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Tickets to each of the MixMatch Dance Festival shows is just \$15. PHOTOS BY VICTORVICPHOTO.COM

SEVEN DAYS. SANTA MONICA. DANCE MixMatch Dance Festival Returns To Santa Monica Tonight Through Sunday

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MITCH JAMES / MIRROR CONTRIBUTOR

The 7th Annual MixMatch Dance Festival returns to Santa Monica with five shows today through Sunday. The festival kicks off with its first show tonight at 7:30 pm at the Miles Memorial Playhouse at 1130 Lincoln Boulevard.

Presented by Hart Pulse Dance Company, the festival is bringing more than 70 dancers in hip hop, ballet, tap, modern, tribal, contemporary, jazz, belly and more.

Participating choreographers will gather from Southern California and across the United States for the shows.

Each performance holds a different line-up for less than the price of a movie ticket (\$15), allowing anyone the opportunity to see one of Los Angeles most diverse and valued dance festivals.

Seven years ago, dancers Amanda Hart and Sandra Rasor thought to bring a few different choreographers together for an intimate evening of mixed dance at the Electric Lodge in Venice.

From opening night on, they realized that providing such diversity to curious audience members was a must and should be continued on an annual basis.

Today, Hart Pulse Dance Company (directed by Hart) produces and presents festival at the end of every summer.

A few things have changed including a move to The Miles Playhouse, which will allow for more audience parking, a slightly larger venue, more dressing room space for dancers, and a more complex bill of works.

The performance line-up originally started as one show, performed three evenings with roughly 10 companies/artists. This year it has grown drastically to what is now five completely different shows with more than 70 works and 50 companies/artists presenting works in more than eight styles of dance.

Hart said the festival's goal remains constant: provide locals with a diverse platform of dance for the price of a movie ticket.

"By presenting such an impressive spread for the affordable, relatable price of a movie ticket, HPDC hopes to change the stigma that art/dance is only easily accessible to those of a certain income bracket," Hart said. "Everyone who wants to see dance can and should. All audiences are guaranteed to leave the theater loving something they saw. And we haven't been wrong yet!"

For tickets or more information, visit harpulsedance.com.

Thursday 7:30 pm:

- Kinetic Dance Company
- Anthony Languren
- Molly Mattei
- Lisa D. Long
- Gina Southern
- LoadanceTheater
- Hart Pulse Dance Company
- Katie Jane Hagen
- Merge Dance Theatre
- Noelle Andressen
- Pony Box Dance Theatre
- Maha and Company
- Nevada Repertory Dance Theater

Friday 7:30 pm:

- LA Unbound
- The Recipe Men
- Alaina Sims
- Hart Pulse Dance Company
- Anne C. Moore
- Katie Jane Hagen
- RED Dance
- Merge Dance Theatre
- OdDancity
- Reflections Dance
- Dorcas Roman Dance Theatre
- Watson Dance
- Nebula Dance Lab
- Anandha Ray's Quimera Project
- Troupe Zaghareet

Saturday 2 pm:

- Dance Goggles
- ArtBark International
- Hart Pulse Dance Company
- Reject Dance Theater
- OPUS MIXTUS Dance
- Compass Dance Company
- Amaterasu Dance Company
- Kistina Pressler
- The Union Project Dance Company
- INKED Dance
- LA Unbound
- Lucrecia Navarro & Kristie Lauren
- Megill & Company

Saturday 7:30 pm:

- Ken A. Morris
- Nicole L. Olson
- Anandha Ray's Quimera Project
- Hart Pulse Dance Company
- ArtBark International
- Ballet Collective/LA
- Rubans Rouges Dance Company
- Anthony Languren
- Reflections Dance
- Ashley L. Jones
- Watson Dance
- GoboBoots Productions
- Axiom Dance Collective
- Hidden Entropy Movement Project

Sunday 2 pm:

- Reject Dance Theatre
- Fuse Modern Dance Co.
- Brittany Dugi-Turner
- Hart Pulse Dance Company
- OdDancity
- Rubans Rouges Dance Company
- Nancy Evans Dance Theatre
- Elenka C. Derkach
- Maha and Company
- Lexi Stilianos
- Chihiro Kodama
- Nicole L. Olson
- Leverage Dance
- Megill & Company

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