

Z^{ohar}

P^{erformance}

S^{eries}

6

November 18, 2023 @ 7:30p

CELEBRATE DANCE!



Zohar Studio Theatre
4000 Middlefield Road, L4
Palo Alto, California



WELCOME

Welcome to Zohar Performance Series 6 to Celebrate Dance!

Zohar means "Splendor" in Hebrew.

We are back! We were in the midst of putting this program together when COVID disrupted life. It has been challenging, but being the creative and resilient individuals we are, we are making it all work. This fall marks 44 years since Zohar first opened its doors to share the splendor of dance and I still marvel at all that we have accomplished and the relationships and community we have developed and nurtured. Since returning from the shutdown, Zohar expanded its dance family to include Vivian Sam as my Co-Director. Sharing my vision of making Zohar a place of community, celebrating our individual talents, carrying on the legacy of our Founder, Ehud Krauss, and formally expanding our community to include musical theatre. With Vivian, I am excited for the new opportunities for Zohar to expand its community and programs.

Zohar Performance Series would not be possible without the amazing artists you are seeing tonight. These beautiful people are all here because they share a passion for dance and art. A shout out to the individuals that support me in creating this event—My co-producer, Jeannine Charles, you rock ('n roll!) I-Heng McComb, you *are* my rock (in a good way!) holding down the fort so I can create. The volunteers that help both in front and backstage. And Zohar's Board of Directors that support Zohar every day. And last, but not least, thank you, the audience!

Your attendance supports Zohar and these artists. If you want to see more programs like this, please consider supporting Zohar through a financial contribution. Tickets sales and class fees aren't enough to cover our expenses and your donation is tax-deductible. There is a donation link at the end of the program.

Wishing you a safe and healthy Thanksgiving. Enjoy the performance and experience the splendor of dance at Zohar!

Daynee Lai-Krauss
Co-Artistic & Executive Director



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Marzipan Divertissement

Los Gatos Ballet

Choreographer: Kristin D'Addario

Music: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, *The Nutcracker Suite—Marzipan*

Costumes: Christine Ryvola

Dancers: Lily Tran, Mimi Yamato, Kaylee Yeung

Joker

Natasha Carlitz Dance Ensemble

Choreographer and costumes: Natasha Carlitz

Music: New Quintet du Hot Club de France, *Minor Swing* and *Corail*

Dancers: Kerry Aradhya, Maggie Hurd-Fleck, Jeanne-Claudius Martin, Alyssa Plummer, Avery Rissling

Kozachok

traditional dance from central Ukraine

Oleksandra Bobrychenko, Dancer and Choreographer

Music: *Kozachok*

Inner Ballast

eMotion Arts

Mariana Sobral, Choreographer and Artistic Director

Dancers: Jim Ballard, Rosika Dater-Merton, Yara Figueroa, Maxine Flasher-Düzgüneş, Timmorie Freeman, Tracy Fuller, Emily Hansen, Erin McMahon, Skylaer Palacios, Ruth Perez, Maddie Sager, James Santiago, Hannah Woolfenden

In the Beginning

Ho Ming Angus Wu, Dancer and Choreographer

Music: Nathan Burke (original score)

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Folk

Natasha Carlitz Dance Ensemble

Choreographer and costumes: Natasha Carlitz

Music: Apollo's Fire, *La Komida La Manyana*

Dancers: Kerry Aradhya, Maggie Hurd-Fleck, Jeanne-Claudius Martin, Alyssa Plummer, Avery Rissling, Yu-Chen Rockwell, Clara Yang

Dalia Rawson's Cinderella Variations

Fairy Godmother · Spring Fairy · Summer Fairy · Autumn Fairy · Winter Fairy

New Ballet

Choreographer: Dalia Rawson

Music: Sergei Prokofiev, excerpts from *Cinderella*

Costumes: Deborah Lund

Dancers: Deborah Le (*Fairy Godmother*), Gabriela Rodriguez (*Spring Fairy*), Erica Patton (*Summer Fairy*), SORCHA TATE (*Autumn Fairy*), Naomi Le (*Winter Fairy*)



Shelf Life

Pete Litwinowicz

Music: Frédéric Chopin, *Prelude Op 28 No 17 in A flat major* (Garrick Ohlsson, piano)

Dancers: Sarah Cecilia Bukowski, Brandon "Private" Freeman, Danielle Fu, Liang Fu, James Gilmer

Lilac Fairy Variation

Los Gatos Ballet

Choreographer: Olivia Yoch after Marius Petipa

Music: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, *Sleeping Beauty—The Lilac Fairy*

Dancers: Winnie Chen, Gloria Li

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Dreamers

eMotion Arts

Mariana Sobral, Choreographer and Artistic Director

Music: Peter Colclasure (original score)

Dancers: Jim Ballard, Rosika Dater-Merton, Yara Figueroa, Maxine Flasher-Düzgüneş, Timmorie Freeman, Tracy Fuller, Emily Hansen, Erin McMahon, Skylaer Palacios, Ruth Perez, Maddie Sager, James Santiago, Hannah Woolfenden

Embers

Emily Scott, Dancer and Choreographer

Music: Santo & Johnny, *And I Love Her*

Tangos de Graná

Oleksandra Bobrychenko, Dancer and Choreographer

Music: *Tangos de Graná*

Arabian Divertissement

Los Gatos Ballet

Choreographer: Kristin D'Addario

Music: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, *The Nutcracker Suite—Arabian*

Costumes: Christine Ryvola

Dancers: Audra Wenski (soloist), Mandalyn Brown, Haeli Santoro

Ni de aquí, ni de allá

Neither from here nor from there

Erwin Columbus, Dancer and Choreographer

Music: Pamela Cortés, *Dicen* and Juan Fernando Velasco, Los Hermanos Miño Naranjo, *Romance de mi Destino*

Chroma

Natasha Carlitz Dance Ensemble

Choreographer and costumes: Natasha Carlitz

Music: Steve Reich, excerpts from *Drumming* (performed by So Percussion)

Dancers: Kerry Aradhya, Audra Edwards, Maggie Hurd-Fleck, Jeanne-Claudius Martin, Elizabeth Musco, Alyssa Plummer, Avery Rissling, Yu-Chen Rockwell, Clara Yang



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Oleksandra Bobrychenko 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, specializing in ballet and folk dance, and also spent 4 years with 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 for the Ukrainian folk dance group Mriya in Rotterdam.

After moving to California in 2021, she has been actively involved in promoting Ukrainian culture through dance and organizing Ukrainian dance classes. She has had the honor of performing solos at various events in the Bay Area, supporting Ukraine, and sharing their rich cultural heritage with diverse audiences.

Natasha Carlitz has choreographed and performed around the Bay Area for the past 30 years, both independently and as a member of the collective High Release Dance. In 2005, she founded the **Natasha Carlitz Dance Ensemble (NCDE)**, which presented its inaugural concert in partnership with the internationally acclaimed California Guitar Trio and since then has produced twelve more full-length programs as well as appearing in dozens of showcases and festivals. With its strong focus on musicality, the company has commissioned work from a number of composers and seizes opportunities to perform with live musicians. Named one of "ten Bay Area choreographers to watch" by sjDanceCo, Natasha has created more than 80 dances for NCDE. Critics have heralded her choreography as "ambitious," "daring," "serious and graceful," "thought-provoking," and "proof that creativity knows no bounds."

In 2010, NCDE was invited to represent the United States at the Egyptian International Modern Dance Festival, performing full-length

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concerts in Cairo (where Natasha also taught a master class to the national dance company) and Alexandria. "Last week the Natasha Carlitz Dance Ensemble presented a breathtaking show," wrote Rania Khallaf for Cairo's Al-Ahram Weekly. "A choreographer and dancer, Carlitz imbued the stage with a spirit of enthusiasm, romance and joy. The ensemble...resonated with a sense of ecstasy and challenge."

Natasha began her dance training in Palo Alto more than 40 years ago with Grace Butler, a former Nikolais dancer, and performed as a child and young adult with CHORD (Children's Original Repertory Dance) and SMDC (the Saturday Morning Dance Company). She has studied dance in London, Amsterdam, Massachusetts, and Maine—including improvisation and choreography workshops with Pilobolus founder Jonathan Wolken and aerial dance in the Sierras with Bandaloop.

NCDE looks forward to presenting "Gallery," March 29 & 30 at Cubberley Theatre. The NCDE pieces shown at ZPS are all part of this larger art-based show. For more information, visit www.carlitzdance.org.

Erwin Columbus is a scientist and entrepreneur from Ecuador who discovered dance at Iowa State University (ISU) in 2012. He has honed his talent performing with Orchestis I and II at ISU, and enjoys choreographing as well as performing. Erwin attended the American Dance Festival and has performed at FACES and Octagon Arts Festival in Iowa. In the Bay Area, he has collaborated with multicultural dance companies such as Monsoon Dance Company, Mojarrá Frita, and Aguas Dance Company (Tania Santiago), with which he traveled to Peru for an international dance festival. Erwin has also danced for ArtistEDGE, Natasha Carlitz Dance Ensemble (NCDE) and High Release Dance Company of Palo Alto.

Pete Litwinowicz has a long history of combining choreography and filmmaking. As a visual effects software developer and artist for the motion picture and video industries, Pete has won several awards including an Academy Award®; an Emmy®; an Ars Electronica

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Golden Nica (Austria); and an Imagina Award (Monaco) for Best Visual Effects and Visual Innovation. As a dancer and choreographer, Pete worked as co-artistic director of Dance Continuum SF from 2007-2012, and danced for Company Chaddick from 1996-2006. He has served as Lizz Roman and Dancers' filmmaker since 2017, and teaches at Zohar when the need arises!

Los Gatos Ballet is dedicated to the art of self-mastery. Through our dedicated programs, we travel the inward journey to discover our truth, train with intention in the pursuit of excellence, and align with our purpose. We are committed to sculpting the best version of ourselves through the process. For more information, please visit <https://losgatosballet.org>.

New Ballet exists to elevate the art and discipline of ballet in Silicon Valley. The professional company performs a full season in downtown San Jose, including "The San Jose Nutcracker" at the California Theatre, Fast Forward, and a full length story ballet every spring, while the affiliated New Ballet School provides inclusive ballet training with a focus on dancer health and child development. Founded in 2016 by Artistic Director **Dalia Rawson**, New Ballet is the institution that San Jose and Silicon Valley looks to for excellence in the art of ballet. Visit <https://newballet.com> for more.

Emily Scott is originally from Marietta, GA and received her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Alabama. She performed at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and the Young Choreographers Festival, and her own choreography was showcased at the Alabama Dance Festival. Emily set sail with Royal Caribbean Cruise Line as a Production Cast Dancer aboard the Vision of the Seas. She was a member of the New Ballet Studio Company, as well as a faculty member at the school. Most recently, Emily joined the cast of South Bay Musical Theatre's Singin' in the Rain for her musical theater debut!

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Mariana Sobral is an award-winning choreographer and dance educator from Argentina. She began her professional dance career in Argentina and later moved to the United States, where she has built a reputation for her contemporary choreography and holistic dance education philosophy. Mariana's works have been presented by renowned companies and festivals locally and internationally. She founded **eMotion Arts Dance Company** to spread a message of oneness through dance. As an educator, Mariana strives to guide each dancer in discovering their unique artistic voice. She currently serves as faculty at New Ballet and Los Gatos Ballet. Mariana is a certified instructor of the American Ballet Theatre National Training Curriculum. Please visit <https://emotionarts.dance> for more information.

Ho Ming Angus Wu, from Hong Kong, trained in eastern, Chinese, and western folk dance from the age of eleven. He attended Irvine Valley College under the Marie De La Palme and Jimmie Defore Dance Center Scholarship Student Program under Gloria Defore. He obtained a B.F.A. degree in Dance in Choreography, and a B.A. in Psychology and Social Behavior at the University of California, Irvine. Upon graduation, he danced at Menlowe Ballet as an apprentice. He also attended different programs like Alonzo King LINES Ballet Summer Intensive, San Francisco Conservatory of Dance Winter Intensive, and Zion Dance Project.

ZPS STAFF

Executive Artistic Director/Producer: Daynee Lai-Krauss

Producer: Jeannine Charles

Technical Crew: I-Heng McComb (lights) and Natasha Carlitz (sound)

Videographer: Pete Litwinowicz

Photographer: Kyle Adler Photography (www.kadlerphotography.com)

Stage Manager: Jeannine Charles

House Manager: Daynee Lai-Krauss

Volunteers: Kimberly Charles, Ryan Charles, Monika Chock, Catherine Perman

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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
LeeAnne Sera, Secretary
Daynee Lai-Krauss, Treasurer
Susan Bailey
Frances Devlin
Vivian Sam

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
Emily Scott, Contemporary
Marilyn Trounson, Ballet

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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, and modern dance. Starting in 2022, Zohar added classes and workshops to support our local (musical) theatre community in audition preparation, voice, and acting through sound, to name a few.

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
Donations can be made online at:

<https://www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/68410>

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UPCOMING EVENTS AND WORKSHOPS

Akram Khan Company

Company Ballet Class

Take class with company members!

Thursday, November 30 @ 10:30am

Space is limited!

Audition Prep with Frances Devlin

December 3, 2023 & January 20, 2024, 2:00-5:00pm

Francie will give each attendee personalized direction to prepare them to "level up" in their next audition. Whether it is for TBA's and College Unifieds coming up or wanting to take your audition process to another level... this 2-part Master Class will have you walking in prepared and confident!

Pop Groove with Christine Baker

Thursday, December 7, 7:45-9:15pm

Britney Part 2! If you missed the last class, no worries. She will re-teach and review the first part and then add on the newer section. She promises you will have fun and it's do-able!!!

**Go to Zohar's website for additional information
and to sign up/buy tickets!**

www.ZoharDanceCompany.org

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