Ghostly Labor

Created, Choreographed and Directed by Vanessa Sanchez Performed by La Mezcla, Based in San Francisco www.LaMezclaSF.net / LaMezclaSF@gmail.com / (415) 529-0266



Ghostly Labor 4 minute Reel (For full-length video, please contact Vanessa Sanchez)

Ghostly Labor is a multidisciplinary, rhythmic performance that explores the history of labor in the US–Mexico borderlands and the power & joy of collective resistance. This work brings together Tap Dance, Mexican Zapateado, Afro Caribbean movement, live music and animated archival video. Featuring an all female dance company, spoken word, traditional Son Jarocho music from Veracruz, Mexico and an Afro Latino percussive score, this full length dance theater production brings to life historical events, such as the Bath Riots of 1917, the experiences of farm workers and domestic workers throughout California, and the generations of labor that have gone unseen.

"By the end of 90 ear-teasing, hip-shaking minutes, two things were clear: La Mezcla Artistic Director and choreographer Vanessa Sanchez ranks among the most singular dance artists to emerge from San Francisco in decades. Second, this defiantly joyous production... deserves to be seen across the country." -Rachel Howard, San Francisco Chronicle

Additional Activities

Film Screenings of "Ghostly Labor: a Dance Film;" Tap Dance, Son Jarocho and Afro Caribbean classes and workshops; Lecture demos; Artist Talk with Vanessa Sanchez;
Historical & cultural discussions; Q&A sessions; Community engagement activities including outdoor excerpts, all ages workshops and community Son Jarocho Fandango. *Ghostly Labor* travels with 10 performers, 1 Company Manager, and 3 crew members. Show runs approximately 90 minutes with a 10 minute intermission. Tech Rider available upon request.



Vanessa Sanchez is a Chicana-Native dancer, choreographer, artivist and educator who focuses on community arts and traditional dance forms. She is a 2019 Dance/USA Artist Fellow and a recipient of the Isadora Duncan Award for Outstanding Production for her internationally touring show *Pachuquísmo*. Sanchez's *"Ghostly Labor: a Dance Film"* was named Best Short Documentary by Dance Camera West. She is a Resident Artist at Brava! For Women in the Arts.





La Mezcla is an womxn driven, polyrhythmic, San Francisco-based dance and music company rooted in Chicana, Latina and Indigenous traditions and social justice. Founded in 2015 by Vanessa Sanchez, their work brings together Tap dance, Son Jarocho and Afro-Caribbean rhythms to bring the overlooked histories and experiences of communities of color to stages and streets.

Additional Video & Press

San Francisco Chronicle Review, December 2023 National Endowment for the Arts Magazine: Dancing Outside the Box Mellon Foundation: Choreography of Collaboration KQED Arts "If Cities Could Dance- San Francisco"