

FOR AUDIENCES

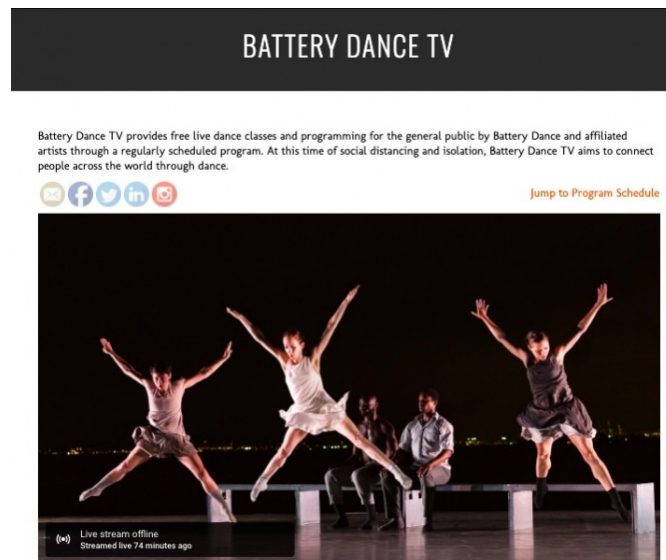
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Sunday, April 5, 2020

Dance Diplomacy with Jonathan with Christopher "Unpezverde" Núñez and Vladimir Campoy Battery Dance TV

Company: Battery Dance
Venue: Battery Dance
Location: New York, NY

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Battery Dance launched Battery Dance TV on March 27, 2020 at <https://batterydance.org/dancetv/> to provide free live dance classes and programming for the general public by Battery Dance and affiliated artists through a regularly scheduled program. Faced with the cancellation of its New York City public school dance classes and the postponement of its State Department Nigeria tour, and with its popular dance studios closed, the company staff members went into high gear (from living rooms and kitchens), creating online content. In its first week, Battery Dance TV has been seen by more than 11,500 viewers in 77 countries.

On Sunday, April 5, Battery Dance TV continues its weekly program, Dance Diplomacy with Jonathan. Last week's offering featured an interview with Unnath Hassan Rathnaraju in Karnataka, India: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iwOmJk1GKws&t=359s>.

This week's guests - Christopher "Unpezverde" Núñez and Vladimir Campoy - will be introduced to each other for the first time by Jonathan Hollander, Artistic Director of Battery Dance.

Each artist has pursued a career in dance with compromised vision, and during the interview, they will share how and when they first lost sight, and how they have coped with it during the course of their careers. The conversation is very open and reveals how two different Latinx dancers approach their craft while pursuing, or not, an agenda of consciousness-raising and disability rights advocacy.

Vladimir Campoy, originally from Guadalajara and currently based in Xalapa, Mexico, came to New York on scholarship with the Joffrey Ballet School. While in New York, he performed in the works of Hanna Q, Aviva Geismar, Regina Nejman and others. Since returning to Mexico, he joined La Quinto Danza Teatro and performed in Guadalajara and Cuba; was principal dancer with Gineceo Danza Contemporanea of Guadalajara on the Company's tour of Spain; and is currently working Corpodanza with upcoming tour of Canada.

Christopher "Unpezverde" Núñez is a visually impaired choreographer, performance artist, curator and arts educator. He began his dance training in Costa Rica and earned his BFA in Performing Arts at the National University of Costa Rica. Since relocating to New York City, his performances have been presented at The Brooklyn Museum (The Immigrant Artist Biennale), The Kitchen, Movement Research at The Judson Church, Danspace Project, The Leslie Lohman Museum for Gay and Lesbian Art, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, Dixon Place and Performance is Alive at Satellite Art Show (NY & Miami). He has performed internationally in Peru, Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, Salvador, Guatemala, Costa Rica and his work has been featured in publications such as The New York Times, New York Magazine, The Brooklyn Rail, The Dance Enthusiast and The Archive: The Leslie Lohman Museum bi-annual journal. He has held residencies at New Dance Alliance (LiftOff, 2018), Battery Dance Studios (Space Grant, 2017-2019), The Kitchen (DAP, 2019) and Center for Performance Research (AIR, 2020). Núñez has collaborated with world-renowned artists such as Nacera Belaza (France), Christophe Haleb (France) and Mark Sieczkarek (Germany). Most recently, he performed in "Dressing Up for Civil Rights" by William Pope L, presented at MoMA, The

Museum of Modern Art.

"Battery Dance TV allows us to continue connecting people across the world through dance at this time of social distancing and isolation," said Jonathan Hollander, artistic director of Battery Dance. "We and everyone we know at home and abroad are facing emotional, psychological, physical and financial challenges. For 45 years, we have explored the power of dance as an art form and a means for social impact and connection. We are not going to stop now when the need is so great."

Offerings will include:

morning warmup/stretching/conditioning exercises to start your day off right
mid-day classes in contemporary dance with afro, ballet and jazz fusion elements
evening classes in varied ballroom styles
a daily 4pm short video by dancers performing in their living rooms

Battery Dance will tap into its international network to host

Artists Talks every Sunday at

9:00 AM (Eastern Time) with performers based in New York and from around the world, followed by Sunday classes in international dance genres such as Bharatanatyam dance from India, and African Fusion from Botswana.

Battery Dance also plans to expand its distance learning and programming by including online classes in lighting and production design, and classes in arts administration and cultural diplomacy. In the future, the Company plans to add short performances by youth around the world who will create short dances based on a specific weekly theme suggested by the Company.

Morning Classes & Instructors

Flow - Vivake Khamsingsavath
Stretch & Strength - Mira Cook
Conditioning - Sean Scantlebury

Afternoon Contemporary Classes & Instructors

Jazz Fusion - Jill Linkowski
Ballet Fusion - Bethany Mitchell
Storytelling & Repertoire - Hussein Smko
Afro Fusion - Sean Scantlebury

Evening Ballroom Classes & Instructor

Cha Cha, Salsa, Waltz, Fox Trot, Tango, Rumba, Swing - Razvan Stoian

ABOUT BATTERY DANCE

As one of America's leading cultural ambassadors, Battery Dance connects the world through dance. The Company pursues artistic excellence and social relevance by creating vibrant new works, performing on the world's stages, presenting dance in public spaces, serving the field of dance and teaching people of all ages with special attention to the disadvantaged and areas of conflict. Battery Dance is committed to enhancing the cultural vibrancy of its home community in New York City, extending programming throughout the U.S., and building bridges worldwide through international cultural exchange with programs in 70 countries to date. www.batterydance.org

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