

For Immediate Release  
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**Rotunda Dance Series: San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival Opening with Kim Shuck,  
Mussel Rock Cloggers, and Aerodance**

Presented by Dancers' Group and World Arts West,  
in partnership with Grants for the Arts and  
San Francisco City Hall

**Free**

Friday, July 6, 2018  
12 Noon  
San Francisco City Hall

SAN FRANCISCO, CA—In their eighth season of free monthly dance performances in San Francisco City Hall's extraordinary rotunda, Dancers' Group and World Arts West are once again partnering to bring audiences lunchtime glimpses into movement and musical traditions from around the world.

**This July, the Rotunda Dance Series presents the opening of the 40<sup>th</sup> San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival with Aerodance, Mussel Rock Cloggers and poet laureate Kim Shuck.**

This July Rotunda Dance Series performance begins with the San Francisco **Poet Laureate Kim Shuck** reading poems about dance with an eye to the way that traditional Cherokee Stomp Dance is used to rebalance the world. As a Tsalagi (Cherokee)/Euro-American poet, author, weaver, and beadwork artist, she has drawn from Southeastern Native American culture and tradition as well as contemporary urban Indian life.

The opening event continues with the **Mussel Rock Cloggers**, a co-ed North American folk dance performance group. Originally based on movements from the Appalachian Mountains, modern clogging has been infused with circle and square dances, African-American rhythms, Canadian step dancing, and Peruvian dance. They will be performing three pieces: *Pitkin County Turnaround*, *Make You Mine* (both choreographed by Ian Michael Enriquez), and *Fire on the Mountain* (choreographed by Sarah Dwight-Gilroy).

**Aerodance** will be closing out the program with a high-energy dance that depicts joyous moments between Lord Krishna and his consort Radha. This form of folk dance from Gujarat, India is called *Dandiya Raas*. *Dandiya Raas* represents the power of the Goddess Durga, with the sticks representing the swords of the Goddess

The San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival celebrates and fosters appreciation for the world

dance and music artists living throughout the greater Bay Area's diverse ethnic communities. The Festival's 40th Anniversary performances continue at the War Memorial Opera House July 14-22; please visit [worldartswest.org](http://worldartswest.org) for more information.

The Rotunda Dance Series will continue monthly through 2018, highlighting many cultural traditions from across the world, including Afro-Peruvian, urban turf dancing, and American folk, among others. The Series brings many of the Bay Area's most celebrated dance companies to San Francisco City Hall's rotunda space for free monthly noon-time performances. The Rotunda Dance series is presented by Dancers' Group and World Arts West in partnership with Grants for the Arts and San Francisco City Hall.

**About Kim Shuck** ([kimshuck.com](http://kimshuck.com))

San Francisco's Seventh Poet Laureate and the first of Cherokee descent. Former American Indian Studies instructor and alumnus at San Francisco State University, Shuck is also an author of three full-length solo books and one chapbook, has won some poetry awards including the Mary Tall Mountain Award and the Diane Decorah award, both of which are named for Indigenous women. Kim is currently working on a poetry map of San Francisco as part of her tenure as 7th poet laureate of San Francisco.

**About The Mussel Rock Cloggers** ([facebook.com/musselrockcloggers](https://facebook.com/musselrockcloggers))

The Mussel Rock Cloggers are an offshoot of the Barbary Coast Cloggers that developed out of the performance workshops at San Francisco's Rhythm & Motion. The group began to provide performance opportunities to both men and women cloggers in the Bay Area. The Mussel Rock Cloggers perform a contemporary style of clogging that includes intricate footwork.

**About Aerodance** ([aerodanceonline.com](http://aerodanceonline.com))

Aerodance is a premier creative learning school of dance specializing in various dance forms including Semi-classical, Bollywood, Folk, Classical, Fusion and other Ethnic dance forms.

**About World Arts West** ([worldartswest.org](http://worldartswest.org))

For four decades, World Arts West has supported and presented world dance artists throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. The main presenting program of the organization is the nationally acclaimed San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival, which presents over 100 distinct dance forms and thousands of local dancers who are sustaining and innovating within those forms. The organization works year round to advance cultural literacy and build bridges of cultural understanding.

**About Dancers' Group** ([dancersgroup.org](http://dancersgroup.org))

Dancers' Group promotes the visibility and viability of dance. Founded in 1982, we serve San Francisco Bay Area artists, the dance community and audiences through programs and services that are as collaborative and innovative as the creative process itself. In response to the needs of its constituents, Dancers' Group has evolved to fulfill a dual function as a service organization and as a presenter of performance opportunities that maximize the visibility of dance in the Bay Area.

**Calendar Editors please note:**

Who: Rotunda Dance Series: San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival Opening with Kim Shuck, Mussel Rock Cloggers, and Aerodance.

What: Free monthly dance performance, presented by Dancers' Group and World Arts West, in partnership with Grants for the Arts and San Francisco City Hall. It is also the opening event of the 40<sup>th</sup> annual San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival.

Cost: Free

Where: City Hall, San Francisco

When: Friday, July 6, 2018, Noon

Info: Terry Conway, (415) 474-3914, [terry@worldartswest.org](mailto:terry@worldartswest.org), [dancersgroup.org/rotunda](http://dancersgroup.org/rotunda)

Images available for download:

Kim Shuck: <http://dancersgroup.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/K-Shuck-before-the-reading-1.jpg>

Mussel Rock: <http://dancersgroup.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/MR1.jpg>

Aerodance: <http://dancersgroup.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Aerodance.jpg>

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