



For Immediate Release

LA MAMA'S DANCING SHOES
OVER 50 DANCE COMPANIES AND SOLOISTS TAKE OVER
LA MAMA IN LA MAMA MOVES!, APRIL 26–MAY 13

Still reeling from last year's success, La MaMa has dusted off her dancing shoes for yet another whirl around the dance floor. This year's festival, **La MaMa Moves!**, April 26–May 13, commandeers the entire experimental theater complex—its Club, Annex and First Floor Theater, which will be taken over by over 50 dance companies and soloists. (Count them on the attached schedule page!) All tickets are \$15. Nicky Paraiso and Mia Yoo are co-curators.

La MaMa Moves! celebrates the breadth and depth of the downtown dance world in all its wit, originality, beauty and off-the-wall glory. A tall order...but, once again, there are 50 companies and soloists, each of whom promises its own creative corner on the market. The shows are grouped thematically: **New Virtuosity; In and Out of the Box; Burlesque, Ballroom and Beyond; World Summit; Motion Makers; Catch Takes Manhattan; Monday Madness; Moving Voices;** and **Inventors.**

How do artists resist the seductions of their past? Well, the choreographic talents that comprise **New Virtuosity** (April 26–29 in the Annex) give their artistic mentors an inevitable nod, while injecting their work with a triple dose of originality all their own. Take Robert Battle, formerly of David Parsons Company; Patrick Corbin, a very long-time Paul Taylor principal; and Dusan Tynek, a Merce Cunningham ex-pat. Battleworks presents "The Hunt," Battle's aggressively physical study of a primal hunting ritual, featuring music by Bronx Sound Machine. (Two nights will feature an all-male cast, one night all-female.) CorbinDances presents the world premiere of Corbin's "Reach," in which Corbin returns to the stage along with his eight dancers in a new work set to Philip Glass's "String Quartet #5." Czechoslovakia-born Tynek performs with five of his company members in the three-part "Fleur-de-lis," set to violin sonatas by Heinrich Ignaz Franz von Biber. Rounding off the program are Sunhwa Chung's Ko Ryo Dance Theater with the septet "Ascending Timeless" and Nick Seligson-Ross's Nicholas Andre Dance Theater presenting two premieres: "etched" and "The Last Man," as well as "Dwelling," set to music by Peter Sivalia.

In and Out of the Box takes place May 3–5 in the Annex, with a shared program featuring Yoshiko Chuma and Tina Croll. Yoshiko Chuma & The School of Hard Knocks will perform excerpts from "A Page Out of Order: M," which draws on stories of artists in Chuma's native Japan, as well as in Macedonia and the U.S. Projected films, a cubic set and music recorded by a nine-piece band add to the ritualistically

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intense work. Croll presents a reconfigured version of her “Ancient Springs,” an episodic collage of wit, intensity and madness.

For just one fun-filled night, May 6, **Burlesque, Ballroom and Beyond** fills the Annex with unconventional and unexpected takes on movement and dance. Look for the Baby Jane’s and their trapeze burlesque; tango and Brazilian samba from the Pierre Dulaine American Ballroom Theater Company; Bellyqueen Dance Theater, which seamlessly blends Middle-Eastern belly dance with—Hold onto your hats!—hip-hop, modern, jazz, ballet, gypsy and flamenco movement; and the hi-jinks of the Soon-to-Be-World Famous Women’s Clown Troupe, headed by former modern dancer Kendall Cornell. The night also features the Snazzy Steppers’s double-dutch routines and hip-hop dance group Project 1.

No matter the distance an artist moves from his native land, influences remain. But how much and in what ways? A partial answer will be revealed by the ten artists who comprise **World Summit** and whose work—to greater or lesser degrees—recalls their native countries. The shows take place in the First Floor Theater (April 26–29). The line-up includes LeeSaar The Company’s turbulent “Part II,” choreographed by Israeli natives Saar Harari and Lee Sher and featuring text by Sher, live and recorded music and an international cast of six. In contrast, is Sunhwa Chung’s poetic solo “Of Love and Memories,” a traditional Korean dance, and her more modern “Inevitable Convergences – The Last Story,” a male trio set to music by Stephen Warbeck. Amalia Suryani, who grew up in Indonesia, presents “Rampai Piring Sumatra,” featuring two traditional Sumatran dances – one based on martial arts movements and the other known as the dance of a thousand hands. Zach Morris & Tom Pearson represent the U.S. with the premiere their irreverent sextet “Rub the Sleep,” set to original music by Mark DeNardo mixed with songs by 1950’s crooners and pop tunes. Also look for the world premiere of “POPCORN,” a live performance movie trailer by Andrea Haenggi (Switzerland), a premiere by Chang Yong Sung (Korea) and works by Bianca Falco (Italy), Gerald Casel (Philippines) and Max Pollak (Austria), whose work combines body percussion, song and tap dancing.

Motion Makers takes place in the First Floor Theater (May 3–6). Participants include Valerie Green, who presents “Loss and Desire,” a solo set to music by Goran Bregovic, Kamasutra and Gypsy Fire. Alex Escalante brings his frenetic trio “Swallow Sand,” accompanied by a live score by Jon Moniaci. Stefanie Nelson Dance Group offers an excerpt from Nelson’s fantastical “Out of Wonderland,” combining raw, physical movement with video projections, while Mary Seidman presents a five-dancer excerpt of her large group work “Who Will Roll Away the Stone?” Also on the bill are Zach Morris & Tom Pearson with a reprise of “Rub the Sleep” and Alicia House, Nina Buisson and Karl Anderson with works of their own.

“Catch,” the Brooklyn-based, bi-monthly performance series for emerging artists and downtown dancers, takes a weekend off from its home at Galapagos Art Space. Temporarily titled **Catch Takes**

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**LA MAMA
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Manhattan, it takes place April 27–29 in the Club. Curated by Catch’s Andrew Dinwiddie and Jeff Larson, with Chris Yon, **Catch Takes Manhattan** features works by 12 choreographers including Rebecca Brooks, Matt Citron, Andrew Dinwiddie, Beth Kurkjian, Jeff Larson & Zach Steel, Nellie Tinder, Heather Olson, Adrienne Truscott & Neal Medlyn, Miriam Wolf and Chris Yon.

For two Mondays in a row, **Monday Madness** breaks out in the Club. The tassels will be flying on April 30 in burlesque star Honi Harlow’s Moulin Rouge – “An American Boy in Paris.” On May 7, the fun continues with “Funkbuddhapoluzal!!!,” an evening curated by beat box/throat singer Akim Funk Buddha.

In **Moving Voices**, which takes place in the Club, May 4–6, the focus will be on the dancing voice and the singing body. Zimbabwe native Akim Funk Buddha performs his unique mix of hip-hop beats, Mongolian throat singing, mouth and body percussion, break-dancing and story-telling. The line-up also includes Ping Chong and Muna Tseng’s Bessie-Award winning “98.6: A Convergence in 15 Minutes,” a solo that tells two Chinese-American life stories through movement, projections, live and recorded voice. Surprises are in store from Dixie Fun Dance Theater, Heather Christian, Jen Abrams, Anthony Rodriguez and Kendall Cornell.

Two choreographic **Inventors**, Douglas Dunn and his company member Christopher Williams share a program of the same name in the Club, May 11–13. Williams presents excerpts from “The Golden Legend,” which features choreography, original music by Gregory Spears and live singers. The three-part work also incorporates 13th century text by Francesco di Assisi and William Caxton. Dunn also contributes a selection of his solos from the 70’s, 80’s and 90’s. More details to come.

La MaMa e.t.c. is located at 74A East 4th Street. Tickets are \$15, or \$10 for students and seniors, and can be purchased at the door or in advance by calling 212-475-7710. With a Galapagos ticket stub, tickets to **Catch Takes Manhattan** are \$5 off.

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**PLEASE SEE ATTACHED SCHEDULE FOR SPECIFIC TIMES, DATES AND VENUES.
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La MaMa Moves! is made possible in part by the generous support of The Mertz Gilmore Foundation, The Jerome Robbins Foundation, The Harkness Foundation for Dance, NYSCA, DCA and The Blue Man Group.

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