



MOVEMENTS OF GRATITUDE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23RD 2025
THE ELECTRIC LODGE – VENICE, CA



WELCOME

Tonight, we celebrate art, movement, and the strength that rises when a community gathers to dance, create, and share. Every gesture you will see on stage is the result of dedication, sensitivity, and the beauty that emerges when bodies, stories, and emotions meet.

Thank you for being here, for supporting the arts, and for becoming part of this moment of gratitude.

May this performance touch your heart and inspire new movements both on and beyond the stage.



MOVEMENTS OF GRATITUDE.

Created by choreographer and artistic director Aneska França, Movements of Gratitude is a celebration of community, creativity, and cultural appreciation. Born from Aneska's vision to uplift dancers and expand artistic opportunities in Los Angeles, the showcase brings together performers, studios, and choreographers from across the city and beyond.

This event highlights the transformative power of dance — its ability to build bridges, honor diversity, and strengthen human connection. Tonight, we celebrate the growth, resilience, friendship, and collective creativity that dance has brought into our lives.

Bringing together dancers from diverse backgrounds and styles — including ballet, Brazilian dance, Zouk, Latin rhythms, jazz, contemporary, acro, music and Movies — Movements of Gratitude has become a space for meaningful exchange and shared artistic experiences. These connections have helped build a strong, diverse, and welcoming community grounded in collaboration and the unifying power of art.

This special edition honors the friendships, creative partners, and students who have shaped Aneska's artistic journey in the United States. Throughout the evening, teachers, choreographers, and collaborators will be recognized for their contributions to dance and to the community.

Movements of Gratitude is more than a performance — it is a community legacy built with passion, unity, and the belief that art transforms people, and people transform the world.

SHOW ORDER

1. "Girls of Time"

Companies: Aneska Dance Company & Acro Dance Academy

Genre/Style: Ballet / Contemporary

Choreography & Direction: Aneska França

Performers: Sofia Snyder, Betty Pham, Ali Simone, Aneska França

2. "Ave Maria"

Performer: Eliezer Rabelo

Genre/Style: Brazilian Countertenor Solo

3. "Galleta Con Leche"

Performer : Ria Wahjudi

Genre/Style: Chachacha

Choreographer : Michelle Ramos

Song name : Galleta Con Leche

4. "Electric"

Company: Sueño by Salt

IG: @suenobysalt

Genre/Style: Brazilian Zouk Fusion

Music: DJ Kakah

Performers: David "Braulio" Martinez, Pebbles Miller, Kara Crohn, Diana Rael,

Tania Mojica, Magaly Macia, Melanie Murga, Gloria Vasquez, Marissa Forzisi

5. " Dale"

Choreography & Direction: Marissa Rivera

Performer: Marissa Rivera

6. "Harmony Salsa Partnerwork"

Company: Harmony Dance Studio

Genre/Style: Salsa

Performers: Colin Hill, Douglas Gordon, Lily Purevjav and Gina Zorigbat

7. "Ela É / She Is"

Company: Aneska Dance Company

Genre/Style: Brazilian Zouk, Samba no Pé & Latin Fusion

Direction & Choreography: Aneska França

Performers: Aneska França, Brooke Kaiser, Laura Acerves, Katrina Mitchell

Music Editing: DJ Raffo

MOVEMENTS OF
GRATITUDE

SHOW ORDER

8. "Evolution"
Performer: Tiffany Blossom

9. "Influência do Jazz"
Direction and Choreography: Paulo Fonseca Dance Company
Performers: Igor Queiroga & Larissa Ishikawa
Genre/Style: Samba de Gafieira
Music: Alcione

10. "Stronger"
Company: Los Angeles Acro Dancers
Dancers: Ali Simone & Ahad Kebede
Genre/Style: Acro Dance
Music: "Stronger" – Thunderstorm Artis

11. "Two Rhythms, One Love"
Company: Lambada Zouk Influence
Genre/Style: Brazilian Zouk & Lambada Fusion
Music Artists: Ledes Diaz (Part I), Karol G (Part II)
Performers: Lua Feboli, Dayna Queir, Ian Absolo, Les Tibangin,
Marissa Rivera, Nathalia Carbaial

12. "From Aquarela do Brasil to Mangueira Sambaliza"
Company: Raiz Brazil Dance Company
Genre/Style: Samba
Music: "Aquarela do Brasil" – Brasil Brazil Band;
"Mangueira Sambaliza" – Leandro Lehart
Choreographer: Jônia Queen
Performers: Bryana Casas, Edith Waddel, Ella Pitts, Fernanda Badeo,
Jônia Queen, Kristy Burgess, Maisie Morrow-Jones, Maleeka Melosa,
Ruby Bugarin, Viviana Moreno

13. "Manifest"
Genre/Style: Brazilian Zouk
Choreographers: Aneska França & Clinton Lacerda
Performers: Aneska França & Clinton Lacerda
Music: DJ Vine

14. "Harmony Ladies Bachata"
Company: Harmony Dance Studio
Genre/Style: Bachata
Performers: Anna Nygren, Claudia Heredia, Victoria Xue,
Marina Lysenko, Lily Purevjav, Gina Zorigbat

SHOW ORDER

15. "The Malandro's Homage"

Company: Gafieira Los Angeles – Student Showcase

Genre/Style: Samba de Gafieira

Performers: Sula Gomes Brasil, Romulo Santurio, Carolina Queiroz Couto, Chason, Tyler Chen, Nicole Marie, Elise Ainta

16. "Toybox"

Company: Jazz Spectrum Dance Company

Genre/Style: Jazz

Choreographer: Christine Baltes (1951–2018)

Performer: Janell Burgess

Music: Portishead

17. "U-N-I-T-Y"

Company: 3rd Street Dance Studio

Genre/Style: Hip Hop

Choreographer: Darrien Henning

Performers: Darrien Henning, Amanda Rosales, Tatiana, Ronnie, Olive, Sara, Sai, Jesus, Sandy, Xavier, Bhawana

18. "Chorando Se Foi"

Company: Aneska Dance

Genre/Style: Brazilian Zouk

Direction & Choreography: Aneska França

Performers: Aneska França, Ali Simone, Laura Acerves, Katrina Mitchell, Charles Shapiro, Malcolm Guess

MOVEMENTS OF GRATITUDE

Sponsors



Thank you for our Sponsors

Aneska França: Bridging Cultures Through Dance – From Brazil to Los Angeles

Los Angeles, CA — Aneska França is a Brazilian dancer, choreographer, educator, and cultural producer whose vibrant career unites the precision of science with the soul of art. With over two decades of experience in both performance and education, she is a recognized authority in Brazilian Zouk, and a passionate advocate for the preservation and reinvention of Brazilian folkloric dances on international stages.

Her passion for movement began in childhood, when she devoted herself to ballet, jazz, and Brazilian popular dances. As a teenager, she was a member of the Criart Cia de Dança, an important stepping stone in her artistic formation.

Aneska's professional journey started in Recife, Brazil, where she received her first formal training in partner dancing at the Centro de Dança Jaime Arôxa — a landmark institution for Brazilian ballroom dance. At age 17, she earned her professional certification as a dancer and choreographer from SATED Pernambuco. She later founded Studio Aneska, a creative hub for dance education and cultural production in her home state.

Academically, she holds a degree in Biological Sciences, a specialization in Human Morphology from the Federal University of Pernambuco (UFPE), and a postgraduate degree in Dance and Body Awareness from Universidade Gama Filho in São Paulo. Her dual background in science and art informs a teaching and choreographic approach that integrates anatomical precision, expressiveness, and holistic movement understanding.

She is also a classically trained ballerina with formation in the Vaganova method, widely recognized for its strength, discipline, and artistry. Her choreography unites the elegance of ballet with the theatricality and rhythmic diversity of Brazilian dance.

Aneska has served as a Cultural Delegate for the State of Pernambuco and was a board member of ASPEDS (Associação Pernambucana de Dança de Salão), working on initiatives that empowered artists and expanded access to cultural programs.

She has also competed in and won awards at national and international Brazilian Zouk competitions, further refining her skills as a performer and mentor for aspiring professionals.

Now based in Los Angeles, Aneska is the founder and artistic director of the Aneska Dance Company, where she develops multicultural performances blending Brazilian identity, ballet foundations, and modern creative expression. She teaches in the Los Angeles Unified School District through the Conga Kids program, using dance as a tool for connection, learning, and empowerment.

Her mission is to inspire dancers to explore their identities through movement — building cultural bridges and transforming lives through the universal language of dance.



Aneska Dance Company

Founded in 2014 in Recife, Brazil, Aneska Dance Company is dedicated to promoting dance and creating creative and productive opportunities for dancers and choreographers. Under the leadership of dancer, teacher, choreographer, and specialist in dance and body awareness Aneska França, the company has distinguished itself by integrating Brazil's rich cultural heritage with contemporary innovation.

Since 2022, Aneska Dance Company has expanded its activities to Los Angeles, USA, broadening its artistic impact and bringing the uniqueness of Brazilian culture to new audiences. This international growth reflects the company's commitment to artistic excellence and global innovation.

Throughout its journey, the company has created numerous performances and choreographic showcases that blend a wide range of dance styles—including ballroom, ballet, jazz, contemporary dance, belly dance, and hip hop—always presented with a creative and original vision.

In addition to its artistic productions, Aneska offers regular dance classes, develops custom choreography for weddings and special events, and directs performance teams for dancers seeking to deepen their technique and stage experience. She also provides body preparation for actors and creates choreography for films, supporting performers with movement direction and physical storytelling.

For more information, visit: aneskadance.com



Aneska Dance Company

“Chorando Se Foi” its new Zouk choreography, created and directed by Aneska França, set to the iconic song “Chorando Se Foi”, a true symbol of the Lambada era.

This choreography is a tribute to the roots of Brazilian Zouk, which draws strong influence from lambada. With fluid movements, partner connection, and heartfelt interpretation, the group brings to the stage the lightness and energy that define these deeply Brazilian rhythms.

Created with dedication and passion for dance, this piece celebrates cultural and collective expression. It’s an invitation to relive the nostalgia of lambada through the contemporary language of Zouk.

Direction & Choreography: Aneska França

Dancers: Aneska França, Ali Simone, Laura Acerves, Katrina Mitchell, Charles Shapiro, Malcolm Guess

“Ela É / She Is” Celebrates the strength, beauty, and freedom of the woman through a captivating fusion of Samba and Brazilian Zouk.

The piece honors empowered women — confident, joyful, and unapologetically themselves.

Each movement embodies the essence of brasilidade — rhythm, sensuality, and emotional connection — creating a vibrant dialogue between body and music.

A tribute to modern women who know their power, dance to their own rhythm, and proudly embrace who they are.

Direction & Choreography: Aneska França

Performers: Aneska Franca, Brooke Kaiser, Laura Acerves and Katrina Mitchell

“Girls of Time” is a choreography that forms part of the show 5 Min., offering a delicate reflection on the passage of time and the cycles that shape our stories. Blending ballet with contemporary dance, the piece guides the audience through a poetic journey of memories, subtleties, and transformations.

Created and directed by Aneska França, the work highlights the expressiveness and the artistic maturity that time brings forward in each performer, expanding their presence, awareness, and emotional depth. On stage, every movement reflects what fades, what remains, and what is reborn, revealing an intimate dialogue between body and time.

With a sensitive atmosphere and fluid movement language, “Meninas do Tempo” celebrates the process of growth, discovery, and connection that emerges through the experience of dancing.

The choreography weaves dialogues between lightness and intensity, precision and fluidity, crafting a poetic and immersive atmosphere that invites the audience to feel time in motion,

Choreography and Direction: Aneska França

Performers: Sofia Synder, Betty Pham, Ali Simone, Aneska França



ANESKA FRANÇA & CLINTON LACERDA

Aneska França & Clinton Lacerda form an internationally recognized Brazilian Zouk duo whose artistic partnership unites expressive storytelling, deep musical sensitivity, and technical mastery. Their work blends Brazilian cultural identity with contemporary movement, resulting in performances marked by emotional depth, fluidity, and refined precision.

Originally from Recife, Brazil and now based in Los Angeles, Aneska França is a dancer, choreographer, educator, and specialist in body awareness with more than two decades of experience. Her background includes a degree in Biological Sciences with a specialization in Human Morphology and postgraduate training in Dance and Body Awareness. Throughout her career, she has developed a unique artistic voice that integrates ballet, contemporary dance, ballroom influences, and Brazilian dance forms. Aneska is also the founder and director of Aneska Dance Company, known for its innovative productions and for promoting Brazilian culture through dance in both Brazil and the United States.

Clinton Lacerda, a highly respected dancer and instructor from Brazil, brings over twenty years of experience in Brazilian Zouk and Samba de Gafieira. His career has taken him across Brazil, Europe, the Middle East, and the United States, where he is celebrated for his exceptional technique, partner connection, and musical interpretation. Clinton's artistic approach is rooted in clarity, precision, and the expressive possibilities of partner dance.

Together, Aneska and Clinton merge their complementary strengths—Aneska's embodied artistry and contemporary sensibility with Clinton's technical refinement and rhythmic intuition. Their performances spotlight the versatility of Brazilian Zouk as both a social dance and a theatrical art form, captivating audiences with elegance, flow, and authentic cultural expression. As a duo, they continue to expand the presence of Brazilian dance internationally, inspiring students, professionals, and audiences through their creative collaborations and shared artistic vision.



LA AcroDance Academy

LA AcroDance Academy is a Dance and Acrobatic training school for youth and adults specializing in dance acrobatics, contortion, tumbling, ballet, contemporary and performance. With a strong focus on technique, artistry and safety, LAA provides a supportive community where students of all ages and levels can train. It's training for the artistic athlete.

Release of choreography:

An exploration of the quiet bonds that carry us through life's challenges and its brightest moments and the unseen forces that push us to find our strength.

This choreography is in gratitude for... steadfast bonds.

Dancers: Ali Simone and Ahad Kebede

Title: Stronger

Music: Stronger, by Thunderstorm Artis



Aneska Dance e LA AcroDance

Release of choreography:

“Girls of Time” is a choreography that forms part of the show 5 Min., offering a delicate reflection on the passage of time and the cycles that shape our stories. Blending ballet with contemporary dance, the piece guides the audience through a poetic journey of memories, subtleties, and transformations.

Created and directed by Aneska França, the work highlights the expressiveness and the artistic maturity that time brings forward in each performer, expanding their presence, awareness, and emotional depth. On stage, every movement reflects what fades, what remains, and what is reborn, revealing an intimate dialogue between body and time.

With a sensitive atmosphere and fluid movement language, “Meninas do Tempo” celebrates the process of growth, discovery, and connection that emerges through the experience of dancing.

The choreography weaves dialogues between lightness and intensity, precision and fluidity, crafting a poetic and immersive atmosphere that invites the audience to feel time in motion.

Performers: Sofia Synder, Betty Pham, Ali Simone, Aneska França

Choreography and Direction: Aneska França

Administrative Coordination: Ali Simone

Music: Transcend-Two Lanes

Music Editing: Dj. Vini Santos



Gafieira Los Angeles

Gafieira Los Angeles is a vibrant dance community dedicated to the art of samba de gafieira, the enchanting Brazilian partner dance. They host dance classes, workshops, and social dance events in Los Angeles. Whether you're a seasoned dancer or a complete beginner, Gafieira Los Angeles welcomes everyone with open arms and a lot of energy!

If you're ready to try a new dance, meet new friends, and experience the joy of Brazilian partner dance, Gafieira Los Angeles is the place to be! Feel free to reach out to them and get ready to dance your heart out!

Connect with them on Instagram or Facebook @gafieiralosangeles or email: gafieiralosangeles@gmail.com.



Release of choreography

The malandro—a charming, quick-witted rogue—has long been a central archetype in Brazilian culture, symbolizing resistance, creativity, and survival with style. Rooted in Brazil's colonial era, he emerged as someone who navigated inequality with improvisation, charisma, and bohemian flair. In *Ópera do Malandro*, Chico Buarque's 1978 musical inspired by Brecht and set in 1940s Rio during the Vargas era, this figure becomes a theatrical lens into the tensions between marginality, authority, and desire.

“A Volta do Malandro” brings that spirit to life: a celebration of resilience, seduction, and the refusal to lose grace when life gets hard. Through the malandro's swagger and lightness—dancing through hardship as if through an endless carnival—the piece reflects the contradictions of Brazilian identity itself.

This choreography is in gratitude for...

Students showcase choreo "The Malandro's Homage" created in deep gratitude for the legacy, for the Brazilian culture, the family community, and the timeless malandro spirit that continue to guide and inspire our daily lives and our love samba journey.

Performer(s) :Sula Gomes Brasil, Romulo Santurio, Carolina Queiroz Couto, Maya Chason, Tyler Chen, Nicole Marie, Elise Aintapian.

Choreogrphs: :Sula Gomes Brasil, Romulo Santurio

Lambada Zouk Influence (LZI)

Lambada Zouk Influence (LZI) is a Los Angeles-based dance collective bringing the heat, culture, and connection of Brazilian Zouk and Lambada to life. Led by Nathalia Carbajal, LZI unites dancers from all backgrounds who share a love for both styles — honoring their roots while creating a fresh, modern vibe in LA. Through high-energy classes, socials, and performances, LZI celebrates rhythm, self-expression, and the heartbeat of Brazilian culture in LA.



Release of choreography One Rhythm, One Love is a two-part performance celebrating the evolution and harmony between Zouk and Lambada. The first part showcases feminine expression and flow through a lady styling choreography, while the second brings the energy of the Lambada Flashmob — a joyful invitation for everyone to dance, connect, and celebrate the spirit that unites both genres.

This choreography is in gratitude for the beautiful community that keeps the spirit of Brazilian Zouk and Lambada alive in Los Angeles.

Performers: Lua Feboli, Dayna Queiroz, Ian Absolo, Les Tibangin, Marissa Rivera, Nathalia Carbajal

Raiz Brazil Dance Company showcases the Brazilian Art and Culture with a theatrical approach, fascinating the audiences with the Art and Culture behind the glitter and the sultry moves.

Raiz Brazil has performed with Ozomatli Band in the Playboy Festival at the Hollywood Bowl. Raiz Brazil has also the record number of Samba Dancers for Sergio Mendes Concert at the Hollywood Bowl, bringing 25 Samba Dancers for Brazilian Legend Concerts in 2016 and 2021.

Raiz Brazil has toured internationally to Mexico, China, Thailand and Russia, being headliner in Russia.

Raiz Brazil has a 11 years residency in Los Angeles at Kravings Fusion Brazilian Steakhouse, having Samba Shows 4 nights per week. Raiz Brazil also had a 7 years residency in Central California at Rio Grill Brazilian Steakhouse in Clovis, and the 10 years residency at the World Famous Conga Room, until the last day open in 2024.

Raiz Brazil has performed also in different Events in California like Private Parties, Restaurants, Casinos, Clubs, Bolivian Carnival Crucena, Brazilian Carnival Ball in San Diego with Brazilian Productions, Santa Barbara Brazilian Carnival produced by Soul Brasil Magazine, Carnival en Ensenada/Mexico, a Circus Show for 6 weeks in Northern California called "Circo Brazil Show". In Casinos and Hotels in Las Vegas and Reno like the "Four Seasons in Las Vegas", "Atlantis Casino in Reno", "Grand Sierra Resort & Casino in Reno" and countless Events and Corporate parties in Los Angeles.

The choreography "Aquarela do Brasil", is the patriotic exaltation of Brazil and celebrates its natural beauty, cultural and racial diversity, and samba as a national symbol. The next choreography "Mangueira Sambaliza" is a homage to one of the greatest Samba Schools in Rio de Janeiro, Estação Primeira de Mangueira.

This choreography is in gratitude for...

resilience to overcome the obstacles in life through the art of the Brazilian Samba.

Choreographer: Jônia Queen

Performers: Bryana Casas, Edith Waddel, Ella Pitts, Fernanda Badeo, Jônia Queen, Kristy Burgess, Maisie Morrow-Jones, Maleeka Melosa, Ruby Bugarin and Viviana Moreno

Raiz Brazil Dance Company



Sueño by Salt

This is.... Nosotros somos..... nous sommes..... Sueño by Salt! We are a ladies' dance team that explores various styles of Latin dancing through training and performance. Hosted by Salt Dance Studios and created by David "Braulio" Martinez , we cultivate a vibrant and inclusive community through the exploration of Latin Dance. Being one of the first Latin Dance companies based in the Inland Empire, CA, we celebrate the richness of diverse styles in a supportive environment, we aim to inspire joy, personal growth, and cultivate our shared passion for movement!

Created in January 2025, this is Sueños first creation. Coming out from the Inland Empire, this group truly shows vibrancy and community within themselves to create something beautiful that is meant for everyone to either join or enjoy. Created by Artistic Director, David "Braulio" Martinez, this is Sueño by Salt!

Performers: David "Braulio" Martinez, Pebbles Miller, Kara Crohn, Diana Rael, Tania Mojica. Magaly Macia, Melanie Murga, Gloria Vasquez, Marissa Forzisi

IG Handle: @suenobysalt

Title: Electric

Genre/Style: Brazilian Zouk Fusion

Artist: DJ Kakah



Samba Los Angeles

Samba Los Angeles is a Brazilian-style drumming group dedicated to bringing the high-energy sound of Brazil to Southern California. We perform authentic samba batucada rhythms using traditional instruments like surdos, caixas, repiniques, tamborims, and more. Our mission is to build community, share culture, and inspire joy through powerful percussion and creative expression. Samba Los Angeles has performed at events including the Hollywood Carnival, LA Carnival, and various cultural festivals and community celebrations across Los Angeles.



Igor Queiroga and Larissa Ishikawa

Igor Queiroga and Larissa Ishikawa form a partnership dedicated to promoting Brazilian dance, with a focus on samba de gafieira.

With over 16 years of experience in partner dances, Igor is recognized for his vibrant energy, refined technique, and playful improvisation. Larissa, a São Paulo-born dancer based in Los Angeles, stands out for her stage presence, musicality, and expressive approach to movement.

Release of your choreography

“Influência do Jazz” is a samba de gafieira (Brazilian samba partner dance) choreography created by Paulo Fonseca Dance Company, based in São Paulo, Brazil. Originally developed for a group performance, the piece has now been adapted for a duet. The group version premiered in October 2024 at Sambamaníacos, the largest samba de gafieira event in Brazil and worldwide.

This choreography is in gratitude for... Samba culture

Direction and Choreography: Paulo Fonseca Dance Company

Performers: Igor Queiroga and Larissa Ishikawa



Jazz Spectrum Dance Company

Founded in 1982 by jazz dance luminary Christine Baltes (1951–2018), Jazz Spectrum Dance Company (JSDC) is a dynamic ensemble dedicated to the celebration, preservation, and evolution of jazz dance. With a foundation rooted in classical technique, JSDC combines style, precision, sound methodology, and expressive artistry to create performances that are powerful and deeply moving. Ms. Baltes's legacy lives on through public classes, performances, and educational outreach led by current Artistic Director Janell Burgess.

This performance is dedicated with heartfelt gratitude to Christine Baltes (1951-2018), the founder of Jazz Spectrum Dance Company. I wouldn't be the dancer I am today without her guidance, vision, and unwavering dedication to fostering my artistry. I am truly honored that she entrusted me with her work, and I am committed to carrying forward her legacy through Jazz Spectrum Dance Company.

"Toybox"

Genre: Jazz

Choreographer: Christine Baltes (1951-2018)

Performer: Janell Burgess

Composer: Portishead



3rd Street Dance Studio

For over 45 years, 3rd Street Dance Studio has been an iconic part of Los Angeles' dance community — a place rooted in connection, inclusivity, and the joy of movement. More than a training space, our studio is a supportive community where dancers grow both on and off the floor.

We offer a wide range of styles taught by industry professionals who help dancers of all levels feel confident, inspired, and seen. Known for our welcoming environment and strong technique, we're proud to be a home for beginners, seasoned dancers, and even the artists and celebrities who rent our space for rehearsals.

We're grateful for the community that has grown with us and honored to continue sharing the love of dance with LA.

Team 3rd Street This workshop features a team of beginner and intermediate hip hop dancers who are training with professional choreographer Darrien Henning. These dancers have completed multiple foundational classes and have dedicated significant effort to learning and performing a choreographed show. The aim of the workshop is to enhance each dancer's artistry while emphasizing precision and execution within a limited timeframe. They have just 8 rehearsals, each lasting one hour, to learn, rehearse, and present the performance. This choreography is in gratitude for all the dancers who possess the passion, determination, and resilience to overcome any barriers, personal or physical, that have hindered their ability to perform.

choreographer: Darrien Henning

Performers: Darrien Henning, Amanda Rosales, Tatiana, Ronnie, Olive, Sara, Sai, Jesus, Sandy, Xavier, Bhawana



Eliezer Rabelo

Eliezer Rabelo is a dancer choreographer rising from Anorí, Amazonas, Brazil where he start his career under the guidance of Conceição Souza in her company GEDAM – Grupo Experimental de Dança do Amazonas. He has over 30 years in the performing arts field and has performed principal roles with the resident company at Amazon Opera House – Corpo de Dança do Amazonas and several ballet and modern dance companies in Brazil and USA including renowned Los Angeles based Lula Washington Dance Theatre had been feature as soloist at the famous Kenedy Center in New York and also famous Ford Amphitheatre in Los Angeles to name a few. He has developed Ballet, Modern Dance, Jazz, and Pilates curriculum at different institutions, and founded projects dedicated to the arts including Cia. Ballet da Barra in his hometown Manaus - Amazonas - Brazil. He has studied with many Masters in Ballet, Modern Dance, Jazz, Pilates, Voice, and Cello. As an actor he has been featured in the shortcut “Tiny Dancer” by Ford Austin and has appeared in productions of musical theatre such as the Barbershop Quartet in The Music Man.

Eliezer has been a constant appearance as choreographer in dance festival in Riverside County, San Bernardino County and Los Angeles County.

Internationally he has work in Madrid - Spain, Cuenca – Ecuador and Guadalajara and Chapala – Mexico.

Currently he is teaching in various dance studios within the Inland Empire and Coachella Valley with the goal to provide opportunities for dancers to keep performing and passing along the art of dance.

His experience and his passion for dance is contagious. He focuses on the basic principles to ensure the highest quality of care and technique in his work, while integrating that with fun for a more efficient work during his classes, whether you may be a professional or someone that may have just started on a journey as a performer.

You can catch Eliezer teaching Pilates at La Quinta Pilates located right here in Old Town La Quinta as well as Ballet for Adults in the Cecchetti Method, and don't be surprised if he is speaking in Portuguese, or Spanish, or even a bit of Italian.

“It is necessary to love others as if there is no tomorrow, because if you think about - there isn't!” - Brazilian Band Legião Urbana



Marissa Rivera

Marissa Rivera is a highly accomplished dance instructor and entrepreneur based in Anaheim, CA, with over 20 years of experience in various dance styles, including Contemporary, Jazz, Salsa, Bachata, and Brazilian Zouk. She earned her Dance Teaching Certification from Mt. San Antonio College and has since become a prominent figure in the Latin dance community. Marissa has achieved numerous accolades, including winning the 1st place Semi-Pro division title at the 2017 US Zouk Open and multiple 1st place titles in Brazilian Zouk Jack and Jill competitions both in the United States and Brazil. She won 2nd place in the ProAm division at the Brazilian Zouk World Championships. Notably, she was the first Brazilian Zouk dancer to win the prestigious New Face of GFranco sponsorship.

Marissa co-founded Zouk Vibes of Orange County, where she and her former partner Rinaldo Melo played a pivotal role in expanding the Orange County Brazilian Zouk dance community. From 2017 to 2020, they led classes, organized socials, and hosted events that connected dancers across Salsa, Bachata, and Zouk communities. Her efforts were instrumental in establishing Zouk rooms at popular Orange County dance events, significantly contributing to the growth of the local Zouk scene. Additionally, as the organizer of the Zouk and Urban Kiz Experience at the Reno Latin Dance Fest from 2018 to 2020, Marissa helped the festival grow to attract 3,000 attendees.

Currently, Marissa is a dance instructor at The School of Arts and Enterprise in Pomona, CA, while also pursuing a CTE certification in Arts, Media, and Entertainment. She directs Marés Dance Company, where she specializes in Brazilian Zouk fusion choreographies for adult dancers. Beyond her professional life, she enjoys practicing yoga, meditating, and spending time with her fur babies, Frida and Kahlo.

Marissa is dedicated to fostering growth, diversity, and community within the dance world. As a leader, she is committed to creating an inclusive and supportive environment for her students, encouraging lifelong learning, and continually developing her skills as an instructor and mentor. Her ultimate goal is to nurture confident and authentic dancers who will contribute to the vibrancy and growth of the dance community she holds dear.

I'm deeply grateful for our dance community and having dance as a way to express my inner world.



Harmony Dance Studio

Harmony Dance Studio is located in Koreatown on 6th and Rampart. We are a newly opened dance studio offering salsa, bachata, ballroom, and more.

Release of Choreography:

- Harmony Salsa Partnerwork: Energetic and fun, highlighting dynamic interplay between partners, Salsa – Harmony Salsa Partnerwork.
- Harmony Ladies Bachata: A dynamic routine showcasing powerful women with grace and flair, Bachata – Harmony Ladies Bachata.
- This choreography is in gratitude for community.

Performers:

Anna Nygren, Claudia Heredia, Jess Bolormaa, Victoria Xue, Colin Hill, Douglas Gordon, Marina Lysenko, Lily Purevjav, Gina Zorigbat



Tiffany Blossom

Raised in Los Angeles, with cultural roots from The Philippines & Mexico. Evolve through the power of art, with TiF.

An extremely passionate vocalist, choreographer, and entertainer with years of competitive dance/vocal, theme park performance, entertainment management and performance experience for 20+ music festivals worldwide, and an array of various events. Additionally, an educator for Conga Kids teaching vocal techniques and cultural dances to students of varying ages and responsible for curating specialized cultural choreography lessons for various programs. Alumni of The Los Angeles Film & Recording School for a degree in Music and Audio Production (2025). Gracious to be evolving through the healing power of art.



Ria Wahjudi

Ria Wahjudi, have been dancing and training in salsa for several years with various salsa teachers & artists. I have been dancing with Michelle Ramos Project for almost 3 years. Currently I am exploring the chachacha genre and loving the training by Michelle Ramos.

Performer : Ria Wahjudi

Genre : Chachacha

Choreographer : Michelle Ramos

Song name : Galleta Con Leche

Chachacha, like salsa, comes from Cuban roots and this choreo is in gratitude for Latin and Cuban culture



PROGRAM CREDITS

Artistic Director & General Producer: Aneska França

Assistant Producers: Ali Simone, AlunaLua, Angel Galindo, Avery Potemri, Clinton Lacerda

Front Desk & Guest Reception: Ariel, Trang and Jey Lipe

Lighting Designer / Technician: Mario Alvarado-Tobar

Music Editing: DJ Vini Santos and DJ Raffo

Social Dance DJs: DJ So Cal, DJ Zoukchateiro and DJ Amastruz

Host / Presenter: AlunaLua

Photography: David Cruz — Official Show Photographer

Videography: Christopher Alvarez — Official Videographer

General Support: Angel Galindo

Website & Digital Assets: Arseny Izotov and Steven Barragan Naranjo

Special Thanks

To all performers, choreographers, volunteers, and community members who made this night possible.

To our sponsors and supporters: Ubatuba Açaí, Acro Dance Academy, Spin Store, and Aneska Dance Company.

Thank you for bringing your heart, dedication, and artistry to this celebration.



MOVEMENTS OF GRATITUDE



MOVEMENTS OF GRATITUDE



Support Our Community

Any Amount

Help Make This Possible

[Click here to make a donation](#)

THANK YOU
THANK YOU



**MOVEMENTS OF
GRATITUDE**