Yun Performing Arts
Harris Theater for Music and Dance
Thursday & Friday 7:30pm, Saturday 2pm & 7:30pm, Sunday 1pm & 6pm, $80–180

**SEE CHICAGO DANCE EVENT!**
April 13
**Chicago Dance Month 2018**
**Open Studio Fridays**
See Chicago Dance with Duncan Dance Chicago
Chicago Cultural Center
Friday 4:30pm, FREE

April 13
**Center Stage**
Ruth Page Center for the Arts
Northeastern Illinois University Salme Harju Steinberg Fine Arts Center
Friday 7:00pm, $5

April 13
**Open Studio – 2nd Fridays in Pilsen**
Simantikos Dance Studio
Friday 7:30pm, FREE

April 14
**Intro to Irish Step (soft shoe)**
Nora Kerr
Old Town School of Folk Music
Saturday 3pm, $19–20

April 14
**STOMPING GROUNDS**
Chicago Human Rhythm Project
and more
Beverly Arts Center
Saturday 7:30pm, FREE

April 14 & May 12
**Dance Basics for Couples**
Louie Stallone
Old Town School of Folk Music
Saturdays 1pm, $43–45

April 16
**Joel Hall Dancers Open Rehearsal**
Joel Hall Dancers & Center
Monday 4:30pm, FREE

April 16
**SET FREE Volume 3**
Emma Draves, Keisha Janae, Julia Mayer, Tara Aisha Willis
Links Hall
Monday 7:30pm, $5

April 18
**Adult Beginning Ballet Class**
**CDM Free Class**
Julie Ferrell
Joel Hall Dancers & Center
Wednesday 1:30pm, FREE to new students

April 18
**Spring Preview**
Noumenon Dance Ensemble
Links Hall
Wednesday 7:30pm, $10–15

April 19
**Elements and Chill: Fresh Dance, Underground Films, and Free Beer**
Elements Contemporary Ballet
WeWork Kinzie
Thursday 6:30pm, FREE

April 19
**Company Showcase & Sneak Preview**
Cerqua Rivera Dance Theatre
Old Town School of Folk Music
Thursday 7pm, price TBA

**SEE CHICAGO DANCE EVENT!**
April 20
**Chicago Dance Month 2018**
**Open Studio Fridays**
See Chicago Dance with Concert Dance, Inc.
Chicago Cultural Center
Friday 4:30pm, FREE

April 21
**The Legacy of Joel Hall (A Chicago Dance Month Lecture Demonstration)**
Joel Hall Dancers & Center
Saturday 6pm, FREE
(Suggested donation $5)

April 21
**STOMPING GROUNDS**
Trinity Irish Dance Company and more
Irish American Heritage Center
Saturday 7:30pm, FREE

April 22
**Rasa Experience: Dance Connections**
Natya Dance Theatre
Ashyana Banquets
Sunday 11am, $100

April 22
**Maks, Val & Peta Live on Tour: Confidential**
Maksim and Valentin Chmerkovskiy/ Barnstorm Entertainment
Chicago Theatre
Sunday 7:30pm, $29.99–59.99

April 24
**Horton-based Modern Class**
**CDM Free Class**
William Gill
Joel Hall Dancers & Center
Tuesday 6:30pm, FREE to new students

April 24
**Adult Dance Student Showcase**
Old Town School of Folk Music
Tuesday 7:15pm, FREE

April 25
**100 Light Years of Solitude**
Yumiko Yoshioka
Links Hall
Wednesday 7pm, $12–18

April 25–May 6
**Midsummer Night's Dream**
The Joffrey Ballet
Auditorium Theatre
Wednesday & Friday 7:30pm,
Saturday 2pm & 7:30pm, Sunday 2pm
$34–159

April 26
**Lucky Plush Presents Tab Show**
Lucky Plush
Harris Theater for Music and Dance
Thursday & Friday 7:30pm, $25–70

**SEE CHICAGO DANCE EVENT!**
April 27
**Chicago Dance Month 2018**
**Open Studio Fridays**
See Chicago Dance with
Project Bound Dance
Chicago Cultural Center
Friday 4:30pm, FREE

April 27
**DanceChance**
DanceWorks Chicago
Lou Conte Dance Studio
Friday 7pm, $3

April 27 & 28
**Ballet Chicago's Spring Series Sneak Peek**
Ballet Chicago
Ballet Chicago
Friday 6pm, Saturday 5pm, FREE

April 28
**Compass Project**
Ballet 5:8
Moody Bible Institute – Solheim Center
Wednesday 7pm, $20

April 28
**Body Passages Series**
Chicago Danztheatre Ensemble
Uncommon Ground Edgewater
Wednesday 7:30pm, $10

April 28
**STOMPING GROUNDS**
Mexican Folk Dance Company of Chicago
and more
National Museum of Mexican Art
Saturday 7:30pm, FREE

April 29
**Esoteric Dance Project**
**Work-In-Progress Showing**
Esoteric Dance Project & Collaborators
Dovetail Studios for Dance & Fitness
Sunday 12:30pm, FREE

April 29
**THE DREAM | with the**
**Chicago Philharmonic**
Visceral Dance Chicago
North Shore Center for the Performing Arts
in Skokie
Sunday 3pm, $25–75

April 29
**Rama Vaidyanathan's "Vivartana"**
Natya Dance Theatre
Pfeiffer Hall at North Central College
Sunday 5pm, $20

**SEE CHICAGO DANCE EVENT!**
April 30
**Chicago Dance Month 2018**
**Celebration and Scavenger Hunt**
See Chicago Dance
Chicago Cultural Center
Monday 4:30pm, FREE

April 30
**Ballet Fundamentals Class**
**CDM Free Class**
Jen Didier
Joel Hall Dancers & Center
Monday 6:30pm, FREE to new students

May 3 & 4
**Trashed and other works**
Winifred Haun & Dancers
Hamlin Park Fieldhouse Theater
Thursday & Friday 7:30pm, $25

**SEE CHICAGO DANCE EVENT!**
May 4
**Chicago Dance Month 2018**
**Open Studio Fridays**
See Chicago Dance with
Chicago Dantztheatre Ensemble
Chicago Cultural Center
Friday 4:30pm, FREE

May 4–19
**Art In Response**
Chicago Danztheatre Ensemble
Ebenezer Lutheran Church
Fridays & Saturdays 8pm, $20

May 5
**STOMPING GROUNDS**
Muntu Dance Theatre and more
DuSable Museum of
African American History
Saturday 7:30pm, FREE

**SEE CHICAGO DANCE EVENT!**
May 9
**Moving Dialogs: Culture in Motion**
See Chicago Dance presents VADCO
Chinese American Museum of Chicago
Wednesday 6pm, FREE

May 9
**Tejiendo Caminos (Weaving Paths)**
Silvita Diaz Brown Sildance/AcroDanza
National Museum of Mexican Art
Wednesday 6:30pm, $10

May 10 & 11
**Dance Shelter**
Chicago Moving Company
Hamlin Park Fieldhouse Theater
Thursday & Friday 7:30pm, $12–15

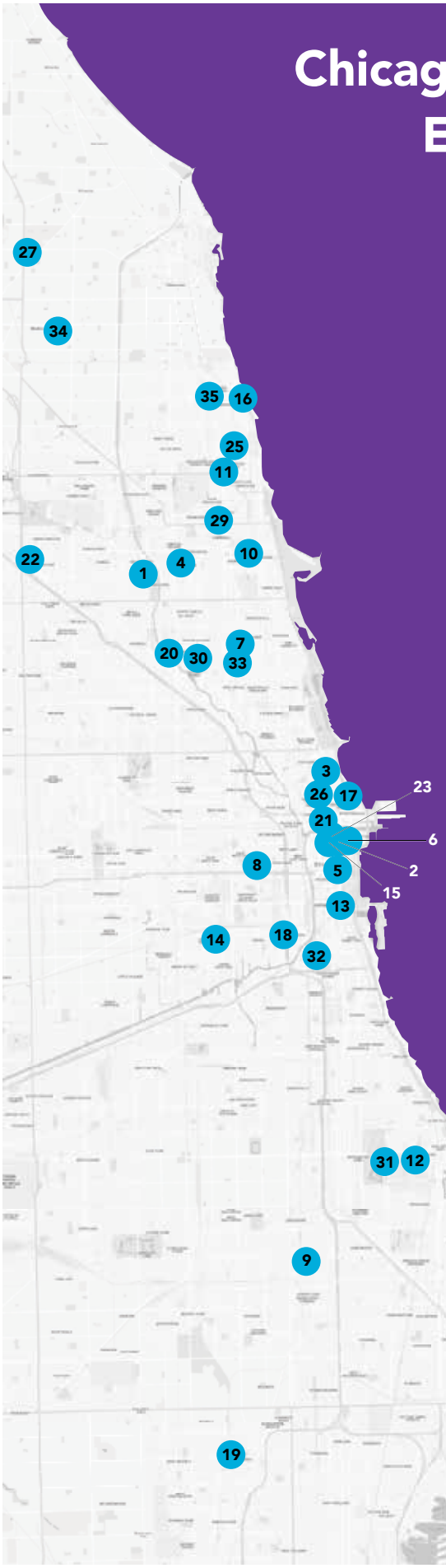
**SEE CHICAGO DANCE EVENT!**
May 11
**Chicago Dance Month 2018**
**Open Studio Fridays**
See Chicago Dance with
South Chicago Dance Theatre
Chicago Cultural Center
Friday 4:30pm, FREE

May 12
**The Playground**
Chicago Academy for the Arts
Athenaeum Theatre
Saturday 2:30pm, $17–27

May 18-20
**Don Quixote**
Ballet Nacional de Cuba
Auditorium Theatre
Friday & Saturday 7:30pm, Sunday 3:00pm,
$41-120

EVANSTON DANCE ENSEMBLE BY PHILAMONJARO

# Chicago Dance Month Event Locations:




1. **Dovetail Studios**
   2853 W Montrose Ave, Chicago, IL 60618
2. **Chicago Cultural Center**
   78 E Washington St, Chicago, IL 60602
3. **The Ruth Page Center for the Arts**
   1016 N Dearborn St, Chicago, IL 60610
4. **Old Town School of Folk Music**
   4544 N Lincoln Ave, Chicago, IL 60625
5. **Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University**
   50 E Congress Pkwy, Chicago, IL 60605
6. **Harris Theater for Music and Dance**
   205 E Randolph St, Chicago, IL 60601
7. **Stage 773**
   1225 W Belmont Ave, Chicago, IL 60657
8. **Lou Conte Dance Studio**
   1147 Jackson Blvd, Chicago, IL 60607
9. **Hamilton Park**
   513 W 72nd St, Chicago, IL 60621
10. **The Haïtian American Museum**
    4654 N Racine Ave, Chicago, IL 60640
11. **Joel Hall Dancers & Center**
    5965 N Clark St, Chicago, IL 60660
12. **The Joseph Regenstein Library**
    1100 E 57th St, Chicago, IL 60637
13. **Dance Center of Columbia College Chicago**
    1306 Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60605
14. **National Museum of Mexican Art**
    1852 W 19th St, Chicago, IL 60608
15. **Block 37**
    108 N State St, Chicago, IL 60602
16. **Loyola Park**
    1230 W Greenleaf Ave, Chicago, IL 60626
17. **Museum Of Contemporary Art Chicago**
    220 E Chicago Ave, Chicago, IL 60611
18. **Simantikos Dance Chicago**
    1835 S Halsted St, Chicago, IL 60608
19. **Beverly Arts Center**
    2407 W 111th St, Chicago, IL 60655
20. **Links Hall**
    3111 N Western Ave, Chicago, IL 60618
21. **WeWork Kinzie**
    20 W Kinzie St, Chicago, IL 60654
22. **Irish American Heritage Center**
    4626 N Knox Ave, Chicago, IL 60630
23. **The Chicago Theatre**
    175 N State St, Chicago, IL 60601
24. **Ashyana Banquets (not pictured)**
    1620 75th St, Downers Grove, IL 60516
25. **Uncommon Ground**
    1401 W Devon Ave, Chicago, IL 60660
26. **Moody Bible Institute**
    820 N LaSalle St, Chicago, IL 60610
27. **North Shore Center For The Performing Arts**
    9501 Skokie Blvd, Skokie, IL 60077
28. **North Central College Fine & Performing Arts (not pictured)**
    310 E Benton Ave, Naperville, IL 60540
29. **Hamlin Park**
    3035 N Hoyne Ave, Chicago, IL 60618
30. **Ebenezer Lutheran Church**
    1650 W Foster Ave, Chicago, IL 60640
31. **DuSable Museum of African American History**
    740 E 56th Pl, Chicago, IL 60637
32. **Chinese-American Museum of Chicago**
    238 W 23rd St, Chicago, IL 60616
33. **Athenaeum Theatre**
    2936 N Southport Ave, Chicago, IL 60657
34. **Northeastern Illinois University**
    Salme Harju Steinberg Fine Arts Center
    3701 W Bryn Mawr Ave, Chicago, IL 60659
35. **Loyola University Chicago**
    1032 W. Sheridan Road, Chicago, IL 60660

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# FEATURED EVENT:

## Mandala Arts' *Amita, Without Limits*

The feminine spirit is resilience, grace, and power—devotion to and celebration of life. "She" has a complex and energetic existence, but her love is simple and constant.

Mandala South Asian Performing Arts presents *Amita, Without Limits*, showcasing Indian classical dance artists Sonali Mishra and Ashwaty Chennat and their dedication to Odissi and Bharatanatyam, respectively; both have found spaces to explore new expressions while maintaining generational continuity and honoring tradition. Through movement, they share the experience of the female form.

*Amita* tells classic stories from South Asian poetry, literature, and mythology. "She" may be a young woman yearning for affection from her promiscuous lover, a queen suffering from isolation and anger with her lack of agency, or a goddess who takes responsibility for the world's troubles. Classical Indian music plays with text, building meaning upon meaning and allowing the dancer to explore story and movement in new ways.

Classical Indian dance forms rely on Nritta, movement focused on precision, shapes, and rhythms, and Abhinaya, movement that tells stories through hand gestures and facial expressions. Nritta and Abhinaya create a back-and-forth, seamlessly building a strong energy within the dance artist called Bhakti, a complete surrender to the music, dance, and story.

Sonali Mishra is an Odissi dancer, writer, and researcher based in Odisha, India. Born and raised in the United States, Sonali discovered dance while young through a community of Toronto-based artists. Since 1995, Sonali travels to Odisha to feed her passion for perfection and understand the form. Her explorations led her to the renowned Srjan institute, founded by the legendary Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra Gharana. She continues to receive training from artists who have dedicated their lives to education at Sjran. She has performed throughout the U.S., Canada, Europe, Australia, and Malaysia. She regularly conducts workshops and lectures at leading universities in India and in the west. Leading organizations throughout India have honored her for her performance—most recently, with the 2017 Monomanini Award.

Ashwaty Chennat is a Bharatanatyam artist and educator who performs with Mandala. She grew up among a community of diasporic artists in southeast Michigan, where she slept to the tunes of classical Indian violin and shared meals with great musical and dance artists performing abroad. She continues to learn forms of movement, including Mohiniyattam (Kerala, India) and Kandyan dance (Sri Lanka), from artists based in these South Asian regions. Recently, she appeared with Mandala in *Unwinding and Conversations with Devi*.

*Amita, Without Limits* will build a space for dialogue and understanding between artists, community, and audience. A "tea party" and other refreshments follow the performance. **For information about the April 15 performance at the Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts, visit mandalaarts.org.**

thedancecenter | Columbia College Chicago

# Process v. Product Festival

March 29–April 7, 2018

This two-week festival examines how concert dance presentation can be a document of process rather than a consumable product. **Molly Shanahan / Mad Shak** and **Bebe Miller Company** headline the festival through a series of performances, artist discussions, panels, workshops, and more.

The Process v. Product Festival invites dance-makers, dance-lovers, and other artists to reflect on the process of creation.

**Performances**
Molly Shanahan / Mad Shak • March 29, 30 and 31, 2018, 7:30 p.m.
Bebe Miller Company • April 5, 6 and 7, 2018, 7:30 p.m.

**Tickets (per performance)**
$30 regular / $24 senior / $10 students

For a full schedule of free Festival events, visit colum.edu/dancecenterpresents

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# STOMPING GROUNDS

## APRIL 2 - JUNE 7

Chicago Cultural Center **April 2**
Beverly Arts Center **April 14**
Irish American Heritage Center **April 21**
National Museum of Mexican Art **April 28**
DuSable Museum of African American History **May 5**
Garfield Park Conservatory **May 23**
Jay Pritzker Pavilion **June 7**

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For dates, times, and tickets, go to:

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## FEATURED EVENT:
### "The Legacy of Joel Hall"

Established in 1974, the mission of Joel Hall Dancers & Center (JHDC) is to use the arts to enrich the lives of its community through dance performance and education. JHDC is passionate about making dance accessible and affordable to all people, regardless of age, economic circumstance, or experience level.

JHDC seeks to serve those who may not otherwise be exposed to the arts by providing dance classes and performances to enhance the lives of participants. "An authentic embrace and celebration of diversity have always been the hallmarks of JHDC, its programming, and its performances," said Hall. "JHDC and its audiences exhibit a rare and varied spectrum of cultural, ethnic, racial, and socioeconomic backgrounds."

"The Legacy of Joel Hall" examines the Joel Hall Dancers' rich history, its inception, and its vital role in Chicago dance history. Directors Joel Hall and Jacki Sinclair discuss the connections to and significance of music in Hall's choreography and delve into the company's mission and Hall's triggers for inspiration. These elements contribute to the company's diverse repertoire, some of which the first company performs during this event.

The talk focuses on the necessary determination and perseverance to remain relevant for 40 years, "no easy feat!" exclaimed Hall. Joel Hall Dancers has adapted to the changing environment to remain active amidst challenges and adjustments. The discussion also addresses JHDC's community connections and its efforts to make dance accessible and awaken the dancer in everyone's soul.

The final topic is the history of jazz dance and its importance to our culture and the dance community. "Although exciting and innovative new forms of dance have emerged, we can never move forward unless we know our history, our roots, and how we got here," Hall said. "The knowledge of the purest forms of dance allows us to further revolutionize and create new works that are truly groundbreaking and original.

"This event presents the efforts and challenges a dance company faces and provides an in-depth history lesson of one of Chicago's oldest and most diverse dance companies. We hope to communicate that dance is for everyone, and good art is not elitist or exclusive, but brings people together. Art and dance bring the strongest sense of community and togetherness. We hope to foster those community ties and connections to our history that keeps our great city and dance community progressing."

**"The Legacy of Joel Hall" takes place April 21 at 6 pm at the Joel Hall Dancers & Center. For more information, see this brochure or visit joelhall.org.**

JOEL HALL COMPANY BY LENI MANAA-HOPPENWORTH

ZEPHYR AT SITE/less, COURTESY OF ZEPHYR

Zephyr Artistic Director Michelle Kranicke and architect David Sundry explore the intersection of architecture and choreography with the creation of SITE/less, an experimental gallery/performance/workplace/community gathering space at 1250 W. Augusta Boulevard. SITE/less exists within a storefront with relationships to various urban crossroads and infrastructures, anchoring a residential community between Chicago's West Town and Noble Square neighborhoods, adjacent to the North Branch Corridor.

SITE/less seeks to rethink the relationship between the typical performance venue model and how that model limits curatorial practice. SITE/less is itself performative with an architectural approach that serves to stage intended activities while employing a structure open to unplanned social interactions and chance events.

Noted Kranicke, "As artists involved with the critical debates and ongoing negotiation of contemporary artistic practices, Zephyr aims for SITE/less to ask: How does an institution define and restrict the local community? How does SITE/less shift fixed ideas of dance in a gallery? How do dance and architecture interact? Can one facilitate expanded ideas within dance and architecture through a persistent interface? Even though architecture and dance are embodied forms, they have independent attributes. SITE/less aims to force dance and architecture to continually consider each other as disciplines."

The first public events at SITE/less are a series of movement studies, performed by Kranicke and Zephyr dancer Molly Strom, that are highly abstract, yet open to myriad images and ideas. A battle of wills involving long strands of mason's line winding around the dancers' hands evoke images of constraint and limitation, while also positioning the female body to symbolize aggression and embody restriction. A collage of choreographic elements are sequenced using the cut-up technique of video editing and transposed to bodies in the rehearsal process so that odd juxtapositions supersede organic, more natural progression.

"SITE/less offers a new geographical layout to chart," said Kranicke. The performance emphasizes the topographical aspect of the space and navigates architectural elements designed by Sundry, Kranicke's husband.

"I have actively collaborated with David since 2012, creating works that put movement and architecture on equal footing," Kranicke shared. "Dance and architecture involve the organization of bodies in space, albeit using vastly different methods. SITE/less is our biggest project to date."

SITE/less will not exist in a traditional "finished" state, but rather continue to evolve, functioning as an incubator, laboratory, physical structure, dance, and a place where distinct art forms speak directly to each other. SITE/less aims to connect with the public and promote social interaction by hosting community meetings and pop-up dinners, establishing an open gathering zone not unlike a reading room, Internet hotspot location, long-term art installation, or other types of public space located within a private building.

**For information about SITE/less and the opening performances April 26–May 5, visit zephyrdance.com.**

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**DanceBuilders is a unique membership program for dance lovers who want to play a vital role in the livelihood and growth of the Chicago dance industry. For more information, contact Heather Hartley at heather@seechicagodance.com**

**On the cover**
**Photo 1:** Ballet Chicago by PHilamonjaro; **Photo 2:** Dancing Petals by PHilamonjaro; **Photo 3:** Project Bound by Leo Miserendino

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