



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

Participating Choreographers:

- 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.

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.

-- Curator Allison Wyper

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### Daily Schedule

Schedule also available online at [beachdances2019.eventbrite.com](http://beachdances2019.eventbrite.com); more info at [santamonica.gov/beachdances](http://santamonica.gov/beachdances)

#### Tuesday, June 18

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

#### Wednesday, June 19

- **8:30-10:30am** Rehearsal of *Rendición* by Christine Suarez
- **10:30-11:30am** *Parent-Child Yoga + Cumbia* Workshop with Rebeca Hernandez

Led by choreographer Rebeca Hernandez in collaboration with Ana Sofia, her two year-old daughter. Parents/guardians are invited 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). The workshop will end with a few cumbias!

- **11:30am-1:30pm** **Earthian Folk Dance Workshop with DaEun Jung**

*Earthian Folk Dance* (EFD) is a communal dance activity created and performed by Earthians (that's us!) In this workshop, Earthian dancers will demonstrate and teach some sections of Earthian Folk Dance. All are welcome to participate after learning the simple steps, and then are invited to perform with EFD dancers at the Beach Dances Performance on Saturday June 22.

#### Thursday, June 20

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

#### Friday, June 21

- **8:30-10:30am** *Contemplative Dance Practice at the Beach* Workshop with Carol McDowell

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 moving together.

- **10:30am-12:30pm** *Freewalking / Ragewalking* Workshop with alexx shilling

In this workshop open to all levels, choreographer alexx 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.

- **12:30-1:30pm** Rehearsal of *CONFLUENCE* by Heyward Bracey and Nguyen Nguyen

### Saturday, June 22

- **8:30-10:30am** *Contemplative Dance Practice at the Beach* Workshop with Carol McDowell

(description, see above)

- **10:30-11:30am** *Surrendering to Improvisation* Workshop with Christine Suarez

Designed to be accessible for all abilities, this workshop explores the theme of surrender. Using image-based improvisation we will warm up the body, connecting inward to access outward expressivity. Partnering exercises and games bring the group to connect with each other. We culminate drawing from writing and drawing exercises to build personal improvisation scores that outline our own experiences of surrender.

- **11:30am-1:30pm** Rehearsal of *sAND sKY WIND* by Maya Gingery

- **4:00-6:00pm** Rhizomatic Arts Beach Hangout

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.

- **6:30-8:00pm** Performance of short site-responsive works developed on-site:

#### DaEun Jung - *Earthian Folk Dance*

Performers: Rayven Armijo, DaEun Jung, Aaron Mason, alexx shilling, Melody HJ Shim & Wilfried Souly

*Earthian Folk Dance* celebrates team spirit and bodily exhilaration and challenges both the hyper-individuality of postmodern choreographies and the hyper-cultural-representation of traditional folk dance. With movement tasks that require spontaneous decision making and communal effort to fulfill, EFD is accessible to participants of diverse movement backgrounds.

#### Christine Suarez – *Rendición*

Performers: alex shilling, Arushi Singh, Wilfried Souly and Christine Suarez

I am inspired by three stories of surrender: one a woman who lived during the 16<sup>th</sup> 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.

Paola Escobar - *Zurciendo Souls*; solo

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.

Maya Gingery - *SAND SKY WIND*

Performers: Nick Duran, Maya Gingery and Felicia St. Cyr (& Maya Gurantz, rehearsals)

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 transmogrification. 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.

Heyward Bracey & Nguyen Nguyen – *CONFLUENCE*

Performers: Heyward Bracey, Rosemary Candelario and Nguyen Nguyen

*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.

### Sunday, June 23

- **8:30-10:30am** *Contemplative Dance Practice at the Beach* Workshop with Carol McDowell  
(description, see above)
- **10:30am-12:00pm** *Borderline Flamenco, Flamenco for All* Workshop with Paola Escobar  
An introductory Flamenco workshop that offers a liberating way to enter this complex tradition. We'll focus on the flamenco structure, using improvisation as a fundamental tool to approach movement. For participants with or without training in flamenco or any other dance form.
- **12:00-1:30pm** *La Diáspora de Twerk* Workshop with Shaina Lynn and Isabel Ivey  
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.
- **5:00-7:00pm** *Encounter* improvisation organized by Mariel Carranza  
Artists for this iteration of *Encounter* (#54) include: Michael Barrett, Mariel Carranza, Rochelle Fabb, Douglas Green, Rebeca Hernandez, Carol McDowell, Elaine Thap & Allison Wyper.

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](http://marielcarranza.com/encounter).

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

**Rayven Armijo** (*Earthian Folk Dance*) is a dancer and choreographer from Los Angeles. She founded a company in 2000 called Cuerva Urban Folklorico.

**Heyward Bracey** (*CONFLUENCE*)- 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.

**Rosemary Candelario** (*CONFLUENCE*) (Associate Professor of Dance, Texas Woman's University) writes about and makes dances engaged with butoh, ecology, and site-specific performance. Recent premieres include *aqueous* (2019, Kyoto Butoh Festival, Kyoto, Japan) and *100 Ways to Kiss the Trees* (2018, Denton, Texas). She is the recipient of the Oscar G. Brockett Book Prize for Dance Research for her book *Flowers Cracking Concrete: Eiko & Koma's Asian/American Choreographies* (Wesleyan University Press 2016). Rosemary is also the co-editor with Bruce Baird of the *Routledge Companion to Butoh Performance* (2018) and the author of numerous journal articles. [rosemarycandelario.net](http://rosemarycandelario.net)

**Mariel Carranza** (*Encounter*) 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](http://marielcarranza.com/encounter)

**Nick Duran** (*sAND sKY wIND*) aka Nickels Sunshine is a dance artist who has presented work at venues in Los Angeles and along the west coast, including REDCAT, the Hammer Museum, Pieter Performance Space, Highways, PAM, Honor Frasier Gallery, Human Resources, Machine Project, Bootleg Theatre, The Electric Lodge, homeLA, Perform Chinatown, AMDA College, California State University Los Angeles, SOMArts (San Francisco), Flock (Portland), and Birthday Girl (Seattle). Duran holds an MFA from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a BFA from New York University and is currently pursuing an MS in Counseling at California State University, Long Beach. Duran has been on faculty at California State University Long Beach, Loyola Marymount University, University of California Los Angeles, University of North Carolina at Asheville, and a Visiting Assistant Professor of Dance at Whitman College from 2016-2018. [nickelssunshine.com](http://nickelssunshine.com)

**Paola Escobar** (*Zurciendo Souls, Borderline Flamenco Workshop*) is the Annenberg Community Beach House 2019 Choreographer-in-Residence, and 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. She has toured and performed throughout Europe, South America and the United States. 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](http://borderlinemovement.com)

**Maya Gingery** (*sAND sKY wIND*) 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.

**Maya Gurantz** (*sAND sKY wIND*) makes art in video, performance, installation, social practice, and writing. Selected shows include (solo) MCA Denver, Grand Central Art Center, Greenleaf Gallery, Pieter PASD, (group) MoCA Utah, Oakland Museum of California, Beaconsfield Gallery Vauxhall, Art Center College of Design, The Goat Farm Atlanta, The Great Wall of Oakland, High Desert Test Sites, and Movement Research at Judson Church. She recently received the inaugural Pieter Performance Grant for Dancemakers. She has written for *This American Life*, *The Frame on KPCC*, *The Awl*, *Notes on Looking*, *Avidly*, *the Los Angeles Review of Books*, *Acid-Free*, *Baumtest Quarterly*, and *RECAPS Magazine*, and co-hosts *The Sauce*, a podcast that dissects the intersections of culture and politics.

**Rebeca Hernandez** (*Yoga+Cumbia Workshop, Encounter*) 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](http://rebecahernandezdance.com)

**Isabel Ivey** (*Diáspora de Twerk Workshop*) 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](http://isabelivey.com)

**DaEun Jung** (*Earthian Folk Dance Workshop + Performance*) 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 Djordjevic, Ros Warby, Wilfried Souly, Jeanine Durning, Shahar Biniamini, and Melinda Ring. [daeunjung.com](http://daeunjung.com)

**Shaina Lynn** (*Diáspora de Twerk Workshop*) 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](http://theshainalynn.com).

**Carol McDowell** (*CDP Workshop, Encounter*) 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.

**Aaron Mason** (*Earthian Folk Dance*)

**Nguyễn Nguyễn** (*CONFLUENCE*) 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.

**alex shilling** (*Freewalking Workshop, Earthian Folk Dance, Rendición*) is a Los Angeles-based dance artist who creates site-adaptable, live and filmic dancescapes 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](http://alexsmakesdances.com)

**Melody HJ Shim** (*Earthian Folk Dance – janggu*) is an LA-based *pansori* (traditional Korean opera) singer and director of the Inkhang Pansori Institute of LA. Beginning her training at the age of 15 from Jung Ok-hang (Korean Intangible Cultural Asset No. 5 Pansori 'Sugungga',) Melody continued her traditional music training at the National High School of Traditional Arts and received her BA in Korean Music at Chung-ang University.

**Arushi Singh** (*Rendición*) is a PhD Candidate and Teaching Fellow in Culture and Performance at University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), with interdisciplinary interests in South Asian performance histories and the political economies of cultural production. Her dissertation investigates Contemporary Indian Dance, focusing on its ideological and institutional formations in South Asia since the mid-twentieth century. Arushi is also a trained Bharatanatyam dancer and choreographer, with a performance career spanning over a decade, and in multiple locations in India and abroad. Prior to commencing her doctoral studies, she worked with Gati Dance Forum, an independent performing arts collective in New Delhi, India, which explores dance-making processes embedded in feminist praxis and social justice.

**Wilfried Souly** (*Earthian Folk Dance – djembe, Rendición*) is a Los Angeles-based dancer/choreographer originally from Burkina Faso, dedicated to making works that explore, expand, and explode Contemporary African Dance. Souly has been a lecturer at the UCLA World Art & Culture/Dance Department since 2009 and teaches community classes at Your Neighborhood Studio in Culver City. [wilfriedsouly.com](http://wilfriedsouly.com)

**Felicia St. Cyr** (*sAND sKY wIND*) was born and raised in Houston, Texas, and danced with Houston's Hope Stone Dance Company. She graduated from the California Institute of the Arts, and while there, spent a semester abroad at the London Contemporary Dance School. St. Cyr has choreographed for a variety of shows at Calarts, REDCAT, LiveArtsLA, and Highways Performance Space, and toured her solo work *I just thought-well there's this place* tour nationally in the UK. Most recent endeavors include a premiere of her first evening length work, *we are every1 + afraid*. St. Cyr looks forward to her newest projects including choreographic residencies with Rosanna Gamson/ World Wide Terra Nova and Los Angeles Contemporary Dance Company's Choreography Lab. She is excited to share Maya Gingery's vision for Beach Dances: Shared Practice.

**Christine Suarez** (*Rendición, Surrendering to Improvisation* Workshop) 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](http://suarezdance.org)

**Allison Wyper** (*Beach Dances* Curator, *Rhizomatic Arts Hangout* host, *Encounter* participant) 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](http://rhizomaticarts.com) @RhizomaticArts #RhizomaticStudio

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This program is part of the Beach=Culture series, presented by Santa Monica Cultural Affairs. For other Beach=Culture events visit [santamonica.gov/arts/beach-culture](http://santamonica.gov/arts/beach-culture).

**\* Did you feed the meter? Parking is \$3/hr or \$12/day at the machines located in three areas of the parking lot (cards & cash accepted.) Bike parking available in two areas of the site - bring a lock.**

The Annenberg Community Beach House is wheelchair accessible and ADA compliant. For disability-related accommodations or other questions, please call Guest Services at (310) 458-4904.



#### **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. [annenbergbeachhouse.com](http://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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