

For Immediate Release
June 11, 2019



Contact: Wayne Hazzard
Executive Director, Dancers' Group
wayne@dancersgroup.org
dancersgroup.org/cash
415-920-9181

Dancers' Group Announces Spring 2019 CA\$H Dance Grant Recipients

SAN FRANCISCO—Dancers' Group, a service and presenting organization in the San Francisco Bay Area, announces the Spring 2019 awardees of its CA\$H granting program. The bi-annual awards support Bay Area dance artists and organizations.

\$42,000 in grants are being awarded to seven individual artists and seven dance organizations in support of artistic projects—each grant award is \$3,000. CA\$H supports artists from diverse cultural backgrounds and creative practices. Projects supported this round feature Hula, Bharatanatyam, performance ritual, Persian, contemporary, Cuban folkloric, and dance works focused on the experiences of artists of color.

The CA\$H program, which has been supporting dance-makers for the past 19 years, is funded by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and Grants for the Arts.

A peer panel of Bay Area artists met over two days to review 62 applications—**39** from individual artists and **23** from organizations. The panelists of choreographers and performers who reviewed and awarded grants were Tanya Chianese, India Davis, Chris Evans, Hien Huynh, and Virginia Matthews.

The 14 Spring 2019 Dance grantees are:

Individual Artists

Susana Arenas
Surabhi Bharadwaj
Cherie Hill
Irene Hsi
randy reyes
Liv Schaffer
Keisha Turner

Organizations

¡FLACC!
Halau o Keikiali'i
inkBoat
Lenora Lee Dance
NAKA Dance Theater
Sense Object
Shahrzad Dance Academy

Project Descriptions:

INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS:

Susana Arenas

October 2019, Dance Mission Theater, SF

Eso sí (working title) is a new evening length work that explores one woman's immigration story via Cuban folkloric and popular dance. Using both live and recorded music, movement and text, the

performance marks the 20th anniversary of choreographer Susana Areana Pedroso's arrival in the States.

CA\$H for: artist fees

Surabhi Bharadwaj

November 2019, ODC Theater, SF

Aśrutam - the unheard voice, is a culmination Indian classical dance, theater, and artwork based on Devadasi women, a matriarchal community of performing artists of ancient India, who passed down their hereditary dance form to our generation. Through its soulful music, professional dancing, and well-researched design elements, *Aśrutam* will take the audience on a journey to the ancient Indian temples, where music and dance was the way of life. While sharing the richness and joy of the dance, *Aśrutam* also spreads the message of social justice and women empowerment.

CA\$H for: artist fees

Cherie Hill

August 2019, Venue TBD

Cherie Hill presents the Oakland premiere of *Détente*, a dance piece featuring choreography, improvisation, and video. The work investigates the impact of displacement on the body, mind, and spirit, includes an audience discussion on gentrification in partnership with Causa Justa: Just Cause tenant's rights organization and a film screening of the documentary *Alice Street*.

CA\$H for: artist fees

Irene Hsi

July 2019, Joe Goode Annex, SF

strictly sideflower is a piece investigating perceptions of East-Asian female presenting bodies in the context of the concept of the "whitening" of Asians in the US. It is a combination of improvisational scores and set movement developed in conversation with all the collaborating performers.

CA\$H for: artist fees

randy reyes

December 2019, Venues TBD

death by disco or *opaQUÉ* seeks to work collaboratively with a cast of queer/AfroLatinx/Latinx artists and adjacent kinfolks. The questions we will use as choreographic departure points for this project include: Are we celebrating or mourning or both? How can choreographic form aid in the transmission/transformation of these energetic states into energetic architectures? What patterns of migration do I/we continue to inhabit?

CA\$H for: artist fees and documentation

Liv Schaffer

August 2019, Beckett, MA

This project includes an invitation to present Liv's choreographic work at Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival's Inside / Out Performance Series during the 2019 Festival. The 30 minute program will include three works created by Liv between 2014-2018; including a remounting of *Fatherland*: a site specific piece commissioned by The MoveMessengers & Yerba Buena Gardens Festival ChoreoFest in 2018.

CA\$H for: artist fees

Keisha Turner

April 2020, Venue TBD

She Rage, She Wail, She Wash, She Win is an embodied revelation and creative organizing practice that will emphasize the correlation between our global bodies of water and womxn/femme's bodies and our habitual exploitation and desecration of both. In this piece, dance, live vocals, and audience interactions will be in dialogue with video art exploring rage, grief, cleansing, and overcoming.
CA\$H for: artist fees, facility rental, documentation

ORGANIZATIONS

FLACC/Festival of Latin American Contemporary Choreographers

November 2019, Dance Mission Theater, SF & Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, Berkeley

A two weekend-long festival amplifying Chicax/Latinx and Indigenous voices in the contemporary dance sector. Additionally, there will be panel discussions, master classes and two work-in-progress feedback showings.

CA\$H for: artist fees, production staff, venue costs, publicity

Halau o Keikiali'i

August 2019, San Mateo Performing Arts Center

In celebration of their 25th anniversary, showcasing a public hula performance entitled "Mōhala: The Evolution of Keikiali'i." This production will share with our audience a powerful blend of ancient and modern hula practice. All of the chants, songs, and musical arrangements presented will be original compositions by Kumu Hula Kawika Alfiche, Founder and Artistic Director.

CA\$H for: artist fees, travel expenses, marketing, equipment rental, documentation.

inkBoat

October 2019, Albany Bulb, Albany & CounterPulse, SF

The Storm in My House is a multi-disciplinary (dance, music and installation) performance collaboratively created and performed by inkBoat, directed by Shinichi Iova-Koga. The theme is home: its absence, its presence, and the feeling of home as physical space, identity or culture.

CA\$H for: artist fees

Lenora Lee Dance

November 2019, Dance Mission Theater, SF

On The Rise is a new immersive, multimedia dance experience inspired by the lives and experiences of cancer survivors, a meditation on healing, compassion, forgiveness and the unknown.

CA\$H for: artist fees

NAKA Dance Theater

October 2019, Project 124, SF

NAKA Dance Theater will create *Dismantling: Tactic 2*, an experimental lab where artists develop a third language to write and dance in real-time their response to oppressive racial narratives. What results is a multimedia performance work that shares strategies to cope with and confront white supremacy.

CA\$H for: artist fees, facility rental

Sense Object

July-November 2019, Finnish Hall, Berkeley

Performance Salons are seasonally occurring free events that take place at the Finnish Hall in Berkeley. Useful for artists and enjoyable for audiences, they provide space for performance makers

to experiment, show works-in-progress, and receive feedback from an invested audience in a supportive, informal setting. Organized by artists for artists, these salons have been taking place since 2014.

CA\$H for: artist and administrator fees

Shahrzad Dance Academy

July-December 2019, Various Locations

Symbols of Love is an original piece about rebirth, and renewal. This is what Norouz ("New Day"), Persian New Year, which is also the Spring Equinox represents. Bringing into focus the true meaning behind this celebrated holiday, the symbolic *Haft-seen* ("seven S's") comes to life, as dancers portray dynamic characteristics associated with each symbol, every dance emoting and inspiring love and hope.

CA\$H for: artist fees

###