

Zohar Performance Summer Series: Program B

World Dance

Saturday, July 13, 2024
8:00pm



ZOHAR STUDIO THEATRE
4000 MIDDLEFIELD ROAD L4 | PALO ALTO, CA

Welcome

We are always asked, what does **Zohar** mean?

Zohar is Splendor in Hebrew

Each of our programs in our Zohar Performance Series celebrates the splendor of dance through a variety of dance genres and styles.

WORLD DANCE, our 8th Zohar Performance Series, is a journey around the world through dance! Zohar is proud to highlight the incredible culture and talents of our local performers from throughout the Bay Area. There is an abundance of local talent, and what better way to celebrate our artists than through this vibrant showcase?

This fall marks our 45th year of sharing our love of dance and building community through programs such as the one you are experiencing tonight. We give thanks to all the artists that made tonight's performance possible. These beautiful performers are all here because they share a passion for dance and the performing arts and rejoice in the opportunity to share it with you. Jeannine Charles, our co-producer - We could not do this without you! And to all our volunteers, without them there would be chaos! Zohar's Board of Directors, thank you for supporting our vision. And you, the audience, for your presence and supporting the arts.

Your attendance supports Zohar and these artists. You can continue to support Zohar, the artists performing tonight, and the organizations that they represent in other ways as well... you can attend our performance, take classes, and of course, a donation is always appreciated! Ticket sales and class fees are not enough to cover our daily expenses and your donation is tax-deductible. You can find the donation link for Zohar at the end of the program.

Thank you for your continued support of the Performing Arts. Enjoy **World Dance** and experience the splendor of the arts at Zohar!

Vivian Sam & Daynee Lai-Krauss
Co-Artistic & Executive Directors



PROGRAM

Bay Area EMENVI Couples Team

by Magda & Valeria, directed by Stacey Fong

Choreographers: Magda & Valeria

Music: You by Romeo Santos

Costumes: Natalia Romanova

Dancers: Stacey Fong & Giselle Tse, Dominic Dello Buono & Ashley Wahnschaff, Michael Boulgakov & Sarah Chi

CHEVRONA KALYAN / RED VIBURNUM

Ukrainian traditional round dance

Leleka

Choreographer: Oleksandra Bobrychenko

Music: Traditional folk music

Dancers: Oleksandra Bobrychenko, Olga Gavrylyako, Anna Gontar, Ludmila Kazantseva, Carolyn Koenig, Tania Mandzy, Yuliya Oliynyk, Anastasiia Rukavysnykova, Sophia Socolovych, Mariia Stokolosa

GLORIA'S WEE JIG / LADIES OF BANFFSHIRE / UNCLE ISAAC

Red Thistle Scottish Dancers

Choreographer: Fred DeMarse

Music: Lyle Ramshaw and Micah Reinhold

Dancers: Red Thistle Scottish Dancers

A BULL'S DANCE

Choreographer: Kalakshetra Foundation embellished by Swathi Lakshmanan

Music: Nandhi Chol

Dancer: Swathi Lakshmanan



THE STORY OF YU

Choreographers: Zheng Miao, Yu Wang, Xuan Wang

Music: from the movie White Vengeance

Dancer: Rongrong Zhong

PALO YAYA

Dennis & Danielle Dance

Choreographer: Harold Ladino

Music: Palo Yaya by Eguie Castrillo

Dancers: Dennis Cao & Danielle Sigura

C STEWART SMITH / TRIBUTE TO MR. SMITH

Red Thistle Scottish Dancers

Choreographer: Jennifer Kelly

Music: Lyle Ramshaw and Micah Reinhold

Dancers: Red Thistle Scottish Dancers

UNTITLED

Mind's Eye under the direction of Jill Parker

Choreographer: Jill Parker & Maite Gasco

Music: Hasret by Jef Stott, Goldie by Asadi

Costumes: Designed by Jill constructed by various artists and dancers

Dancers: Roselle Black, Jessie Chen, Maite Gasco, Jill

Parker, Xero Silver, Leia Volare, Judith Weeks, Roxie

Intermission



A POETRY

Choreographer & Dancer: Swathi Lakshmanan
Music: Vellai Thamarai

IN THE MEADOW

Leleka

Choreographer & Dancer: Oleksandra Bobrychenko
Music: Traditional folk music

DOMINO FIVE / FIVE FOR LUCK

Red Thistle Scottish Dancers

Choreographer: Fred DeMarse
Music: Lyle Ramshaw and Micah Reinhold
Dancers: Red Thistle Scottish Dancers

SIRENITAS

Choreographer: Stacey Fong
Music: Cita by Prince Royce, Remix by DJ Tronky
Costumes: Sirenitass
Dancers: Stacey Fong, Giselle Tse, Hyein Park,
Ashley Wahnschaff, Abe Kim



LONGING FOR YOU

Choreographer: Xiaojun Shuai
Music: Nirvana in Fire from Ke Meng
Dancer: Lu Yang

POLHARROW BURN

Red Thistle Scottish Dancers

Choreographer: Fred DeMarse
Music: Twelvesome Reel by Lyle Ramshaw and
Micah Reinhold
Dancers: Red Thistle Scottish Dancers

JALISCO

Grupo Folclorico Yolotli Guerrerense

Choreographer: Blanca Carbajal
Music: Rebozo de Santa Maria, El Principio by Juan Gabriel
Dancers: Mia Carbajal, Brittany Diaz, Camila Morones,
Isaac Padilla, Jasmine Rodriguez, Natasha Trujillo, Estevan
Vargas, Romina

Thank You



Artists

Dennis & Daniele Dance

Dennis and Danielle are a local Semi-Pro Salsa competitive couple and local champions at various competitions. They have been dancing independently for 10 years each and competing and performing together for 4. They teach classes for all ages at Dance Boulevard in South San Jose and they just returned from competing and training in Colombia. @dennisanddanielledance

Grupo Folclorico Yolotli Guerrerense

We are Grupo Folklórico Yolotli Guerrerense. Our mission is to inspire students to embrace the art of folkloric ballet, celebrating the rich tapestry of Mexican culture through dynamic performances and artistic expression. We proudly represent Mexican heritage through our captivating dances, showcasing the diversity and beauty of our traditions. For the past 17 years, our group has been actively involved in numerous cultural events, spanning from the Bay Area to Disneyland. During these gatherings, we enthusiastically share our insights and experiences within the Mexican cultural community.

Spanish: Somos el Grupo Folclorico Yolotli Guerrerense. Nuestra misión es inspirar a los estudiantes a abrazar el arte del ballet folclórico, celebrando el rico tapiz de la cultura mexicana a través de actuaciones dinámicas y expresión artística. Representamos con orgullo la herencia mexicana a través de nuestros cautivadores bailes, mostrando la diversidad y belleza de nuestras tradiciones. Durante los últimos 17 años, nuestro grupo ha participado activamente en numerosos eventos culturales, que abarcan desde el Área de la Bahía hasta Disneyland. Durante estas reuniones, compartimos con entusiasmo nuestros conocimientos y experiencias dentro de la comunidad cultural mexicana.

Mexican
Dance



Artists

Lu Yang

Lu Yang is a enthusiast of Chinese Classical dance. She started training in Chinese dance at age 4. Lu Yang is known for her graceful movements, her expressive artistry and her deep understanding of Chinese classical dance. She has won awards for her work, including the Taoli World Dance Competition.

Mind's Eye featuring Jill Parker

These choreographies were a collaborative effort by Maite Gasco and Jill Parker, and performed by Mind's Eye featuring Jill's advanced students.

Jill Parker is known around the world as a pioneer in the fusion bellydance genre. She founded and continues to influence the thriving fusion bellydance scene that originally flourished in San Francisco in the 1990's and 2000's, and now can be found in all corners of the globe. She was an original FatChanceBellyDance member and later founded her own professional, trail-blazing dance theater company that birthed many of today's great fusion dancers.

For more than three decades, Jill has honed a masterful delivery method that truly facilitates breakthroughs for bellydancers of all skill levels. She is a generous teacher with a rare gift for demystifying this sensuous form by meticulously and effectively breaking down complex movements to their essentials and making the technique, nuances, and fluent embodiment accessible. She fosters and emphasizes an atmosphere of fun, well-being, and community in all of her classes.

www.jillparkerdance.com

World
Dance



Artists

World Dance

Leleka under the direction of Oleksandra Bobrychenko

In 2023, an amateur Ukrainian dance group called "Leleka" was organised in the Bay Area. The group studies movements and dances from various regions of Ukraine, as well as music and traditional costumes. Putting this into practice, they have been actively involved in promoting Ukrainian culture through dance around San Francisco.

The choreographer of "Leleka," Oleksandra, is a Ukrainian folk dancer and choreographer from Kryvyi Rih, Ukraine. She had 8 years of training at the Dance School, where she studied ballet, folk dance, and modern dance. Additionally, she was a member of the professional dance group Hornyak for 3 years. She graduated from the Kharkiv State Academy of Culture with a degree in choreography, specialising in folk dance. She also spent 4 years with the Folk Dance Theater Zapovit and 4 years as a soloist with the Flamenco Dance Group Rosa Del Sur.

Since 2016, she has been a dance teacher, and in 2017, she moved to the Netherlands, where she founded and choreographed the Ukrainian Folk Dance Group Mriya in Rotterdam.

Rongrong Zhong

Rongrong is a Chinese dance enthusiast. When she's not practicing dancing, she works as a software engineer in a startup.



Artists

Red Thistle Scottish Dancers

The Red Thistle Dancers are a Scottish Country and Highland Dance and Music performance group based in the San Francisco Bay Area in Northern California.

Headed by Artistic Director Fred DeMarse, The Red Thistle Dancers were founded in 1973 and are dedicated to promoting Scottish culture through music and dance in the San Francisco Bay Area and beyond. They have been regular participants in the San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival from its beginnings in 1978 through 1999, and were special honorees in 1991. The Red Thistle Dancers perform at outdoor events and fairs, international folk dance festivals, schools, private parties, fundraising events, weddings and conventions, and have toured internationally in both Norway and the Czech Republic.

<https://www.redthistledancers.org/>

Stacey Fong

Stacey is a dance instructor specializing in Bachata, having taught and performed at International Bachata Festivals. For the third year running, Stacey is director of the Bay Area chapter of the World Bachata Teams EMENVI by Magda & Valeria, and is choreographer/director of her own Femme Bachata team, the Sirenitas. In addition to Bachata, Stacey is also skilled at social dances, ballroom, pole, and chair. She teaches group classes and private lessons at Dance Boulevard (San Jose) and Twirly Studios (Pleasanton). When she is not on the dance floor, Stacey is a voiceover actress whose voice can be heard in videogames, IVR systems, and Cirque du Soleil.

linktr.ee/staceyfong

World
Dance



Artists

Swathi Lakshmanan

The Founder and Artistic Director of the prestigious Choros Charas - Destination for Arts, was born and brought up in Chennai Tamilnadu India. She was trained under the Tutelage of Gurus from the finest of Institutions Kalakshetra Foundation, also in Chennai from the Age of 9. She has performed over 100s of as a student and grew up to a fine professional over the years and continued to spread the wings in to performing, teaching, choreographing, collaborations, etc and has traveled around India to a number of rural places to create an awareness for arts After Swathi moved to the US, she successfully launched her own entrepreneurial initiative, Choros Charas - Destination for Arts in 2019. Swathi has also partnered with other widely sought-after cultural organizations and sabhas in India and USA, but she has also made an important piece of South Asian culture, Bharatnatyam accessible to many different communities globally via virtual performances such as Margazhi in San Francisco amidst Covid-19 for which she was recognized by the Asia Book of Records and India Book of Records for conducting a Global festival virtually for the first ever time consecutively for 30 days with over 100+ artists participating from around the world amidst the pandemic. Some of her most popular productions are Song“ of the River”, which showcases the history of India’s lost rivers through music and dance abundantly in culture. Another extremely popular performance, “Ananya” demonstrates strength in femininity and self-expression through art. Recently, Swathi premiered Nauka Charitham, a musical play by Saint Thyagaraja under the banner The Arangham, an initiative by Swathi Lakshmanan, with over 20 artists, 5 lead dancers, and a live orchestra in October 2022. Swathi has also been honored with the prestigious "Natya Kala Ratna" Award by Gana Mukunda Priya, Chennai, India. And is also a proud recipient of the Kala Kausthubha award consecutively for the past 2 years for successfully conducting Margazhi in San Francisco in 2021 and 2022. Kala Vicharana for Performing in Margazhi in San Francisco 2022.

<https://www.choroscharas.com/>

World Dance



ZPS Staff

Executive Artistic Director/Producers: Daynee Lai-Krauss and Vivian Sam

Producer: Jeannine Charles

Technical Crew/Lighting: I-Heng McComb

Technical Crew/Sound: Virginia Bock

Videographer: Lydia Feuerhelm-Chiu

Photographer: Kyle Adler (kadlerphotography.com)

Stage Manager: Jeannine Charles

House Manager: Daynee Lai-Krauss

Volunteers: Monika Chock, Jan Penagos, Catherine Perman

PRE-SHOW

The Waffle Roost Food Truck (thewaffleroost.com)

Spencer Oey, Master Guitarist

Jacob Jackman, Jazz Trumpeter

We hope that you enjoyed tonight's program. It is through donations that Zohar is able to present these diverse programs for you to experience our amazing dance community in the Bay Area. Make a donation now to support the next performance!

Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Scan the QR code to make a donation!



Zohar Dance Company

Zohar School of Dance and Company is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization based in Palo Alto, California. Founded by Ehud Krauss in 1979 and under the direction of Daynee Lai-Krauss and Vivian Sam, Zohar is dedicated to making dance accessible, inclusive, vibrant, relevant, and integral to its community.

Zohar offers an open program of dance classes for adults in jazz, ballet, contemporary, tap, and modern dance. Starting in 2022, Zohar added classes and workshops to support our local (musical) theatre community in audition preparation, voice, and acting, to name a few.



ZOHAR DANCE COMPANY UPCOMING EVENTS & WORKSHOPS

July 22 - Summer Dance Intensive (Monday-Friday)

August 12 - Musical Theatre Audition Preparation Workshop with Alan Ariano (currently touring with *Girl From The North Country*)

October (date tbd) - Open Mic

November (date tbd) - Zohar Performance Series: 9

Check our website for more information

www.ZoharDanceCompany.org

Zohar Dance Company

Daynee Lai-Krauss
Co-Founder | Co-Artistic Executive Director

Vivian Sam
Co-Artistic Executive Director

Ehud Krauss (1946-2016)
Co-Founder | Artistic Director

Board of Directors

Elaine Phoutrides, President
Jan Penagos, Secretary
Daynee Lai-Krauss, Treasurer
Susan Bailey
Frances Devlin
Karen Kwan
Vivian Sam
LeeAnne Sera

Zohar Teaching Artists

Lisa Burnett, Modern
Frances Devlin, Voice
Kristine Elliott, Ballet
Daniel Gautier, Accompanist
Daynee Lai-Krauss, Jazz
Lee Ann Payne, Tap
Vivian Sam, Jazz
Augusto Silva, Ballet
Charles Torres, Ballet
Adriee Wong, Contemporary

