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The Isadora Duncan Dance Awards

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THE ISADORA DUNCAN DANCE AWARDS COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES WINNERS AND HONOREES FOR 2016-017 PERFORMANCE SEASON

San Francisco, California, March 26, 2018

This year the Isadora Duncan Dance Awards Committee celebrated 32 years of honoring local dance artists by acknowledging their outstanding achievements. The awards ceremony was held on Monday, March 26, 2018, at the historic Brava Theater Center, 2781 24th Street, San Francisco, CA 94110. This was a free event, open to the general public. The doors opened at 6 pm with a Welcome Reception, and the Awards Ceremony/Performances started at 7 pm. Solo and Small Ensemble Performances for the evening were presented by Dazaun Soleyn, Zahna Simon, Mahealani Uchiyama, La Tania Baile Flamenco Company, and Terceto Kali, celebrating dance, culture and legacy.

The following is a list of Nominees and Honorees by awards category, with the awardees shown in **boldface type**.

Outstanding Achievement in Choreography

- Kim Epifano, *Last Blue Couch in the Sky: Street stroll section*, Epiphany Dance Theater, South of Mission neighborhood, San Francisco
- **Lizz Roman, *Sunset Dances: Architectural Meditations II*, Lizz Roman & Dancers, home salon performances, San Francisco**
- Amy Seiwert, *Wandering*, Amy Seiwert's Imagery, Cowell Theater, San Francisco
- Rudi Soriano, *Birds in Flight*, Likha Pilipino Folk Ensemble, War Memorial Opera House, San Francisco
- Myles Thatcher, *Ghost in the Machine*, San Francisco Ballet, War Memorial Opera House, San Francisco

Outstanding Achievement in Performance – Individual

- **Isaiah Bindel, *les vérités*, dawsondancesf, YBCA Theater, San Francisco**
- Frances Chung, *Frankenstein*, San Francisco Ballet, War Memorial Opera House, San Francisco
- Megan Lowe, *Grace and Delia Are Gone*, Flyaway Productions, Firehouse at Fort Mason, San Francisco
- Ben Needham-Wood, *Be Here Now*, Smuin Ballet, YBCA Theater, San Francisco
- Tegan Schwab, *What we carry/What we keep*, ODC/Dance, YBCA Theater, San Francisco

- Amara Tabor-Smith, *Black/TIME*, Joe Goode Annex, San Francisco

Outstanding Achievement in Performance – Ensemble

- Delvis Saviñe Friñon, Adonis Damian Martin Quiñones, and Edisnel Rodriguez, "Defection-Deflection-Devotion" from *Love in a Bitter Time, Part II*, Dance Brigade, YBCA Theater, San Francisco
- Christine Funsch and Nol Simonse, "Prelude" from *Le grand spectacle de l'effort et de l'artifice*, Funsch Dance Experience, ODC Theater, San Francisco
- **MaryStarr Hope and Karla Quintero, "The Two Sisters" from *Grace and Delia Are Gone*, Flyaway Productions, Firehouse at Fort Mason, San Francisco**
- Arvejon Jones and Will Woodward, "Sweet Time" from *Boys Bite Back*, Sean Dorsey Dance, Z Space, San Francisco
- Vitor Luiz and Joseph Walsh, Act 3 pas de deux from *Frankenstein*, War Memorial Opera House, San Francisco

Outstanding Achievement in Performance – Company

- **Abhinaya Dance Company of San José, *Vaanara Leela: Monkeys in the Ramayana*, School of Arts & Culture at Mexican Heritage Plaza, San José**
- Ballet Folklórico México Danza, *La Revolución*, War Memorial Opera House, San Francisco
- Flyaway Productions, *Grace and Delia Are Gone*, Firehouse at Fort Mason, San Francisco
- ODC/Dance, *Giant*, YBCA Theater, San Francisco
- Lizz Roman & Dancers, *Sunset Dances: Architectural Meditations II*, home salon performances, San Francisco
- San Francisco Ballet's female Corps de Ballet, Acts 2 and 4 of *Swan Lake*, War Memorial Opera House, San Francisco

Outstanding Achievement in Music/Sound/Text

- Tatsu Aoki, Melody Takata, and Francis Wong, *The Eye of Compassion*, Lenora Lee Dance, Donaldina Cameron House, San Francisco

- Claire Cunningham, Jess Curtis, Matthias Herrmann, Alva Noë, and Luke Pell, *The Way You Look (at me) Tonight*, Jess Curtis/Gravity, CounterPulse, San Francisco
- Darren Johnston, Dan Cantrell, and Jordan Glenn, *Time's Arrow*, Deborah Slater Dance Theater, Studio 210, San Francisco
- **Marc Bamuthi Joseph and Tommy Shepherd, /peh-LO-tah/, Living Word Project, YBCA Theater, San Francisco**
- Lowell Liebermann, *Frankenstein*, San Francisco Ballet, War Memorial Opera House, San Francisco

Outstanding Achievement in Visual Design

- Tatsu Aoki and Lenora Lee, *The Eye of Compassion*, Lenora Lee Dance, Donaldina Cameron House, San Francisco
- **Brian Jones and Susan Roemer, *Wandering, Amy Seiwert's Imagery*, Cowell Theater, San Francisco**
- Yoshinori Asai, Dana Kawano, Sangbong Kim, Dohee Lee/Puri Arts, and Alenka Loesch, *ARA Ritual I: Waterways*, Dohee Lee/Puri Arts, CounterPulse, San Francisco
- Ian Winters, *King Tide*, Nina Haft & Company, Joe Goode Annex, San Francisco
- David Finn, John Macfarlane, and Finn Ross, *Frankenstein*, San Francisco Ballet, War Memorial Opera House, San Francisco

Outstanding Achievement in Restaging / Revival / Reconstruction

- **Krissy Keefer, revival of *The Great Liberation Upon Hearing (2009)*, Dance Brigade, Dance Mission Theater, San Francisco**
- Diane Madden with Sarah J.G. Chenoweth, Hope Mohr, Karla Quintero, and Jenny Stulberg, restaging of *Locus Solo (1975)/Ten Artists Respond to Locus*, Hope Mohr Dance, YBCA Forum, San Francisco
- Patrick Makuakáne, revival of *The Natives Are Restless (1998)*, Nā Lei Hulu I Ka Wēkiu, Palace of Fine Arts, San Francisco
- **Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra & Chorale and Catherine Turocy, restaging of *Le Temple de***

La Gloire (The Temple of Glory) (1745) by Jean-Philippe Rameau, Zellerbach Hall, Berkeley

- Erin Mei-Ling Stuart, revival of *Monkey Gone to Heaven (redux)* (2013), EmSpace Dance, Ashby Stage, Berkeley
- Richard Tanner, revival of *The Prodigal Son* (1929), San Francisco Ballet, War Memorial Opera House, San Francisco

Special Award Honoree

- **Antoine Hunter, for the 2017 Bay Area International Deaf Dance Festival, which united exceptional deaf and hearing dancers and increased their visibility in the Bay Area**

Sustained Achievement Honorees

- **La Tania, for her mastery and fostering of flamenco in the Bay Area as a teacher, choreographer, and performer for the past 24 years**
- **RJ Muna, for his artistic contributions to the community that capture the choreographers and dancers of the Bay Area through photographic excellence**
- **Harry Rubeck, for over 20 years of outstanding contributions supporting Bay Area dance artists through the field of lighting design**

The Isadora Duncan Dance Awards, known locally as the Izzies, are awarded annually to acknowledge exceptional creative achievements in the performance and presentation of dance. Awards are given in nine categories to honor the dancers, choreographers, designers, composers, dance companies, dance scholars and other individuals who have made important contributions to the San Francisco Bay Area's thriving dance community.

During each 12-month performance cycle, running September 1-August 31, the volunteer Izzies Committee collectively views over 400 eligible performances. The final nominees and honorees are selected at an annual voting meeting held in September after the close of the viewing cycle. Member profiles and lists of previous nominees and award winners are available online at www.izzies-sf.org. The Izzies Committee is supported in part through grants, in-kind donations, and annual giving by individuals.

For additional information, contact: [izzienotifications\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:izzienotifications[at]gmail.com)

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