

The Dance Complex Presents *Routes/Roots*



Cambridge, MA- October 1st, 2018: The Dance Complex presents *Routes/Roots*, three evenings gathering spectacularly talented dancers and choreographers from throughout New England, and New York, on one stage, October 26th-28th. A revamping of last year's *Route 95 Dances*, *Routes/Roots* considers both the geographic and creative journey of the artist and how their own roots have contributed to the routes that their choreography has taken.

Presented in rotating repertory, artists include Hollis Bartlett & Nattie Trogden, Connections Dance Theater, Dance the Yard, Sean Fielder/Boston Dance Company, Jean Appolon Expressions, Soumaya MaRose, and Ellen Oliver.

Performances will begin at 8pm on October 26th and 27th, and at 7pm on October 28th. Tickets \$13-21 when purchased in advance. Tickets and more information available at dancecomplex.org.

Join us at 6pm on October 28th for a BEE Dance pre-performance discussion with the artists lead by Mary McCarthy, interim co-chair for The Dance Complex Board of Directors. This conversation is free and open to the public, with reservations encouraged. All "BEE" attendees receive a complimentary refreshment with purchase of a ticket for that evening's performance.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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More About The Artists

Connections Dance Theater

The **mission** of the collective is to create research-based choreography reflecting themes/ideas constructed from the Indigenous Diaspora & socio-political events of today, that contribute to the fabric of the American perspective. By actualizing a route towards philanthropy through the fortification & support for marginalized communities, CDT aims to be the vessel of hope to all audiences.

CDT has recently been named one of two inaugural awardees of the Boston Dance Makers Residency 2018-2019. This residency is a resource collaboration through the Boston Center for the Arts and the Boston Dance Alliance. Designed to support experienced dance makers in the development of original ensemble work over the course of a year, CDT is honored to receive the recognition from these organizations.

Dance The Yard

DanceTheYard (DTY) is The Yard's resident dance collective. Co-directors and choreographers Alison Manning, The Yard's Executive Director, and Jesse Keller Jason, The Yard's Director of Island Programs & Education (with Artistic Advisor David R. White), have been building a body of work and presenting an annual weekend of performances each summer, as part of the Yard Arts season. DTY is comprised of professionals living on Martha's Vineyard and in New York City, and each member has become a part of The Yard's greater service mission: working together to present performances for the public, participating in educational residencies and dance making programs for children and adults, along with other community based events around Martha's Vineyard. Each component of DTY's work contributes to The Yard's overarching mission of support for emerging choreographers through residency and financial support, dance and related arts presentations, and a commitment to arts education in the local and national communities. DTY's directors have created an emerging body of work and a collective of professional artists who are committed to seeing the work presented in the local and national dance arena.

Ellen Oliver

Ellen Oliver is a dance artist from Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Ellen works to combine her interests in movement, film, and painting through her choreography and performance. She actively presents her performance works in venues and festivals in New England and New York, and one of her current projects includes a long-distance collaboration titled "Pants Becoming Kites" with Dayita Nereyeth for performances in India and New England. She is a 2016/17 Young Artist in Residence at Bearnstow, Maine, and she has collaborated at the Red Poppy Art House in San Francisco for *Teobi's Dreaming* (2014) and OceA Dance Wilderness Residency at The Yard in Martha's Vineyard (2015). Her dance short films "In The Thick of the Middle" and "Dear Brother" were screened at international film festivals and featured in an interview for the 2018 issue of WomenCinemakers biennale online magazine. Ellen performs in Lorraine Chapman The Company, and has recently danced for Fusionworks Dance Company and Ali Kenner Brodsky & Co. She currently shares her love of dance through teaching and collaborating. She is co-founder of ProviDANCE Project and 3 Spice Dance with friends Angela Cole and Molly Hess, and she studied dance at Hampshire College, UNC School of the Arts, and Universidad de las Artes in Havana.

Hollis Bartlett & Nattie Trogdon

Hollis Bartlett and Nattie Trogdon are partners and collaborators who have been creating duets together for the past 3 years. The pieces they create are embedded with the work they've put into their partnership- two separate minds and bodies that balance each other out; their process starts from a shared interest and approach it from separate view points. They thrive on opportunities to test the boundaries of the human body and create authentic movement that explores the relationship between athleticism and experienced catharsis.

Their work has been presented at The Dance Complex, Earthdance, and The School for Contemporary Dance & Thought; in NYC at the Duo Multicultural Arts Center, Dixon Place, FIRST LOOK at Brooklyn Ballet, Mark Morris Dance Center, Triskelion Arts, Gibney Dance Center, and at universities including Juilliard School, SUNY Purchase, Skidmore College, and The College at Brockport. Collectively as performers, they've worked for Doug Varone, David Dorfman, Adam Barruch, Oliver and Terri Steele, Mark Dendy, Kensaku Shinohara, and Annie Kloppenberg.

<https://www.nattietrogdon.com>

Jean Appolon Expressions

Jean Appolon Expressions celebrates and advances Haitian folkloric dance by building a contemporary cultural community that produces professional performances, educational opportunities, and dance training for people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds. Since 2006 Jean Appolon has conducted a successful annual Summer Dance Institute in Port-au-Prince. The Institute targets young Haitians who lack financial resources and have limited access to dance education. JAE also conducts performances, community and youth classes, and workshops in the Boston area and beyond, with the goal to use dance to promote healthy communities through authentic cultural events and educational programming.

Based in Boston and directed by Jean Appolon, JAE's Haitian contemporary dance company combines Modern technique, Haitian folkloric dance and traditional Haitian music, bringing a new artistic vernacular to its audiences. With its dynamic repertoire, JAE educates audiences about Haitian culture, traditions, history and current issues. The company has performed both at major venues such as Boston's Paramount Center, Silver Spring Civic Center and in city parks and community spaces in free performances accessible to the public. JAE also has performed at many schools and colleges, including American University, Harvard University, Lesley College and Wheaton College. JAE has been fortunate to share the stage with celebrities such as Danny Glover, Henry Louis Gates and Edwidge Danticat, and to collaborate with community partners such as Central Square Theater.

Sean Fielder / Boston Tap Company

Started dancing at 3, was ten years old he performed in his first professional show the "Jazz Tap Hip Hop Festival" as part of "Dance Umbrella" run by Jeremy Alliger and choreographed by Savion Glover. That was the moment when he realized that tap was he wanted to do for the rest of his life. At 18 he was casted for the 4 Tony award winning Broadway show "Bringin Da Noise Bringin Da Funk". Sean was also featured in a video for Missy Elliot "The Rain". During and after the tour Sean performed for: Hillary Clinton, Jay Leno, Sin bad, CNN World News, Debbie Allen and Dick Clark with the American Heart Association. Features on channel 5 Chronicle, To The Pointe with Devin Hill, The Boston Herald, The Boston Metro and The Washington Time. Sean founded "The Boston Tap Company" (BTC) in October 2007 and Season of the Arts in 2013. BTC since then has performed at MASS MOCA with Dianne Walker, Jacob's Pillow, Opening act for the Radio City Rockettes at the Wang Center Boston, The New England Urban Music Awards, DC Tap Festival , NY City Tap Festival – Tap Youth Future Concert- Brther Thomas Fellowship Award Winner 2013. Sean recently just returned to the States from Spain where he was on tour for 2 months in Madrid! "Dancing has been a part of Sean's life since he was a child and it has made him into the positive, productive and inspirational person he is today. His motto is..."The Only Way To Be Different Is To Be Yourself" Boston Tap Company Mission statement! Our mission at the Boston Tap Company (BTC) is to educate and entertain through art as way of life. Promoting respect for ones self and others while creating a firm foundation of cultural history by means of art as a universal language. BTC produces a positive, productive and respectful way of expression that encourages confidence amongst all.

Soumaya MaRose

Soumaya MaRose was born in Brussels from parent issue of Moroccan immigration from the late 70. She grew up in her community and learn to dance and play darbuka and bendir (traditional drum instrument). She started at the age of 13 to perform with the Moroccan girls band « EL Housna », traditional Moroccan and Middle Eastern music at wedding and parties around Belgium, Netherlands, Germany and France.

Soumaya always danced, her nickname was shataha (dancer)! In 2010, Soumaya decided to dive in the study of Middle Eastern and North African dance with many master teachers around the world.

In 2014, she arrived in Boston and started to perform, locally and collaborate with many different artists as Atlas Soul, Club Mediterranee, Salma Dance company directed by Joanie Block, Mohammed Mejaour, Star Of Boston. She produced on collaboration with Boujemaa Razgui, versatile musicien, twice «The Moroccan Night Experience », theatrical dance show where and American woman tell her story about her travel in Morocco. Recently, she has been invited to choreograph and perform at the « Festival du Monde Arabe » by the talented Tunisien composer Walid Zairi.

She also teaches workshops and performs around USA and internationally. She believes that the dance is a way to be a bridge of culture and create the « Thé à l'orientale » to do so.