

LA MAMA MOVES! DANCE FESTIVAL

present

SKIN/Mea Culpa/Uma & Holy Cow(s)! By inDANCE Choreography by Hari Krishnan



Ellen Stewart Theatre 66 East 4th Street, NYC, 10003 May 11 - 12, 2019

Pre-show

Fantastic Beasts meet on a Whimsical beach...

Dancers: Paul Charbonneau and Roney Lewis

Technology Design: Chelsie McPhilimy Technology Design Execution: Tara Mohan

Skin (excerpt)

Difference/Desire. Power/Pain/Pleasure. Love/Lust

Choreography: Hari Krishnan

Dancers: Paul Charbonneau and Roney Lewis Original Music Composition: Niraj Chag

Lighting Design: John Carr

Costume/Visual Design: Rex (Rajavairan Rajendran)

Costume Construction: Tarami Rehearsal Director: Roney Lewis

Premiere: Buddies in Bad Times, Toronto, May 2014

Mea Culpa

The eleventh hour.

The nervous groom at his wedding in Chennai city (India)....

Mea Culpa is a perverse jab at re-appropriating the misappropriated, inspired by American dance pioneer Ted Shawn's 1926 work, "The Cosmic Dance of Siva".

Choreography: Hari Krishnan Dancer: Spenser Stroud

Music: Rossini & Gowri Shankar (with due apologies to both!)

Lighting Design: John Carr

Costume Design: Rex (Rajavairan Rajendran)

Premiere: Winchester Street Theater, Toronto, May 2007

Uma (excerpt)

Unstoppable, the defiant Uma reincarnates for the 9th time, original again.

Inspired by the rich tradition of Stri Vesham (Female Impersonation) in South Indian dance, Uma oscillates between idealized images of woman as virgin, vamp, lover, mother, wife, mistress, celluloid goddess diva and temple Goddess Devi.

Choreography/Dancer/Rhythmic composition and recitation/Additional music

composition: Hari Krishnan

Musicians (recorded): Susha and Vaaraki Wijayaraj (vocals),

Morgan Doctor (spoken text),

Kajan Pararasasegaram (percussion)

and Ajanthie Madanakaran (flute)

Research: Davesh Soneji Lighting Design: John Carr

Costume Design: Rex (Rajavairan Rajendran)

Premiere (excerpt version):

Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Chennai, India, December 2014

Holy Cow(s)! (excerpts)

Of bindis, burgers, ankle- bells and shoes...

Hollywood via Kollywood via Hollywood North.

#YayoiKusama- "you see me naked without my bindi (red dot)."

Calling on every kind of Feminist to rise, roar and resist all kinds of prejudice, discrimination, inequality, injustice, harm and evil...

Holy Cow(s)! is a tongues-in-many-cheeks caricature remix, recycling worn-out culture-specific taboos of gender, identity, sexuality and 'exotic' (mis)representation via a global dance lens.

Choreography: Hari Krishnan

Dancers: Paul Charbonneau, Eury German, Priyanka Krishnan, Roney Lewis and Xi Yi Choreography of Hollywood via Kollywood via Hollywood North: Seán Curran (NYC) and

Hari Krishnan

Original Music Composition: Niraj Chag

Lighting Design: John Carr

Costume Design: Rex (Rajavairan Rajendran)

Rehearsal Director: Roney Lewis

Premiere: Harbourfront Centre Theatre, Toronto, March 2017

"Everything is art. Everything is politics."

– Ai Wei Wei

"... that's the great thing about art. Everyone can have their opinion on why it sucks."

- Homer. J. Simpson

CHOREOGRAPHER'S STATEMENT

Welcome to SKIN/Mea Culpa/Uma & Holy Cow(s)! a mixed bill evening of dance recontextualized for these regressive times we live in...

We draw from our own experiences and intentionally transgress the boundaries of art, politics, race, gender, sexuality and multiple culturalisms by probing uncharted territory while intersecting perceptions of visible minorities and cultural hyphenates. inDANCE subverts clichéd representations of "traditional" Indian dance, and speaks loudly with an inimitable, unorthodox, global voice.

Thank you, for spending your time with us, Hari Krishnan/inDANCE

inDANCE is an inimitable, progressive dance company. It presents works that are a potent, distilled synthesis of artistic director Hari Krishnan's Asian and western artistic personae. inDANCE's mash-up of dance-making and activism, dismantles binary notions of "tradition" and "contemporaneity", with an emphasis on decolonizing perceptions of dance and identity. Probing the burdens and legacies of "tradition," inDANCE disrupts the familiar and evolves new meanings for the archaic, propelling the company on a trajectory that subverts normative political and social life-worlds. These include addressing issues on sexuality and gender. The company pioneers work that is unconventional and transgressive, producing eccentric, sensual, and virtuosic dance that confronts dominant discourses on global culture. inDANCE's work is presented at prestigious international festivals and venues.

For information about inDANCE, please contact shanahillman@yahoo.ca Explore our world at indance.ca

John Carr is is a Professor of Theater Emeritus at Wesleyan University/USA. In addition to multiple designs for Hari Krishnan/inDANCE, he has designed for Richard Bull, Dances for 2, Douglas Dunn, Susan Foster, Deborah Hay, and almost all faculty dance concerts and theater productions at Wesleyan from 1984 to 2015, as well as productions at other American Universities such as Connecticut College, Manhattanville College and Fairfield University. Professional theater projects include lighting for the Folger Theatre, Hartford Stage Company, National Players, the Shubert Theater, Theater for the New City, DTW and Skin, Meat, Bone, by Robert Wilson and Alvin Lucier. His international projects include the lighting for Death And The Maiden at the New Wolsey Theatre in Ipswich, U.K., Bury Me Under The Baseboard and Crime And Punishment at the Bulandra Theatre in Bucharest.

Niraj Chag is an award winning London-based composer and artist whose work spans a wide range from albums, to film scores, theatre, dance and live events. He has composed for the BBC, Channel 4, HBO, The Royal Shakespeare Company, The Royal National Theatre, Sadlers Wells, The Royal Opera House and released three critically acclaimed studio albums. He has been composing for inDANCE since 2011 including *Quicksand* (2011), *I, Cyclops* (2013), *Skin* (2014) and *Holy Cow(s)!* (2017).

Paul Charbonneau is a Montreal based dance artist who has been performing with inDANCE since 2009. An artist, performer and choreographer, Paul is inspired by all forms of art but resonates most with dance. Paul was nominated for the prestigious 2017 Dora Award (Toronto) in the Outstanding Performance category for his performance in *Holy Cow(s)!*.

Eury German is a NYC artist who was born in the Dominican Republic, but was raised north of Boston after moving to the U.S at the age of 4. He began his dance training at Wesleyan University in Middletown, CT at the age of 18 where he received his B.A in Biology and Dance in 2016. He furthered his dance training at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts where he received an MFA in Dance Performance and Choreography in 2018. Eury trained in summer intensives at the San Francisco Conservatory of Dance, American Dance Festival, and Springboard Danse Montreal and has performed works by Paul Taylor, Ohad Naharin, Sharon Eyal, MADBOOTS DANCE, Abdul Latif, and Kate Wallich + The YC. Upon graduating NYU, Eury joined Jennifer Muller/The Works as an apprentice and has since been promoted to full time company member. This is Eury's second performance with inDANCE.

Hari Krishnan is a Bessie (New York City) and Dora (Toronto) Award nominee dance artist, scholar and teacher. He is Associate Professor of Dance in the Department of Dance at Wesleyan University and artistic director of inDANCE. He holds a PhD in Dance from Texas Woman's University. Krishnan's research areas include queer identities in dance performance, contemporary dance from global perspectives, colonialism, post-colonialism and Indian dance, Bharatanatyam in Tamil cinema and the history of courtesan dance traditions in South India. He has just completed a monograph entitled Celluloid Classicism: Early Tamil Cinema and the Making of Modern Bharatanatyam (forthcoming, Wesleyan University Press). He is commissioned internationally for his radical and unorthodox choreography.

Priyanka Krishnan is a New York City based actress, dancer, and singer. She is also even tinier in real life. Besides owning her very own apple box & photography studio, she was most recently seen on the Season 5 finale of the hit TV show *Younger* with Sutton Foster. Other fun credits include: *Bhangin' It* (Lincoln Center), *Bhangin' It* (La Jolla Playhouse), Cecily Cardew in *The Importance of Being Earnest* (The Duplex), and Andi Magodia in *Living With Strangers*. Priyanka has been a Kalakshetra style Bharatanatyam dancer for 18 years now, and can't wait to play the insubordinate *Rukmini Devi Arundale* in a film someday. This is her second performance with inDANCE.

Roney Lewis attended Etobicoke School of the Arts high school, where he studied Music Theatre. He is a graduate of Ryerson University where he majored in Performance Theatre-Dance. He is an aspiring young dancer, singer, and actor based in Toronto, Canada. He has worked with many critically acclaimed artists and choreographers such as Jeff Dimitriou, Melissa Williams, Janelle Monae, Vicki St. Deny's, Robert Glumbek, Natasha Powell, Jasmyn Fyffe, Scott Fordham and Hari Krishnan. He has performed and toured in many different theatres across Canada, the United States of America, and Asia. He has been performing with inDANCE since 2010.

Chelsie McPhillimy is pleased to be working with inDANCE on this production of SKIN. She is the lighting and media specialist for the Wesleyan Department of Dance.

Tara Mohan is a professional Stage Manager who enjoys working on dance, theatre, musicals, and everything in between. She has had the pleasure of working with such companies as ProArteDanza, Fujiwara Dance Inventions, Luminato, Dance Matters, and Toronto Dance Theatre. Favourite credits include: No Woman's Land (Jaberi Dance Theatre), Older & Reckless (Moonhorse Dance Theatre), Million Dollar Quartet (The LOT), Now You See Her (Quote Unquote Collective), UNBXBL II (Gadfly Dance), Le Grand Continental (Luminato), Cabaret (The LOT), 16 Shades of Red (inDANCE), Moving Parts (Fujiwara Dance Inventions), Hedwig and the Angry Inch (Hart House Theatre), The Seat Next To The King (Minmar Gaslight), Rebel Yell (Dance Matters), Diversion & Fearful Symmetries (ProArteDanza), NOISY (Toronto Dance Theatre).

Rex (Rajavairan Rajendran) studied art and design at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City. He currently lives in Toronto, directing his own creative design consultancy. His work has been featured on premier soloists, ensembles and companies at prestigious venues in Canada, the US, Europe and Asia. Along with designing for dance and theatre, Rex works on commissioned interior design projects.

Spenser Stroud is an undergraduate student at Wesleyan majoring in dance and neuroscience. During his gap year, he danced at Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre in NYC. His plan is to uniquely combine his passions for dance and the brain.

Xi Yi started his professional dance training at the age of ten with the Beijing Dance Academy. He was awarded a complete 3-year scholarship, and received his BFA in 2013. Xi has performed in principal roles for Peter Quanz, the Royal Winnipeg Ballet's resident choreographer. He has toured Australia, Germany, France, Italy, New Zealand, The Vatican and the US. In 2013, he served as the spokesperson for the Chinese Cultural and Arts Festival in Cyprus, This is Xi's third season with inDANCE.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Stage Management: Tara Mohan Photography: Miles Brokenshire

With all my heart, I am grateful to my team of collaborators and dancers for sharing their gifts with me. I love you all! It's a singular honor to perform at La MaMa Moves! Dance Festival. An immense THANKS to Nicky Paraiso, Gian Marco Lo Forte, Fran Kirmser, John Issendorf and everyone at La MaMa. inDANCE acknowledges the generous support of The Canada Council for the Arts, The Ontario Arts Council, Toronto Arts Council, the Bank of Montreal and the K.M. Hunter Charitable Foundation. inDANCE is forever grateful to Nada Ristich for her continued support of our work. Thank You Sarah Hunter. A special thanks to our beloved producer Shana Hillman.

In these perilous times, instead of being an impassive spectator, please be proactive. Participate. Think. Vote responsibly. What happens in America, impacts the world...Please continue to support the arts...THANK YOU.

LA MAMA MOVES! DANCE FESTIVAL STAFF

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The 14th Season of the La MaMa Moves! Dance Festival has been made possible with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, with special thanks to City Council Speaker, Corey Johnson; New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature; Ford Foundation; Howard Gilman Foundation; Mertz Gilmore Foundation; The Harkness Foundation for Dance; The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation; The Jerome Robbins Foundation; The Shubert Foundation and The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust.

La MaMa Moves! Dance Festival | April 26 - May 26, 2019

we want miles, in a silent way

April 26 - 28, 2019 The Downstairs

All – A Physical Poem Of Protest

May 3 - 5, 2019

The Downstairs

But The Sun Came Up And We Were Here

May 3 - 5, 2019 Ellen Stewart Theatre

Peony Dreams: On The Other Side Of Sleep

May 9 - 10, 2019 Ellen Stewart Theatre

SKIN, Mea Culpa, Uma and Holy Cow(s)

May 11 - 12, 2019 Ellen Stewart Theatre

Lost Mountain

May 16 - 19, 2019 Ellen Stewart Theatre

Surveys The Prairie Of Your Room

May 18 - 19, 2019 Fllen Stewart Theatre

Calling: A Dance With Faith

May 23 - 24, 2019 Ellen Stewart Theatre

Mirror

May 25 - 26, 2019 Ellen Stewart Theatre

Special Off-Site Events

Free Panel | Secret Journey: Stop Calling Them Dangerous #2

May 18 - 19, 2019

Location: Movement Research | 122 Community Center, 150 First

Ave New York, NY 10009

LA MAMA



RESTORE A BUILDING REMAKE A WORLD



Rendering: 74 East 4th St.

La MaMa's historic, landmark building at 74 East 4th Street is undergoing an urgently needed complete renovation and restoration to preserve the historic façade, create building-wide ADA accessibility, and provide much needed performance, exhibition and community space for decades to come.

La MaMa, founded by Ellen Stewart in 1961, has been on east 4th Street since 1967. La MaMa embraces every person in its community and is legendary as the place where new artists of all nations, cultures, races, and identities are given opportunities. It is the place where art begins.

To learn more about the renovation, or to make a donation please visit www.lamama.org/remakeaworld

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April 26 - May 26, 2019 Ellen Stewart Theatre The Downstairs

The Floor Is Lava

May 9 - 19, 2019 The Downstairs

La MaMa Kids Dance Workshop Led by Dan Safer

Sat, May 18, 2019 at 12pm Ellen Stewart Theatre

Poetry Electric Betty & The Belrays

May 13, 2019 at 7:30pm The Downstairs Lounge

COMING SOON

Messiah

May 23 - June 2, 2019 The Downstairs

Stonewall 50 at La MaMa

May 30 - June 30, 2019 Ellen Stewart Theatre

Bach & Bleach

June 5 - 9, 2019 The Downstairs

Coffeehouse Chronicles Taylor Mac

Sat, June 8, 2019 at 3pm Ellen Stewart Theatre

La MaMa Kids Family Play Date

June 9, 2019 at Noon The Downstairs