

For Immediate Release

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Please contact for photos, interviews and videos

La Mezcla Presents

Pachuquismo

When: September 15th 8:00 pm & September 16th pre show @ 4pm, show @ 5:00 pm

Where: Dance Mission Theater
3316 24th street, SF CA 94110

Tickets: Students- \$15, General- \$20, At the Door- \$25
Super Supporter- \$40

<https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3568200> or 1-800-838-3006

For more information: www.VanessaSanchez.net/events

(July 2018) **La Mezcla** debuts the evening-length production, *Pachuquismo*, directed, choreographed and conceived by **Vanessa Sanchez**. *Pachuquismo* is a performance that merges Tap and Son Jarocho to reflect Chicana and Pachuca culture as well as the history of the Zoot Suit Riots. Featuring Chicana poly-rhythms, live music and video, this work explores the role of the Pachuca in the 1940's while examining systemic racism and the struggles communities of color continue to face today.

The all-female cast of dancers and musicians use a layered rhythmic dialogue and folkloric music from Veracruz to mirror the cultural fusion of Mexican traditions and American societal norms. Elaborate tap footwork is paired with traditional instruments to create a new narrative around the Chicana experience. With the backdrop of the Zoot Suit Riots, the work acknowledges

the significance of the Zoot Suit in the 1940's while challenging gender roles and pulling the narrative out of the male-centered context.

The September 15th 8pm performance will be followed by a post show reception. The September 16th performance will include a 4pm pre-show with lowriders, drinks and music. The show will start at 5pm. Performances take place at Dance Mission Theater, 3316 24th st.

La Mezcla is a dance and music ensemble whose work focuses on cross cultural rhythmic collaborations that are rooted in folkloric tradition. Made up of artists of color, the eclectic group uses live music, percussion, tap dance and Mexican zapateado to explore cultural identity and social issues.

Founded by choreographer and educator Vanessa Sanchez, La Mezcla works to provide a platform for traditions and untold stories of communities of color. La Mezcla's past performances have included SOMart's Dia de los Muertos exhibit, Dance Brigade's SummerFeast in Dos Rios and Brava Theater's Baile en la Calle.

Vanessa Sanchez is a Chicana dancer, educator and choreographer focusing on community arts and multi-cultural dance. Based in San Francisco, Sanchez is the founder and Artistic Director of La Mezcla and has shown her work on stages in Portugal, Mexico and throughout the United States.

As a Bay Area native, Sanchez works to connect folkloric tradition to a contemporary context. In 2015, her work *Convivencia*, presented by La Mezcla in the CubaCaribe festival, set the traditional Son Jarocho fandango from Veracruz, Mexico on stage, creating a new platform for the cultural tradition. In 2017, Sanchez created a piece for John Jota Leanos' Imperial Silence based on the Mexican tale of *La Llorona*, using Mexican zapateado intertwined with Afro-latino movement to bring the character to life. She has also created work for Dance Brigade and Loco Bloco.

In 2017, Sanchez held a residency at EastSide Arts Alliance in Oakland, participating in the Live Arts in Resistance series. She worked closely with EastSide Arts Alliance to direct and co-produce "Bruja;" an evening of all female percussion and movement exploring Chicana History from the 1940's through today, featuring La Mezcla, Bien Firme and Chulita Vinyl Club.

Vanessa Sanchez and La Mezcla are supported by National Association for Latino Arts and Cultures and the San Francisco Arts Commission.

Calendar Listing

Who/What: La Mezcla presents Pachuquismo

Choreographed and Directed by Vanessa Sanchez

When: Two performances only!

Saturday September 15 @ 8:00 pm

Sunday September 16 @ 5:00 pm (4pm pre-show)

Where: Dance Mission Theater

3316 24th st SF Ca 94110

Tickets: \$20 in advanced

\$25 at the door

\$15 student price w/ID

Super Supporter- \$40

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