



BEACH DANCES

TUESDAY - SUNDAY

JUNE 18 - 23, 2019

#ArtSaMo #SMBeachHouse



Annenberg Community
Beach House

AT SANTA MONICA STATE BEACH

Event Program

Beach Dances is a week of local choreographers rehearsing, teaching and performing at the Annenberg Community Beach House. This year's program is subtitled *Shared Practice* and was curated by Allison Wyper of Rhizomatic Arts.

Participating Artists:

- Heyward Bracey & Nguyen Nguyen
- Paola Escobar
- Maya Gingery
- Rebeca Hernandez
- DaEun Jung
- Shaina Lynn & Isabel Ivey
- Carol McDowell
- alexx shilling
- Christine Suarez
- Encounter (organized by Mariel Carranza)

In addition to daily rehearsals, Rhizomatic Arts hosts a picnic **Hangout** for artists and allies, followed by a **Performance** featuring short works that have been rehearsed throughout the week on Saturday June 22, 6:30-8pm. An improvisational **Encounter** featuring selected choreographers, performance artists and dancers takes place Sunday June 23 between 5-7pm; audiences are welcome to observe throughout. **Free Workshops** based in diverse movement practices including Cumbia, Flamenco, New Orleans Bounce, and Yoga are offered throughout the week.

Curator Allison Wyper says: "Choreographers use dance to practice their cultural identities and relationships to place and environment, to heal generational trauma, to practice inherited traditional ways of being in the world and to invent new ones. Dance practice is community practice; all are welcome to view and engage." Choreographer Christine Suarez adds: "The times that I have danced and created in public space have been very profound. I see and feel new things. I am also moved by how my body is seen by the public and often reflected back to me by children - beach visitors - dancing. It's a rich exchange that opens me up in a way that I can't find when I'm in a studio."

Full schedule available at beachdances2019.eventbrite.com.

DAILY SCHEDULE:

Tuesday, June 18

- Rehearsal 8:30-10:30am *Rendición* by Christine Suarez
- Rehearsal 10:30am-12:30pm *sAND sKY wIND* by Maya Gingery
- Rehearsal 12:30-1:30pm *Zurciendo Souls* by Paola Escobar

Wednesday, June 19

- Rehearsal 8:30-10:30am *Rendición* by Christine Suarez
- Workshop 10:30-11:30am *Parent-Child Yoga + Cumbia Class* with Rebeca Hernandez
- Workshop 11:30am-1:30pm *Earthian Folk Dance* with DaEun Jung

Thursday, June 20

- Rehearsal 8:30-9:30am *Zurciendo Souls* by Paola Escobar
- Rehearsal 9:30-11:30am *CONFLUENCE* by Heyward Bracey and Nguyen Nguyen
- Rehearsal 11:30am-1:30pm *sAND sKY wIND* by Maya Gingery

Friday, June 21

- Workshop 8:30-10:30am *Contemplative Dance Practice at the Beach* with Carol McDowell
- Workshop:30am-12:30pm *Freewalking / Ragewalking* with alexx shilling
- Rehearsal 12:30-1:30pm *CONFLUENCE* by Heyward Bracey and Nguyen Nguyen

Saturday, June 22

- Workshop 8:30-10:30am *Contemplative Dance Practice at the Beach* with Carol McDowell
- Workshop 10:30-11:30am *Surrendering to Improvisation* with Christine Suarez
- Rehearsal 11:30am-1:30pm *sAND sKY wIND* by Maya Gingery
- Event 4:00-6:00pm Rhizomatic Arts Beach Hangout
- Performance 6:30-8:00pm Short site-responsive works developed on-site by Christine Suarez, Maya Gingery, Paola Escobar, DaEun Jung, Heyward Bracey & Nguyen Nguyen

Sunday, June 23

- Workshop 8:30-10:30am *Contemplative Dance Practice at the Beach* with Carol McDowell
- Workshop 10:30am-12:00pm *Borderline Flamenco, Flamenco for All* with Paola Escobar
- Workshop 12:00-1:30pm *La Diáspora de Twerk* with Shaina Lynn and Isabel Ivey
- Event 5:00-7:00pm *Encounter* improvisational session featuring local choreographers and dancers organized by Mariel Carranza

ABOUT THE WORK, ARTISTS, WORKSHOPS, AND EVENTS

Heyward Bracey - butoh dancer / movement activist – has worked and performed with Los Angeles Movement Arts, The School for the Movement of the Technicolor People, and master butoh artist Katsura Kan, locally and internationally. He has been presented in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Mexico City, and Kyoto. In 2018, he collaborated with Taisha Paggett and WXPT Dance Collective on social justice dance actions for Made in L.A. Heyward's work explores the effects of colonialism upon diverse populations – as well as the intersections of butoh, indigenous cosmologies, the African Diaspora, the Pacific Basin Renaissance and street dance.

Nguyễn Nguyễn is a choreographer, dance filmmaker, and educator based in Los Angeles, born in Vietnam. His work has been presented throughout L.A., the Guangdong and Beijing International Dance Festival in China, and the International Performance Arts Festival in Thailand. Nguyễn is a founding member of Los Angeles Movement Arts. Nguyễn is currently on faculty at RenArts Academy in Los Angeles and is a member of The Rock Collection.

OPEN REHEARSALS: *CONFLUENCE* by Heyward Bracey and Nguyen Nguyen
Thursday June 20, 9:30-11:30am
Friday June 21, 12:30-1:30pm

CONFLUENCE is a site responsive dance performance that explores the relationship between memory and the present, identity, and the natural world, drawing from contemporary dance practices, butoh and contemporary African America's relationship

with the Orixá. The performers lead the audience from the stage to the waters edge – encouraging the entirety of the gathered bodies to witness themselves, their origins and aspirations as much as enjoy the beauty of the shared performance. Featuring special guest performer/collaborator **Rosemary Candelario**.

Mariel Carranza is a Los Angeles based artist born and raised in Perú. She has developed a practice contingent on seeing a cross-cultural art discourse that engages with public art more so than exhibiting in conventional art spaces. Carranza's work has been presented locally and internationally at venues including the Hammer Museum, Highways, 18th Street Art Center, LACE, Track 16, Woodbury University, MorYork Gallery, Human Resources, Perform Chinatown, Situation Room, Latitud 32 N / 55 S. Festival (Germany), National Review of Live Art (Glasgow), CONTEXTS Festival (Poland), Belfast International Performance Art Festival, First International Festival and Performance or Morir (Mexico), Erarta Museum (Russia), Crossing Zones = Language = Land (Croatia), and Festival Hall (London).

marielcarranza.com/encounter

Encounter

Sunday June 23, 5:00-7:00pm

Since 2012, leading performance artists from Los Angeles, plus international guests, have met regularly to engage in a practice called *Encounter*, organized by artist Mariel Carranza. Encounters are durational, improvised, action/time/space based performances inhabiting private studios, art venues, and public spaces across the city, including the Los Angeles River, Griffith Park, the Venice Pier, the Salton Sea, the Bowtie Parcel, WUHO Gallery, Human Resources, Los Angeles State Historic Park, and Highways Performance Space. More info at marielcarranza.com/encounter.

Paola Escobar (Annenberg Community Beach House 2019 Choreographer-in-Residence) is a Colombian artist who creates transcultural work that combines her Latin-American background with her interest in the flamenco tradition, African culture, and contemporary art. Escobar's work reflects on memory and cultural identity, and deals with current issues of immigration, hierarchies of power, and cultural perception. Escobar has toured and performed in France, Spain, Portugal, Canada, Brazil, Mexico, United States, and Colombia. In 2005, Escobar received the Colombian National Award. Escobar holds an MFA in Choreography from CalArts, and a BFA in Performance from the University of Florida. borderlinemovement.com

OPEN REHEARSALS: *Zurciendo Souls*

Tuesday June 18, 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Thursday June 20, 8:30-9:30 a.m.

The solo *Zurciendo Souls* is part of a series of works by Paola Escobar concerning the "hybrid body." A collaged soundtrack, a long trailing skirt, and an excessive amount of flowers offer a problematized twist on traditional flamenco aesthetics. For Beach Dances, Escobar explores how the beach as a site informs her signature hybrid choreography.

WORKSHOP: *Borderline Flamenco, Flamenco for All*

Sunday, June 23, 10:30am-12:00pm

This introductory flamenco workshop offers a liberating way to engage a complex traditional practice. Focusing on flamenco structures, the workshop uses improvisation as a fundamental tool to approach movement, and incorporates the students' own

movement background into the experience. The class is designed for participants with or without training in flamenco or any other dance form.

Maya Gingery is a multi-disciplinary artist working in the fields of performance, music and dance. A trained musician and dancer, she is highly influenced by her work in Japanese Noh theatre and butoh, as well as other traditional western and non-western forms. She has performed in Japan, the US and Canada as a solo artist, as a member of Theatre Nohgaku, and most recently with fourlarks company at the Getty Villa.

OPEN REHEARSALS: *sAND sKY wIND* by Maya Gingery

Tuesday June 18, 10:30am-12:30pm

Thursday June 20, 11:30am-1:30pm

Saturday June 22, 11:30am-1:30pm

This project addresses our (lost) connection to nature and environment. It's a dance to our human identity and a ritual to purge collective shame. It's an investigation into representation initiated in the concepts of fluidity, metamorphosis, and transmutation. In the spirit of butoh, the dancers will take on the identity of sea creatures, sea plants, sand, sky and wind. They will dance on the sand, only entering the stage occasionally to sacrifice themselves. Featuring performers **Maya Gingery, Nick Duran** and **Maya Gurantz**.

Rebeca Hernandez holds an MFA in Experimental Choreography from UCR. She is a dancer and choreographer born and raised in Mexicali, Mexico. Hernandez danced and toured in Mexico with Taller de Danza Contemporánea de la Universidad Autónoma de Baja California and with Compañía Jorge Domínguez. Hernandez is a 2012-2013 recipient of the National Performance Network/PAP award in partnership with the Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs' CEI program, and participated in UCLA's 2013 Hothouse Dance Residency Program. Internationally, Hernandez performed for the Hemispheric Institute's Encuentro in Santiago de Chile. rebecahernandezdance.com

WORKSHOP: Parents and Me Yoga+Cumbia Class

Wednesday June 19, 10:30-11:30am

This workshop is led by choreographer Rebeca Hernandez in collaboration with Ana Sofia, her two year-old daughter, and invites parents/guardians to explore movement and play with their child on the Beach Dances stage. We'll open with a warm up of simple paired yoga movement and stretching exercises and explore the different possibilities of interaction mimicking and identifying with fabric (material provided). Using our fabric, we'll float on the breeze, drag on the floor, and practice flying, swimming, slow motion, catching, pulling, resisting, and pushing movements. The workshop will end with everyone dancing a few cumbias!

DaEun Jung is a bicultural dancer-choreographer whose work reveals her past and present body memories. Her works have been presented at Electric Lodge, Highways, The Mortuary, Pieter, REDCAT, and MR at Judson and supported through artist-in-residence programs of Santa Monica Cultural Affairs @Camera Obscura, LAPP D+R @Automata, and Show Box/LA @We Live in Space. She redefines the principle, form, and context of Korean folk dance in inter/multi-cultural settings as a continuation of her graduate study at UCLA where she received her MFA and Westfield Emerging Artist Award. She has worked with Oguri & Roxanne

Steinberg, Yuval Sharon, Victoria Marks, Milka Djordjevich, Ros Warby, Wilfried Souly, Jeanine Durning, Shahar Biniamini, and Melinda Ring. daeunjung.com

WORKSHOP: Earthian Folk Dance
Wednesday June 19, 11:30am-1:30pm

Earthian Folk Dance (EFD) is a communal dance activity created and performed by Earthians. EFD investigates contemporary tactics of organizing repeatable steps and rhythmic play of body-generated sounds which are accessible to participants of diverse movement backgrounds. In this workshop the Earthian dancers will demonstrate and teach some simple steps and sections of Earthian Folk dance. Participants may be invited to perform with the Earthian dancers at the Beach Dances Performance, Saturday June 22.

Shaina Lynn is a New Orleans-born, LA-based multimedia artist. Fusing her training in healing modalities such as yoga and meditation with the rich ritual influences of NOLA, Shaina inspires the radical healing of the Black women's past, present, and forevermore. Internationally, Shaina has produced work at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, Ludwig Foundation, and Fabrica de Arte. Nationally, her highlights include presenting at REDCAT, DC and New Orleans Fringe Festival, Emerging Artist Theatre, Hammer Museum. She was a 2017 Curatorial Fellow at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. theshainalynn.com. **Isabel Ivey** is a California-born, LA-based artist honoring her Puerto Rican and African roots as a multimedia artist, performer, sculptor, and dancer. Isabel has shown work at Fabrica de Arte, Centro Cultural Espanol, Plaza de la Raza, and Imagine Entertainment. Isabel seeks to create community engagement within her work and has dedicated her practice to helping others and making both politically and culturally relevant art. isabelivey.com

WORKSHOP: La Diáspora de Twerk
Sunday, June 23, 12:00-1:30pm

Led by Shaina Lynn and Isabel Ivey, *La Diáspora de Twerk* explores the relationship between traditional New Orleans Bounce and Afro Latin dance. Utilizing social somatic approaches in NOLA Bounce, twerk, Afro Latin dance, and sacred feminine dances to resist the stigmas of mass media twerking, this practice reclaims the dance as a ritual of healing while reuniting the diaspora with the elements of nature. This inquiry is part of The Twerk Series, a sequence of reclamations by Shaina Lynn.

Carol McDowell is a BESSIE and Lester Horton Award winning interdisciplinary dance artist and lighting designer. Her work has been presented at Highways, Pieter, Skirball, Anatomy Riot, Platinum Oasis, Naropa, BMoCA, The Kitchen, DTW, PS 122, and abroad. McDowell co-directed Crazy Space at 18th Street, and co-founded max10 performance lab at the Electric Lodge and the Mariposa Collective with Barbara Dilley, Diane Butler and Polly Motley in Boulder. McDowell teaches dance studies and yoga at Rio Hondo College and West Los Angeles College.

WORKSHOP: Contemplative Dance Practice at the Beach
Friday June 21, 8:30-10:30am
Saturday June 22, 8:30-10:30am
Sunday June 23, 8:30-10:30am

Drawing upon a practice created by her mentor Barbara Dilley, a member of Grand Union and the Cunningham Dance Company, Carol McDowell leads three morning sessions of *Contemplative Dance Practice at the Beach*. CDP joins the personal awareness practice of meditation with dance improvisation. This workshop is open to all bodies interested in movement, meditation and improvisation who would like to begin the day at the Beach with a collective contemplative dance practice.

alex shilling is a Los Angeles-based dance artist who creates site-adaptable, live and filmic dances that invigorate memory and investigate transformation. shilling's original choreography and experimental films have been presented nationally and internationally and with support from institutions including Dance Film Association and California Arts Council. shilling teaches at Loyola Marymount University and Cal State Long Beach, co-founded the performance and teaching platforms *Hi, Solo, Gold Series* and *practice makes practice*.
alexsmakesdances.com

WORKSHOP: *Freewalking / Ragewalking*
Friday June 21, 10:30am-12:30pm

In this workshop open to all levels, choreographer alex shilling will share the practice of *freewalking* combining information from Open Source Forms and scores from her performance piece *Rage Walk Rise*. Warming up with Open Source Forms (the evolution of Skinner Releasing Technique, disseminated through Stephanie Skura), participants will work with gliding, *freewalking*, and the slippage between walking and dancing. We will play with solo and group forms, culminating in a longer practice with an awareness of our natural environment.

Christine Suarez is a Santa Monica-based choreographer, performer, educator, activist and founder of SuarezDanceTheater, which has been awarded grants from California Arts Council, Los Angeles County Arts Commission, Flourish Foundation, Santa Monica Cultural Affairs and Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs. Christine co-created Dance for Veterans, a program that builds creative expression and social cohesion at Los Angeles VA Hospitals.
suarezdance.org

OPEN REHEARSALS: *Rendición* by Christine Suarez
Tuesday June 18, 8:30-10:30am
Wednesday June 19, 8:30-10:30am

I am inspired by three stories of surrender: one a woman who lived during the 16th century in what is now Mexico; another about a woman whose story is told in the Hebrew Bible; and the last is my own. Surrender for women often has a special significance – surrendering to the patriarchy, surrendering to the constructs allocated for our gender. I want explore the landscape of surrender past the point of duality to find out if there is a liminal space between submission and struggle.

WORKSHOP: Surrendering to Improvisation
Saturday, June 22, 10:30-11:30am

Designed for all abilities, this workshop explores the theme of surrender, using image-based improvisation, partnering exercises, games, and writing and drawing exercises to build personal improvisation scores that outline our own experiences of surrender.

Allison Wyper (*Beach Dances* Curator) is an interdisciplinary performance artist and founder of Rhizomatic Arts, which provides professional services, training, and community for independent artists and creatives. Rhizomatic Studio, the creative wing of Rhizomatic Arts, produces collaboratively-oriented performances and workshops in public and private spaces. In 2014-15, Allison curated multiple site-responsive public performances for Play the L.A. River, a year-long civic art project. She has performed, taught, produced, and facilitated workshops for artists on experimental performance, professional development, and collaborative interdisciplinary practices locally and internationally. She has an MFA in Dance from UCLA, and a BA in Theatre Studies from Emerson College.

rhizomaticarts.com @RhizomaticArts #RhizomaticStudio

Rhizomatic Arts Beach Hangout

Saturday June 22, 4:00-6:00pm

RSVP

What do you need? What do you have to share? Cultivate your artist network for a thriving career. At our seasonal Rhizomatic Arts Hangouts, artists, creatives, and cultural producers meet to get to know one another, talk about our work, needs, and interests over potluck-style eats and drinks. Bring something to share (no alcohol or glass, please) with your fellow artists and artist-allies, then stick around for free Beach Dances performances on the sand starting at 6:30pm.

This program is part of the Beach=Culture series, presented by Santa Monica Cultural Affairs; for other events visit santamonica.gov/arts/beach-culture.

About the Annenberg Community Beach House



The Annenberg Community Beach House at Santa Monica State Beach is a public facility operated by the City of Santa Monica located on five acres of oceanfront property in Santa Monica. The Beach House story is one of evolution from private to public, starting with the development of the property at 415 Pacific Coast Highway as an opulent private estate of silent film star Marion Davies in the 1920s. Parking from April – October is \$12/day or \$3/hour annenbergbeachhouse.com | #SMBeachHouse

About Santa Monica Cultural Affairs



Santa Monica Cultural Affairs brings the City's art scene to life for residents and visitors each year by supporting engaging and accessible cultural events for all ages throughout the year. Cultural Affairs nurtures local arts organizations, promotes artist involvement in the community, manages the landmark Santa Monica Civic Auditorium and presents and produces innovative programs citywide at the Annenberg Community Beach House, the historic Miles Playhouse, Camera Obscura Art Lab and in the city's parks, enriching Santa Monica's reputation as an international cultural destination.

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