

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Dance Centre's 2016-2017 season

Vancouver, BC: The Dance Centre's 2016-2017 season presents a program of exciting performances and events by artists working across contemporary and cultural genres. The **Global Dance Connections** contemporary dance series features local and international choreographers, and the popular **Discover Dance!** noon series presents a varied range of dance from diverse cultural backgrounds. Other highlights include the annual **Scotiabank Dance Centre Open House**, events celebrating **International Dance Day**, and ongoing residencies and research labs throughout the season.

Global Dance Connections Contemporary dance series

October 20-22 Noam Gagnon | Vision Impure

January 18-20 Jan Martens

February 2-4 Alessandro Sciarroni

February 16-18 Tara Cheyenne Performance + Silvia Gribaudo

March 1-4 Kinesis Dance somatheatro

April 6-8 Zab Maboungou | Compagnie Danse Nyata Nyata

April 20-22 Lesley Telford

May 25-27 Wen Wei Dance

Discover Dance! Noon dance series

September 29 Shiamak's Bollywood Jazz

October 27 Kasandra Flamenco Ensemble

November 24 the response.

February 9 Grupo America

March 30 Aeriosa

April 27 Goh Ballet

Events

September 10 Scotiabank Dance Centre Open House

November 12 V'ni Dansi Louis Riel Day Celebration

April 29 International Dance Day

June 10 Ancestralizing the Present

June 16 12 Minutes Max

Residencies and Projects

Tickets and Info

Tickets Tonight 604.684.2787 www.ticketstonight.ca

Info 604.606.6400 www.thedancecentre.ca

Events take place at Scotiabank Dance Centre, 677 Davie St, Vancouver.

[Read online](http://thedancecentre.ca/2016_2017_season) http://thedancecentre.ca/2016_2017_season

Global Dance Connections Contemporary dance series

Noam Gagnon | Vision Impure: *This Crazy Show*

Thursday-Saturday October 20-22, 8pm Post-show talkback October 21

Presented through the Artist-in-Residence program

Noam Gagnon's provocative new work reflects on the quest for love and acceptance, and how our identities shift and change. What is it to be pliable, de-formed and re-formed, without losing our integrity? *This Crazy Show* is an eccentric and entertaining exploration of how our bodies and sense of self can continuously morph and evolve. A magnetic and irresistibly charming stage presence, Gagnon is renowned for holding nothing back, physically or emotionally, in his full-throttle performances. A long platinum blonde wig, an accordion, a plethora of disco balls, and more all come into play as he whirls the audience away on a breathless, fantastical ride.

Jan Martens: *Sweat Baby Sweat*

Wednesday-Friday January 18-20, 8pm Post-show talkback January 19

Presented with PuSh International Performing Arts Festival

Maverick Flemish choreographer Jan Martens follows up his stunning Vancouver debut last season with a signature work which has toured all over the world. *Sweat Baby Sweat* takes the most clichéd theme in dance - the relationship between a man and a woman – and distils it into an intensely physical, intimate duet depicting all-consuming love. An acrobatic balancing act which demands extraordinary strength and stamina, it focuses on two people who literally can't let one another go. This is a very modern mating ritual, filled with moments of sensual tenderness, desire, resistance and co-dependence, a highly-charged encounter which both comforts and unsettles.

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Alessandro Sciarroni: *FOLK-S, Will you still love me tomorrow?*

Thursday-Saturday February 2-4, 8pm Post-show talkback February 3

Presented with PuSh International Performing Arts Festival and Il Centro – Italian Cultural Centre

The boundary-busting works of Italian choreographer Alessandro Sciarroni range freely between dance, theatre, performance art and anthropology. In *FOLK-S*, he deconstructs the Schuhplattler ('shoe-beater'), a Bavarian folk dance where the performers slap their shoes and legs with their hands, and refines it to its most essential elements, reactivating the movements in a contemporary context. Six outstanding dancers execute a seemingly limitless series of complex rhythmic sequences, giving an extreme exposition of the multiple variations that a form can take, even to the point of exhaustion. The hammering of bodies transformed into percussion instruments creates a hypnotic sense of ritual, in a spellbinding meditation on time, rhythm and effort.

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Tara Cheyenne Performance + Silvia Gribaudo: *empty.swimming.pool*

Thursday-Saturday February 16-18, 8pm Post-show artist talkback February 17

Presented with the Chutzpah! Festival

Vancouver audience favourite Tara Cheyenne Friedenbergl and Italy's Silvia Gribaudo collide and embrace in a new collaboration which navigates the role of comedy as a catalyst to understanding and communication, addressing questions of gender, culture and language along the way. Both these seriously funny women have crafted their own expert blends of physicality and characterization to create hilarious but poignant

works, which reflect on the absurdities of life and what it means to be human. Featuring an original soundscape composed and performed live by musician Marc Stewart, *empty.swimming.pool* is a cocktail of dance, theatre and voice, spiced with acute observations and subversive humour.

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Kinesis Dance somatheatro: *In Penumbra*

Wednesday-Saturday March 1-4, 8pm Post-show talkback March 2

Presented with Kinesis Dance somatheatro and the Vancouver International Dance Festival

Kinesis Dance *somatheatro* marks its 30th anniversary with a new creation by Artistic Director Paras Terezakis which continues on the conceptual path of 2015's *U>W*. The work is inspired by the search for utopia, how the insatiable desire to reach this paradise brings out both the best and the worst in us, and the penumbra - the grey area between light and darkness - that clouds our quest for enlightenment. Integrating movement, theatre, music, video and lighting, Terezakis deploys a crack ensemble of fearless dancers in a thrilling visual landscape. His dense, meaty choreography and compelling theatrical imagination propel a visceral adventure into a world of contrasts and contradictions.

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Zab Maboungou | Compagnie Danse Nyata Nyata: *Mozongi*

Thursday-Saturday April 6-8, 8pm Post-show talkback April 7

Montreal-based choreographer Zab Maboungou has earned an international reputation for pioneering a unique style which is deeply rooted in traditional African dances, but is imbued with a fiercely contemporary approach. This revival of her seminal 1997 work *Mozongi* ('Return') reveals the potent poetic power that she constructs from movement, bodies and rhythms. Performed by six dancers and two percussionists, *Mozongi* explores time and memory, motion and stillness, the individual and the group. The electrifying dancing and drumming radiates energy and purpose, and the piece emanates profound wisdom, immense heart and unforgettable spirit.

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Lesley Telford: *Spooky Action at a Distance*

Thursday-Saturday April 20-22, 8pm Post-show talkback April 21

Presented through the Artist-in-Residence program

Lesley Telford's choreography brings together a technically rigorous vocabulary and a thought-provoking approach, refined by her years dancing with Nederlands Dans Theater and creating for companies at home and abroad, most recently Ballet BC. *Spooky Action at a Distance* is inspired by Einstein's famous phrase referring to particles that are so closely linked, they share the same existence. A collaboration with poet Barbara Adler, this new interdisciplinary work uses interactive technology and extends the theory to human connections in our phenomenally interconnected world. The program also includes *If*, a trio based on Anne Carson's poem, and the duet *My tongue, your ear*, with text by Wislawa Szymborska.

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Wen Wei Dance: *Dialogue*

Thursday-Saturday May 25-27, 8pm Post-show artist talkback May 26

Presented through the Artist-in-Residence program

Wen Wei Wang's hotly-anticipated new work is a creation for five male dancers that investigates communication – both spoken and unspoken - and the fundamental urge to connect. Drawing from his personal experience as a non-English speaking immigrant to Canada, *Dialogue* expresses the basic desire to be understood, and the loneliness when those connections with others are not achieved. Wang pairs his precise and subtle choreography with striking visual design and music and a distinctive trans-cultural

sensibility, articulating our deepest emotions with an elegant, aggressive physicality which is resonant and startlingly beautiful.

Global Dance Connections tickets Subscribe to 3+ shows for \$22 per show/single tickets from \$32 from TicketsTonight.ca/ 604.684.2787.

Discover Dance! noon dance series

The popular noon series offers informative and inspiring shows by BC-based dance companies which combine performance, question-and-answer sessions with the artists, and sometimes audience participation.

Shiamak's Bollywood Jazz Thursday September 29, 12 noon

Originally springing from India's booming film industry, Bollywood dance has become its own wildly popular genre, mashing together jazz, folk and modern influences with lavish costumes and inventive props. The Shiamak Dance Team, Vancouver will get toes tapping with a colourful, high-energy performance bursting with infectious rhythms, vitality and fun.

Kasandra Flamenco Ensemble Thursday October 27, 12 noon

Flamenco virtuoso Kasandra 'La China' leads *Solo Flamenco*, a showcase of flamenco in its purest traditional form – the cuadro. Comprising a dancer, singer, guitarist and percussionist, the cuadro provides the perfect setting for spontaneous interactions and dazzling rhythmic conversations between dancers and musicians. The combustible onstage chemistry, technical skill and shared musicality of these artists create a feast for the eyes, the ears, and the soul.

the response. Thursday November 24, 12 noon

the response. blends contemporary dance techniques with the physicality and attitude of urban culture. Led by Artistic Director Amber Funk Barton, known as an exceptionally fluent and musical dancer, the company forges an immediate emotional connection with audiences through its energetic dancers, full-blooded movement and exciting music. This performance will feature a selection of dynamic works, plus a sneak preview of an upcoming premiere.

Grupo America Thursday February 9, 12 noon

Get ready for a Latin dance extravaganza! *Las Americas* is an exuberant explosion of colour, which takes us on a journey through the dances of South and Central America and up to the United States. Vibrant Latin dances such as salsa, tango, cha cha and samba will be performed in addition to captivating traditional folkloric routines that are steeped in culture and history, including Mexican Zapateado, Cumbia, Afro-Latin dances, and more.

Aeriosa Thursday March 30, 12 noon

Aeriosa's spectacular aerial dance shows bring together the athleticism of rock climbing and the grace and artistry of dance. Using rope rigging systems, the company creates three-dimensional performances that re-interpret gravity, unlock new movement possibilities, and delight and inspire audiences. Choreographer Julia Taffe presents a program of theatre-based work and provides revealing insights into a unique dance genre.

Goh Ballet Thursday April 27, 12 noon

The elegance and precision of ballet comes to life with an exhilarating performance by the award-winning dancers of the Goh Ballet Youth Company and students from the Goh Ballet Academy. Recognized as one of the world's finest training institutes, the Academy produces graduates who go on to dance with major companies across North America, Europe and Asia. The dancers will perform a rich selection of ballets ranging from the classical repertoire to modern works by the choreographers of today.

Discover Dance! tickets Subscribe to all 6 shows for \$55/single tickets \$14/\$12 students, seniors from TicketsTonight.ca/ 604.684.2787.

Events

The 15th annual Scotiabank Dance Centre Open House Saturday September 10

A day of free open classes, workshops, studio showings and special events, featuring a host of different dance styles at Canada's flagship dance facility. Full schedule of events to be announced.

Free events 11am-5pm.

Performance 8pm: Ziyian Kwan | dumb instrument Dance + Vanessa Goodman | Action at a Distance

Simile is an evening of contemporary dance choreographed and performed by Ziyian Kwan and Vanessa Goodman. Three works highlight the unique artistic camaraderie between these captivating creative voices: Kwan's *Still Rhyming*, a whimsical ode inspired by the prose of rock icon Patti Smith, danced to live music by Joseph Hirabayashi; and two new creations which bring together things magical and quotidian.

Tickets \$25/\$20 students, seniors from TicketsTonight.ca/604.684.2787.

Presented with the support of Scotiabank.

V'ni Dansi: Louis Riel Day Celebration

Saturday November 12, 8pm

Presented with V'ni Dansi through the Artist-in-Residence program

V'ni Dansi preserves traditional Métis dance and also creates innovative contemporary works: the company brings both these activities together in a special double bill for its annual Louis Riel Day Celebration. *Eagle Spirit* is a contemporary solo choreographed and performed by Artistic Director Yvonne Chartrand, which probes themes of death and rebirth, and the eagle's connection to the spirit world. The Louis Riel Métis Dancers, V'ni Dansi's traditional dance troupe, will perform the joyous jigs, reels and square dances that Métis culture is famed for, to the music of a live band.

Tickets on sale summer 2016 through TicketsTonight.ca/604.684.2787.

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International Dance Day April 29

Initiated in 1982 by UNESCO, International Dance Day is marked annually on April 29 across Canada and around the world. Each year The Dance Centre presents a program of events celebrating the vitality and diversity of dance in Vancouver. Full program of events to be announced.

Ancestralizing the Present: Protocols and Practices in Northwest Coast First Nations Dance Saturday June 10

Presented through the Artist-in-Residence program

Canadian dance artist Erin Manning uses "ancestralize" to describe the ways in which Indigenous visual artists draw upon ancient ways of being, knowing, and relationships to territories to create work that

activates the present so that it becomes the future. This approach is also foundational to Northwest Coast First Nations dance, which ancestralizes the present by strategically bringing forward inherited repertoires in relation to performative contexts. As future ancestors, these artists also create new works that become the ancient songs and dances of generations to come. Curated by Artist-in-Residence Dr. Mique'l Dangeli, this event brings together dance artists from many Nations for performances and public discussions of the protocols integral to their practices. Full details to be announced.

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12 Minutes Max June 16/season-wide

The 12 Minutes Max series supports the development of innovative new works lasting twelve minutes or less. Three times per season a rotating panel of guest curators will select up to four artists who will develop their works in the studio, followed by public studio showings. Artists and showing dates will be announced throughout the year. A selection of the works will be presented in performance on June 16, 2017 at 8pm.

Residencies and Projects

2016-2017 Artists-in-Residence:

Justine A. Chambers

Yvonne Chartrand, V'ni Dansi

Mique'l Dangeli

Chick Snipper

Lesley Telford

Wen Wei Wang, Wen Wei Dance

2016-2017 DanceLab choreographers:

Amber Funk Barton (lighting, music, design, theatre)

Olivia C. Davies (visual art, text)

Emmalena Fredriksson (film, new media)

Jeanette Kotowich (sound, music)

Natalie Tin Yin Gan (theatre)

Helen Walkley (music, text)

Site-Specific Projects:

Pressed Paradise: (Arash Khakpour, Heather Lamoureux, Kelly McInnes, Diego Romero, Sepehr Samimi)

SLIP(PAGE): Alexa Mardon in collaboration with Robert Azevedo, Ileanna Cheladyn

Information: 604 606 6400 www.thedancecentre.ca

www.facebook.com/thedancecentre www.twitter.com/dancecentre

www.instagram.com/thedancecentrebc

About The Dance Centre Established in 1986 as a resource centre for the dance profession and the public in British Columbia, The Dance Centre has expanded into a multifaceted organization offering a range of activities unparalleled in Canadian dance. It presents performances and public events; provides programs, resources and support for dance professionals; operates Scotiabank Dance Centre, Canada's flagship dance facility; and works to promote BC dance.

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Official hotel sponsor: the Holiday Inn Vancouver Downtown Hotel & Suites.
Media sponsors: The Georgia Straight (Global Dance Connections series)
The Vancouver Courier, OMNI Diversity Television, City TV (Discover Dance! series)

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The Dance Centre
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