

FESTIVAL ACCÈS ASIE

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VISUAL ARTS CULINARY ARTS DANCE CONFERENCE MUSIC NEW MEDIAS LITERATURE



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

INTERNATIONAL COMPONENT PERLES D'AILLEURS

Persian and Indian classical dance performances

Thu. May 24th, 2018
8pm

Gesù – Centre de créativité
1200 de Bleury St.
Place-des-Arts Metro

\$30
Tickets : goo.gl/UDk29h

PERSIAN DANCE MASTER CLASS

Sat. 26th & Sun. May 27th, 2018
10am to 4:30pm

Studio 303
372 St-Catherine W
Place-des-Arts Metro

\$200
RSVP: bit.ly/2CRIBRL

Montreal, March 1st, 2018

Festival Accès Asie is pleased to present, for a third year, its much anticipated international arts component, *Perles d'ailleurs*, welcoming two leading figures in their practice, Helia Bandeh and Parul Gupta, for a night of classical Persian and Indian dance performances on Thursday, May 24th at the Gesù – Centre de créativité.

The Iranian dancer, Helia Bandeh, will present her repertoire in classical Persian dance, in the form of both improvisation and technique. Unveiling the very essence of her discipline, Helia offers a broad overview of an art form which has survived great challenges in the past millennium.

Parul Gupta will also present some of the many facets of kathak, the main classical dance style from North India. The word kathak comes from the word “katha,” which means story; so initially, kathak was the art of storytelling. Over time, kathak has evolved into a dance technique and performing art.

The international component will wrap up Saturday, May 26th and Sunday, May 27th with two dance workshops given by dancer Helia Bandeh from 10am to 4:30pm. Don't miss an opportunity to learn from this great international artist. Maximum 20 participants.

Presented by:



In collaboration with:



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Helia Bandeh – Choreographer and performer

Helia Bandeh was born in Shiraz, Iran and has established herself as one of the great Persian dancers of the modern era. Her unique dance style is immediately recognized by her elegant, detailed, powerful, and exquisitely delicate movements. She has performed with world class artists and instructed Persian dance all over the world, reviving this art form along the way. In her research of Persian dance history, Helia Bandeh has created a unique dance form and method that captures the essence of classical Persian dance and adapts it for modern times. This method paves the way for Persian dance to be performed, instructed, and to gain a foothold among new generations who can discover the great depth of this ancient art. As a Persian dance artist, Helia Bandeh has taken a leading role in creating enormous support in Iran and internationally for Persian dance. (www.helia.nl)



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Parul Gupta – Choreographer and performer

Parul Gupta's training began with Bharatha Natyam and Indian Folk Dance at the age of seven. Over the years, Parul has expanded her vocabulary to include Ballet Jazz, Hip Hop, and Yoga. Since 2008, Parul has dedicated herself to Kathak, studying with the renowned Kumudini Lakhia. Parul is the founder, principal teacher, and artistic director of Infusion Dance Studios (www.infusiondance.ca). Her choreographic works have been included in three Cirque du Soleil productions: *Love*, *Kooza*, and *Totem*. On top of all this, she has given performances and workshops across Canada, in the U.S.A, and India. In addition to dance, Parul has earned a master's degree in Business Administration from the Richard Ivey School of Business (Western University) and a bachelor's degree in Molecular Biology from Concordia University. She is also a certified Yoga Instructor in the Sivananda Yoga tradition. (www.parulgupta.ca)