

Dancing Queerly Festival & Performances 2019



Cambridge, MA- May 16, 2019: Dancing Queerly is a festival of workshops, social gatherings, community conversations, and performances by and for the LGBTQIA+ community, its friends, and allies, taking place June 28-29 at The Dance Complex in Central Square, Cambridge. Dancing Queerly’s mission is to bring LGBTQIA+ folks with varying dance experience together in the joy of dance as audience members and participants.

“Dance performance is educational, emotionally fulfilling, and entertaining. Like any art form, it creates a meaningful shared experience for creators, artists, and audience, building and connecting community. As a participatory activity, dance can be a means of expression, a joyful way to exercise, and a path to a healthy relationship to one’s body.” For these reasons, Dancing Queerly co-producers J Michael Winward and Maggie Cee work to create dance spaces that center LGBTQIA+ people as participants, creators, and audience members.

Dancing Queerly was founded on a belief that the LGBTQIA+ community is underserved in the dance world--and a desire to change that. Now in its second year, the festival puts Boston on the map for queer dance nationally and locally. Dancing Queerly aims to create performance opportunities and build audiences around the work of queer-identifying dance artists.

The *Dancing Queerly Performances* aim to create a diverse program of queer dance, including abstraction as well as narrative work, and ‘queer sensibility’, a 21st century pastiche of gender experimentation, queer history and themes, and new movement ideas.

The Dancing Queerly Performances will take place in the loft-style Julie Ince Thompson Theatre where thousands of companies and dancers of international acclaim have explored, created, and shared work for over 30 years. Beer, wine, and beverages are available for purchase. For accessibility/ADA information, please visit our website. Tickets and more information available at dancecomplex.org.

Dancing Queerly, 2019 is made possible in part thanks to: fiscal sponsorship of Boston Dance Alliance, grant from the Boston Pride Community Fund, fundraising efforts of Boston Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, community Fund Grant from Cambridge Community Foundation, Mass Cultural Council Festival Programs Grant, New England States Touring program of New England Foundation for the Arts, made possible with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts Regional Touring Program and the six New England state arts agencies, and ongoing support from The Dance Complex.

Dancing Queerly 2019 Performances | Artists:

- **Em Papineau and Sofia Engelman Dance** (Cambridge/Northampton), a New England-based duo recently seen at Movement Research at the Judson Church, Space 124 through FRESH Festival, EstroGenius Festival at the Kraine Theater, and HUT at School for Contemporary Dance and Thought.
- Everyone's favorite desi drag auntie, **LaWhore Vagistan**, alter ego of Kareem Khubchandani, Assistant Professor of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies at Tufts University.
- Vogue star **Lilly Rose Valore** (Boston).
- **Nick M. Daniels** (Pittsburgh, PA) founding Artistic Director of the D.A.N.A. Movement Ensemble (Dancers Against Normal Actions) which he started in 1991, performing "A place by the river".
- Artist and activist **Pampi** (Boston) presents AbunDANCE: a participatory meditative community song and dance initiative.
- **Queens With A Mission** (QWAM, Boston), a diverse all male dance crew that champions for self confidence across the Boston Dance Scene and the greater LGTBO community.
- New work from multi-disciplinary artist/choreographer **Toby MacNutt** (Burlington, VT).
- New work by **J Michael Winward** (Boston, JUNE 28 CONCERT ONLY), choreographer, memoirist, Dancing Queerly producer.
- New work by **Maggie Cee** (Boston, JUNE 29 CONCERT ONLY), choreographer, founder and artistic director of The Femme Show, Dancing Queerly producer.

Workshops & Other Events:

- Dance-Curious workshop: like speed-dating, but for dance with 20 minute workshops including ballet, Vogue, modern, and hip-hop. This event invites LGBTQIA+ community members to connect through dance in a way that would not be possible in a mainstream dance class.
- Panel discussion moderated by Kareem Khubchandani, Mellon Bridge Assistant Professor at Tufts University teaching at the intersection of performance studies and queer studies.
- Floor Work Workshop with Toby MacNutt
- Post show dancing with Gays for Patsy and Out to Dance

Schedule of Events:

Friday, June 28

8PM Performance with J. Michael Winward, Lilly Rose Valore, Nick M. Daniels, Toby MacNutt, Queens With A Mission, LaWhore Vagistan, Em Papineau and Sofia Engelman Dance, and Pampi.

Post show Mixer and dancing.

Saturday, June 29

12-1:30PM Dance-Curious Workshop

Like speed dating for Dance! 15 minute mini classes in Hip Hop, Vogue, Ballet, Modern.

LGBTQIA+ folks only.

2-3:30PM: Floor Work Workshop with Toby MacNutt

4-5:30PM Dancing and Speaking Queerly

Join all the Dancing Queerly choreographers to talk about queer dance--FREE!

8PM Performance with Maggie Cee, Lilly Rose Valore, Nick M. Daniels, Toby MacNutt, Queens With A Mission, LaWhore Vagistan, Em Papineau and Sofia Engelman Dance, and Pampi.

Post show Mixer and dancing.