



POMEGRANATES FESTIVAL

PROMENADE

SOWING THE SEEDS OF INTERNATIONAL TRAD DANCE

30 APRIL 2023
18:00

SCOTTISH STORYTELLING CENTRE
43-45 HIGH STREET, EDINBURGH, EH1 1SR

TRADITIONAL
DANCE
FORUM OF
SCOTLAND

SUPPORTING DIVERSE TRAD DANCE IN SCOTLAND THROUGH
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— POMEGRANATES —

SOWING THE SEEDS OF INTERNATIONAL TRADITIONAL DANCE

TRADITIONAL
DANCE
FORUM OF
SCOTLAND

SPRINGTIME FESTIVAL CURATED BY ILIYANA NEDKOVA, ELEANOR SINCLAIR AND WENDY TIMMONS

[LINKTR.EE/POMEGRANATESFEST](https://linktr.ee/pomegranatesfest)

WHY POMEGRANATES

INTRODUCTION BY LIYANA NEDKOVA AND WENDY TIMMONS



We are delighted to welcome you to Pomegranates – the springtime festival initiated by the Traditional **Dance** Forum of Scotland. Established in 2022 as part of Edinburgh Tradfest, Pomegranates returns in spring 2023 to once again sow the seeds of international traditional dance in Scotland and culminate into a celebration of UNESCO's International Dance Day (29 April) with three days full of dancing around the world but also filled with art and music, films and poetry.

Just like our inaugural Pomegranates, the festival weekend in 2023 kicked off with an intensive day of world dance workshops. This year the workshops were led by over 30 trad dance artists and choreographers with whom we circumnavigated the globe from Scotland to Zambia in just eight hours while learning from each other.

What is new at Pomegranates 2023? A wealth of events which we curated around the workshops, including these two world premieres on stage and screen – the second of three nights of live dance shows weaving in trad and contemporary dance, the new and the rarely seen.

Another new feature of this year's festival? Not one but three. Firstly, *Duets* – the dance and drawing exhibition by our artist-in-residence **Gabriel Schmitz**, as well as the related live duets of the artist with traditional and contemporary dance in Edinburgh and Glasgow, alongside the free exhibition tours.

Also, two new publications commissioned by the Traditional **Dance** Forum of Scotland. Trad Dance Cast is our new trad dance podcast. It goes behind the scenes of *To Begin the Dance Once More* – our screen dance production which received its world premiere at Pomegranates. *A Sequins of Poems to Dance To* by our festival poet-in-residence **Ian McMillan** is a booklet of 10 new poems which comes alive at our festival finale tonight.

Here is to Pomegranates once more!

POMEGRANATES FESTIVAL PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY

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PROMENADE PROGRAMME

[LINKTR.EE/POMEGRANATESFEST](https://linktr.ee/pomegranatesfest)

SEQUINS

WORLD PREMIERE

DURATION: 60 MINUTES

How do we fuse fun folk dance with funky hip hop rhythms and rhymes?

By entrusting *A Sequins of Poems to Dance To* by our poet-in-residence **Ian McMillan** to the choreographing, MCing and rapping skills of our hip hop artist-in-residence **Kemono L. Riot**. By mixing in the charcoal dance graffiti of our resident visual artist **Gabriel Schmitz** in the cinematic rendition of our videographer-in-residence **Barrie Barretto**. By adding the accompaniment of **Nemo Ganguli**, Young Drummer of The Year Finalist 2022.

And, for good measure, by brightening the *Sequins* with the choreographed movement of dozens of Scottish migrant dance artists from Ukraine to Zambia, including **Anastasiia Boiko**, **Tony Chen**, **Wangxiu Cheng**, **Marianella Desanti**, **Michela Furin**, **Yan Hong**, **Yao Huang**, **Chinyanta Kabas**, **Yujiao Miao**, **Blanka Michalewicz**, **Sonia Michalewicz**, **Ziyun Li**, **Lara Russo**, **Oksana Saiapina**, **Bingyu Shen**, **Eleanor Sinclair**, **Kasia Siwak**, **Malwina Siwak**, **Yi Wang** and **Ziqing Yin**.

Commissioned and produced by Traditional **Dance** Forum of Scotland

HIP HOP CEILIDH FOR ALL

SOCIAL DANCE

DURATION: 90 MINUTES

Hip hop ceilidh? Dance the night away in celebration of the festival finale. Enjoy the playlist curated by our hip hop artist-in-residence and DJ **Kemono L. Riot**. Keep hydrated with our sparkling Pomegranates cocktails (alcoholic or not) mixed by our festival partner – the Haggis Box at the Scottish Storytelling Centre Cafe.