

# SAN FRANCISCO ETHNIC DANCE FESTIVAL

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Hi-Res photos may be downloaded here:

<http://photos.shcommunications.org/GalleryThumbnails.aspx?gallery=4862708>

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **SAN FRANCISCO ETHNIC DANCE FESTIVAL RETURNS TO BERKELEY'S ZELLERBACH HALL FOR 41<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF WORLD DANCE AND MUSIC IN JULY**

### **28 DANCE AND MUSIC GROUPS PERFORM OVER TWO WEEKENDS AT ZELLERBACH HALL INCLUDING NINE NEW GROUPS AND EIGHT WORLD PREMIERES**

San Francisco, CA, May 3, 2019 – Twenty-eight world dance and music groups composed of nearly five hundred local artists will take the stage for the 41<sup>st</sup> annual **San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival**—the largest, longest-running and most comprehensive event of its kind in North America. In association with **Cal Performances**, the San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival will return to UC Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall in July. Two different programs will be presented Saturday and Sunday, July 6 and 7, at 3 pm and Saturday and Sunday, July 13 and 14, at 3 pm. Nine groups of artists will make their Festival debuts and the season will feature eight world premieres. A complete list of dates and artists may be found below. Tickets are priced \$28-\$78 and go on sale beginning May 21 at [sfethnicdancefestival.org](http://sfethnicdancefestival.org).

Festival Co-Artistic Directors **Patrick Makuakāne, Latanya d. Tigner**, and **Māhealani Uchiyama** have announced the 2019 Festival lineup, which will feature Bay Area-based groups and artists representing dance and music from **China, Egypt, India, Japan, Lebanon, Liberia, Mexico, Peru, the Philippines, Republic of Congo, Tahiti, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, the US, Venezuela, and West Africa**. The Festival's 2019 **Malonga Casquelourd Lifetime**

**Achievement Award** will honor **Ron Wallace**, Artistic Director of Dunsmuir Scottish Dancers, who has taught Scottish dance in the Bay Area and around the world for five decades, and **RJ Muna**, whose extraordinary photos of Festival artists have become a hallmark of the Festival since 2006. The Festival's 2019 Community Leadership Award will be presented to **David Lei**, for his exemplary work with countless arts and community-based organizations in San Francisco.

"It is a great honor to be presenting this year's talented dancers and musicians on our Festival stage," said the Festival's Executive Director, **Julie Mushet**, "They are the heart and soul of the Bay Area and their breathtaking artistry is both deeply inspiring and uplifting. For two weeks this summer, Zellerbach Hall will become a beacon for the beauty and power of our diversity, showcasing the finest world dance and music artists from all over the Bay Area. On one stage, audiences will experience dance and music from throughout the world and the Festival has become known as a world music festival as much as it is a world dance festival!"

### **2019 San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival Artists**

**Afro Urban Society \*+ Bearettes \*-** Pan-Afro Urban Drumline and HBCU-Style Majorette Dance

**Awon Ohun Omnira (Voices of Freedom) \*** - African-American Ritual

**Ballet Folklórico Nube de Oro** - Mexican Folkloric (Durango)

**Chitresh Das Institute** - Indian Kathak

**Cunamacué** - Afro-Peruvian

**Diamano Coura West African Dance Company** - Liberian Traditional

**Feng Ye Dance Studio** - Chinese Classical

**Gâta Bantu** - Congolese Traditional

**Guru Shradha + Antara Asthaayi Dance + Navia Dance Academy \*** - Indian Odissi, Kathak, and Bharatanatyam

**Jackeline Rago \*** - Venezuelan Folk Music

**Jubilee American Dance Theatre** - Cajun Country Social Dances

**Kanyon Sayers-Roods** - Ohlone Welcome and Blessing

**Kiazi Malonga** - Congolese Traditional

**Kohaku + Shiho Tendou\*** - Japanese Traditional

**L'Emir Hassan Harfouche \* + Georges Lammam Ensemble** - Lebanese Dabke

**Los Lupeños de San José** - Mexican Folkloric (Mestizo)

**Nicole Maria\* + Georges Lammam Ensemble** - Egyptian Belly Dance

**O D K \*** - Afro-Pop

**Parangal Dance Company** - Philippine Folkloric (Yakan)

**San Francisco Taiko Dojo** - Japanese Taiko

**Tara Catherine Pandeya** - Tajik and Uzbek Neo-Shashmaqom

**Te Mana O Te Ra** - Tahitian 'Ōte'a

\*Artists new to the Festival

World Premiere works will be presented by Ballet Folklórico Nube de Oro (Mexican

Folkloric-Durango), Cunamacué (Afro-Peruvian), Gâta Bantu (Congolese Traditional), Guru Shradha + Antara Asthaayi Dance + Navia Dance Academy (Indian Odissi, Kathak, and Bharatanatyam), Los Lupeños de San José (Mexican Folkloric-Mestizo), Nicole Maria + Georges Lammam Ensemble (Egyptian Belly Dance), Parangal Dance Company (Philippine Folkloric-Yakan), and Tara Catherine Pandeya (Tajik and Uzbek Neo-Shashmaqom).

## **2019 SAN FRANCISCO ETHNIC DANCE FESTIVAL SCHEDULE**

### **Zellerbach Hall Weekend One**

**Saturday, July 6, at 3pm / Sunday, July 7, at 3pm**

**TICKETS: \$28 - \$78**

**On sale Tuesday, May 21, online at [sfethnicedancefestival.org](http://sfethnicedancefestival.org) or by phone at 510.642.9988**

***Performances by 15 Bay Area dance and music ensembles showcasing traditions from around the world.***

**Afro Urban Society + Bearettes** – Pan-Afro Urban Drumline and HBCU-Style Majorette Dance

**Chitresh Das Institute** - Indian Kathak

**Gâta Bantu** - Congolese Traditional

**Jubilee American Dance Theatre** - Cajun Country Social Dances

**Kanyon Sayers-Roods** – Ohlone Welcome and Blessing

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**Los Lupeños de San José** - Mexican Folkloric (Mestizo)

**Nicole Maria + Georges Lammam Ensemble** - Egyptian Belly Dance

**O D K** - Afro-Pop

**San Francisco Taiko Dojo** - Japanese Taiko

### **Zellerbach Hall Weekend Two**

**Saturday, July 13, at 3pm / Sunday, July 14, at 3pm**

**TICKETS: \$28 - \$78**

**On sale Tuesday, May 21, online at [sfethnicedancefestival.org](http://sfethnicedancefestival.org) or by phone at 510.642.9988.**

***Performances by 13 Bay Area dance and music ensembles showcasing traditions from around the world.***

**Awon Ohun Omnira (Voices of Freedom)** – African-American Ritual

**Ballet Folklórico Nube de Oro** - Mexican Folkloric (Durango)

**Cunamacué** - Afro-Peruvian

**Diamano Coura West African Dance Company** - Liberian Traditional

**Feng Ye Dance Studio** - Chinese Classical  
**Guru Shradha + Antara Asthaayi Dance + Navia Dance Academy** - Indian  
Odissi, Kathak, & Bharatanatyam  
**Jackeline Rago** - Venezuelan Folk Music  
**Parangal Dance Company** - Philippine Folkloric (Yakan)  
**Tara Catherine Pandeya** - Tajik and Uzbek Neo-Shashmaqom  
**Te Mana O Te Ra** - Tahitian 'Ōte'a

Festival artists are selected by annual auditions. For the 2019 Festival, 70 dance companies and soloists auditioned in November 2018 before the Festival Co-Artistic Directors, a panel of dance experts, and an audience of thousands of dance enthusiasts and Bay Area families. The Artistic Directors made the final selection of the Festival lineup after consulting with the panelists, who are noted for their dance backgrounds, cultural expertise, and reputations in the field. This year's panelists were **Blanche Brown, Shambhavi Dandekar, Malia DeFelice, Smita Singh, Dr. Victor Torres, Ron Wallace, and Shannon Yip**. Their bios, along with those of the Festival Artistic Directors, can be found at [worldartswest.org/main/artdirectors.asp](http://worldartswest.org/main/artdirectors.asp).

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High-resolution photos of this year's artists are available here <http://photos.shcommunications.org/GalleryThumbnails.aspx?gallery=4862708> or by contacting Scott Horton at [bluescott260@hotmail.com](mailto:bluescott260@hotmail.com).