

5 DANCE SHOWS TO SEE IN L.A. THIS WEEK

BY ANN HASKINS

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2015 | 4 DAYS AGO



Motion Tribe in *Celebrate Dance!*

Photo by Tim Angler

This week's dance shows include a reconsideration of Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring*, American Ballet Theatre's new *Sleeping Beauty* and SoCal's premiere dance fest turning 10.

5. Dancing Ghosts in an art gallery

Szalt, a quintet of female dancers, interact with Clare Graham's sculpture creations in *Ghosts*. The evening also includes a preview excerpt from Zolletel's *fl w r s*, set to premier this summer. With last week's opening sold out, a third performance has been added. *MorYork Gallery, 4959 York Blvd., Highland Park; Fri. & Sun., March 6 & 8, 7 p.m.; \$15, \$10 students. szaltghosts.brownpapertickets.com.*



American Ballet Theatre's *Sleeping Beauty*

Photo by Fabrizio Feri

4. American Ballet Theatre's *Sleeping Beauty*

For this visit, American Ballet Theatre brings a new production of *Sleeping Beauty* inspired by Sergei Diaghilev's 1921 Ballets Russes de Monte Carlo version. This *Sleeping Beauty* boasts choreography by former Bolshoi Ballet artistic director Alexei Ratmansky and a roster of ABT luminaries. Among the world premiere stars look for Russian ballerina Diana Vishneva and Brazilian danseur Marcelo Gomes, indicative of how ABT's 75th anniversary season is not just an American, but an international ballet celebration. *Segerstrom Center for the Arts, 600 Town Center Dr., Costa Mesa; Fri., March 6, 7:30 p.m.; Sat., March 7, 2 & 7:30 p.m.; Sun., March 8, 1 & 7 p.m.; \$19-\$149. 714-556-2121, scfta.org.*



Momix in *Alchemia*

Photo by Max Pucciariello

3. Making the Momix brand of magic

A work that translates as “alchemy” seems almost redundant for Momix and its artistic director Moses Pendleton. For three decades, Momix’ calling card has been imaginative, sleight of hand blending of dance, theatrical illusion and Pendleton’s seemingly boundless bag of tricks. But *Alchemia* is the title of Pendleton’s newest that sends dancers swirling in flowing skirts and dancing on air, or so it seems with that special kind of Momix magic. *Irvine Barclay Theatre, 4242 Campus Dr., Irvine; Wed., March 11, 8 p.m., \$49-\$100. 949-854-4646, thebarclay.org.*



Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company and SITI Company in *The Rite*

Photo by Paul B. Goode

2. Dancing seismic Stravinsky

For choreographers Bill T Jones and Anne Bogart, the centenary of Igor Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring* was a chance to bring a wider lens to political, scientific, cultural and artistic seismic shifts they found reflected in Stravinsky's 1913 score and to consider the aftershocks still roiling the world a century later. Moving the action from the traditional primal, sacrificial ritual to the early 20th century, in *The Rite*, Jones and Bogart send an impassioned scholar and a shell-shocked World War I vet as tour guides on this dance drama with both his Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company and Bogart's SITI Company driving the bus. *UCLA Royce Hall, 340 Royce Dr., Wstwd.; Fri.-Sat., March 6-7, 8 p.m.; \$19-\$69. 310-825-2101, cap.ucla.edu.*



Bare Dance in *Celebrate Dance!*

Photo by Tim Angler

1. Celebrating a decade of showing just how wonderful L.A. dance can be

Arguably the premiere SoCal dance festival, *Celebrate Dance!* demonstrates what local dance can look like with the right resources – a major theater with a sizeable stage, top notch technical staff, professional production values, and a savvy producer like Jamie Nichols. Things few local companies can afford on their own, but the signature of this annual event. Like a major league sports scout, Nichols can be spotted at dance performances throughout the year and the mix of established and emerging troupes each year reflects her curator's eye. For the tenth anniversary, nine companies reprise works they premiered at *Celebrate Dance!* over the last decade plus Nichols' latest finds. A number of local dance companies and choreographers have gained wider audience and critical attention after being seen in *Celebrate Dance!*. Who will be the break out groups this year? *Alex Theatre, 216 N. Brand Blvd., Glendale; Sat., March 7, 8 p.m.; \$18-\$38, \$12 children with an adult. 818-243-2539, alextheatre.org.*

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