



FESTIVAL NO. 15
2011 PHILADELPHIA
LIVE ARTS FESTIVAL
+ PHILLY FRINGE
SEPTEMBER 2-17
LIVEARTS-FRINGE.ORG

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FINAL WEEK of 2011 Philadelphia Live Arts Festival and Philly Fringe

Closing week to feature four festival premieres including the urban acrobatic show *Traces* and the mesmerizing dance *Play* by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui & Shantala Shivalingappa

PHILADELPHIA – The [15th annual Philadelphia Live Arts Festival](#) enters its final week with four Festival premieres – the spectacular all ages acrobatic show [Traces](#) by Montreal’s **7 Fingers**; the U.S. premiere of [Play](#), a duet created and performed by celebrated choreographers **Shantala Shivalingappa** and **Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui**; the U.S. premiere of **Xavier Le Roy**’s expressive multi-disciplinary work [More Mouvements für Lachenmann](#); and the Philadelphia premiere of [The Radio Show](#), the Bessie Award-winning dance by choreographer **Kyle Abraham** and his company **Abraham.In.Motion**.

The 16-day Festival, which runs in conjunction with the **Philly Fringe**, opened on September 2 to enthusiastic audiences and rave reviews, and features cutting-edge dance, theater, visual art, music and interdisciplinary works in venues throughout the city **through Saturday, September 17**.

The **Live Arts Festival’s largest presentation to date** is the Philadelphia premiere of *Traces* by the high-energy urban acrobatic troupe **7 Fingers**. The show opens this week at the Merriam Theater (250 S Broad St), Sept. 15-18, in a co-presentation with the **Kimmel Center for Performing Arts**. The Montreal-based contemporary circus troupe threads a narrative through circus arts by integrating every mode of expression into each performance, which *The Chicago Tribune* called “a gorgeously pure, loose, and personal circus.” The family-friendly, suitable for all ages show includes traditional Chinese acrobatics, tumbling through hoops, leaping between giant poles, combined with skateboarding and parkour, and mixed with theater, music and contemporary dance. Tickets for *Traces* are available by calling the Kimmel Center Box Office at **215-893-1999**.

The U.S. premiere of *Play*, a duet commissioned by Live Arts, created and performed by celebrated French choreographer **Shantala Shivalingappa** and Belgian choreographer **Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui** (in its only U.S. engagement) kicks off at the Prince Music Theater (1412 Chestnut St), Sept. 15-17. *Play* is an intercultural dance dialogue, a celebration of aesthetic and form. The performance features a live ensemble and interaction with musicians and other theatrical elements, as Shivalingappa and Larbi discover one another by playing through dance. Born in Chennai, India and raised in Paris, Shantala Shivalingappa is the child of east and west and a master of Kuchipudi, a classical dance form of South India. Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui was born in Antwerp, Belgium of a Moroccan father and Flemish mother. The late, great German choreographer **Pina Bausch** suggested that the two work together.

Play is the centerpiece of [At Home, Elsewhere](#) – the 2011 Spotlight Series on cross-cultural exchange. A selection of related film screenings, workshops, and symposia will continue this week. For complete details visit www.livearts-fringe.org/festival-spotlight-series.cfm.

In a co-presentation with **bowerbird**, the Festival will present the U.S. premiere of French choreographer **Xavier Le Roy**'s expressive multi-disciplinary work *More Mouvements für Lachenmann*, Sept. 16-17 at the Arts Bank at the University of the Arts (601 S Broad St). Based on the music of contemporary German composer Helmut Lachenmann, the performance features members of the Austrian new music ensemble **Klangforum Wien** in a hybrid musician-dancer role, performing both the music and the physical and visual action of "sound making" as Le Roy stages the relationships between what can be heard, seen, gesticulated, moved, and imagined around the bodies of musicians and their music.

The Radio Show, a Philadelphia premiere, by New York-based choreographer **Kyle Abraham** is a high-energy dance performance that mixes classic soul and hip-hop with classical compositions, developing a rhythm that is hypnotic and unpredictable. *The Radio Show* investigates the effects of the abrupt discontinuation of a black radio station on a community and is based on Kyle Abraham's experiences growing up in Pittsburgh. The cast of 7 includes the show's choreographer – one of the most captivating movers dancers today. The performance is presented in association with the Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts.

Philadelphia Live Arts Festival productions continuing this week include the darkly funny [The Devil and Mister Punch](#) by London's **Improbable**; the exuberant [Twelfth Night, or What You Will](#) by **Pig Iron Theatre Company**; [Zon-Mai](#), a visual art installation in motion by **Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui** and **Gilles Delmas** currently on view at the Former Pumping Station (140 N Columbus Blvd, at Race St, across from the Race St Pier); and the fantastical [Elephant Room](#) featuring illusionists **Dennis Diamond**, **Louie Magic** and **Darryl Hannah**, directed by **Paul Lazar** and written by **Trey Lyford** and **Geoff Sobelle** with **Steve Cuiffo**.

FESTIVAL BAR + SOCIAL CLUB

[The Festival Bar + Social Club](#) brings together Festival artists and audiences after-hours each night of the Festival at **RUBA Club Studios** (416 Green St, one block north of Spring Garden), an intimate bar and performance space in Northern Liberties. The Festival Bar serves as a versatile space for Festival goers to unwind, enjoy post-show drinks and conversation, late-night cabaret and variety shows hosted by **BRAT Productions**, live music and deejays. Admission is free and 21+. Doors open at 10pm nightly. Visit www.livearts-fringe.org for a full schedule of performers, DJs and other entertainment.

READY, AIM, CLICK!

The Philadelphia Live Arts Festival and Philly Fringe, in partnership with **Phillyfunguide.com** and **PNC Arts Alive**, is holding a photo competition as part of this year's festival. Festival visitors can submit photos in three categories, and the participant with the most popular photo will win the Grand Prize – an

All Access Pass to the 2012 Festival. Photo submissions begin on Aug. 22, the day the Festival box office opens, and voting goes live starting on Sept. 2. Submit and vote for your favorite photos online at www.Phillyfunguide.com/contest or www.livearts-fringe.org/contest.

TICKETS

Tickets to all shows are available for purchase online at www.livearts-fringe.org, or by phone and walk-up sales at the Festival Box Office at **(215) 413-1318**. The 2011 Festival Box Office is located at the **Prince Music Theater, 1412 Chestnut St.** Box Office Hours: Sun.-Thu. 12 p.m.-9 p.m.; Fri.-Sat. 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

The Philadelphia Live Arts Festival features performances by renowned contemporary performing artists from the U.S. and around the world who are selected and invited to the Festival by Producing Director, Nick Stuccio. The Philly Fringe is an unfiltered Festival, where new and established artists of all kinds present their own work, free of a selection process. Together, the Philadelphia Live Arts Festival and Philly Fringe establish Philadelphia as a city bursting with wild creativity, bringing audiences sixteen days of the most stimulating, provocative new art being created in Philadelphia, across the U.S., and around the world.

PNC Arts Alive is the 2011 Presenting Sponsor of the Philadelphia Live Arts Festival and Philly Fringe.

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To request interviews, photos, and more information please contact:

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