


## Chop Shop: Northside, coming to Edmonds

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Eva Stone, artistic director of The Stone Dance Collective, has lived in Edmonds for 15 years. She has shown in Seattle, across the U.S., in Europe and in Russia. But she's never performed in Edmonds. That's about to change.

StoneDance Productions and the Black Box Theatre are presenting Chop Shop: Northside, A Contemporary Dance Festival, at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 30.

"It took me a long time to get to Edmonds," Stone said.

Stone is anxious to share her work and the work of others in the festival.

"I'm obsessed with this art form, and I want everyone else to be also," she said. "This will be a modern dance buffet; some things you'll like and some things you won't."

This is a huge one-day event. Besides The Stone Dance Collective, seven other dance companies will be presenting performances.

These companies are the cream of the crop of Northwest modern dance, and include Spectrum Dance Theatre, Mark Haim, SD/Prism Dance Theatre, Quark Contemporary Dance Theatre, Whidbey Island Dance Theatre, Coriolis Dance Collective and the Khambatta Dance Company.

Each of these prolific choreographers has presented work to numerous critical successes throughout Europe, Asia, Latin America and the United States.

Though each company/artist possesses its own individual voice, they are unified in the contemporary language of dance and its power to stir the senses through the visceral moving image.

Each company will present a maximum 12-minute presentation.

"These are heavy hitters," Stone said. "They're coming to Edmonds to broaden their exposure and to be part of the dance community."

Stone is sure that everyone attending the Chop Shop: Northside Festival will find many things to enjoy and thrill them.

"I still believe human beings want to see other human beings doing magnificent, amazing things," Stone said. "We need some good, strong, provocative art."

"This festival does this. Nothing of this variety has ever been done here."

Before the performance, Stone will give a free deconstructive lecture titled "Reading Dance" before the performance. "Reading Dance" starts at 6 p.m. (prior to the performance) in the Black Box Theatre.

You can experience a "behind the scenes" look at how contemporary dances are formed, learn about meaning and imagery behind the choreographer's unique movement language, and how the creative process is developed and refined. "Reading Dance" is open to all ages.

The festival will present even more opportunities.



#### Rare Festival Opportunities:

There will be a free "Introduction to Modern Dance" class with Eva Stone, on Wednesday, Oct. 27, at the Black Box Theatre, 6:30 to 8 p.m.

This class is open to ages 10+ to adult who would like to experience modern dance. No experience is necessary. Please call 206-700-6004 to reserve a spot.

"Just come in sweets and a t-shirt and be ready to dance," Stone said.

Also, Saturday, Oct. 30, at noon and 2 p.m., Master Classes by the Artistic Directors of the performing companies will be held in the theater.

Please call 206-799-6004 for schedule and reservations.

Classes are \$12 each (discounted prices are offered with purchase of show ticket).

The festival and all classes take place on the Edmonds Community College campus at The Black Box Theater, 20310 68th Ave. W., Lynnwood. "<http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/118438>" Tickets are on sale now. Phone: 1-800-838-3006. Adults are \$20; students and seniors are \$14.

For festival info: 425-640-1448.

This is an event not to be missed! Past sold out performances have established Chop Shop as one of the most highly anticipated dance events in the greater Seattle/Eastside area.

There are only about 200 seats in the theater, so the festival may sell out. Each of the eight companies has its own followers in the area, and with the bargain prices for the dance companies attending, a good-sized crowd is assured.

**Spectrum Dance Theater:** Led by Artistic Director Donald Byrd, Spectrum Dance Theater stands at the forefront of contemporary dance as one of the most daring and innovative cultural assets in the region. The Company has established a full season of performances presented at the Moore Theatre where Spectrum is the official Resident Dance Company and continues to expand its reach with national and international touring engagements. Spectrum Dance Theater will be presenting *Tantric Voices*, choreographed by Thaddeus Davis, once a dancer with Donald Byrd/The Group in New York and now an artist in his own right. Byrd calls the piece, "...quirky, serious, playful, intuitive, curious, kinetic, earthy, smart and full of surprises." Davis has choreographed for Complexions Contemporary Ballet, Ballet Austin and Fugate/Bahire Ballet in New York. In 2008 he was chosen by the US State Department to serve as a Cultural Envoy to Portugal.

**Mark Haim** is a world-renowned performer/choreographer and former UW Senior Artist in Residence. He has created works for Nederlands Dans Theatre, Ballet Frankfurt and the Jose Limon Dance Company, to name only a few. Haim's critically acclaimed *The Goldberg Variations* has been presented at American Dance Festival, the John F. Kennedy Center and other venues in Europe, the US and Asia. Haim will present *Buoyant Despite Slump*, a piece about "the window of opportunity created in a quiet moment of

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profound sadness and abandonment."

The Stone Dance Collective is a modern dance company that originated in London, England in 1993 but has been part of the Seattle/Eastside dance scene for more than 12 years. Artistic Director and choreographer Eva Stone never fails to amuse and provoke audiences through her humor, detail and unexpected approach to contemporary dance. Having learned the art of dance backwards (choreography before technique), Stone has developed a movement language that is uniquely her own. Her choreography has been presented in New York, Geneva, London and St. Petersburg, Russia. Locally, she has been commissioned by numerous companies throughout Washington and most recently as part of a collaborative effort (alongside Olivier Wevers and Wade Madsen) on Project Orpheus with Seattle Dance Project. Stone will be presenting *Stick Figures*, a poignant and unaffected examination of the breath and space between men and women.

SD Prism Dance Theatre is a contemporary dance company founded by Artistic Director Sonia Dawkins, who has been in the Seattle area for the past 10 years and is also a part of the faculty at Pacific Northwest Ballet. Dawkins' focus as a choreographer is drawn from the artistry, athleticism and "poetry" from within each dancer. Critics have said her works possess "athletic edge and artistic depth." Dawkins is presenting *Linkage*, a study on the demise of national and social constructs in a "monetary context."

Quark Contemporary Dance Theatre is a fresh new company created in 2009 by David Lorence Schleiffers, currently working on a dance degree in the UW Dance Program. This company aims to create and perform unique and thought provoking work, which highlights the natural movement of the human body. In *The Kids' Table*, Schleiffers takes us on a subtle journey through the growing process and uses simple movement themes to highlight complex aspects of adulthood. Learn more at [HYPERLINK](http://www.quarkcontemporary.org) "http://www.quarkcontemporary.org"/www.quarkcontemporary.org

Coriolis Dance Collective was formed in 2008 by Natascha Greenwalt-Murphy and Christin Call in order to foster an immersive and experimental atmosphere in the creation of new, highly collaborative works with artists of all disciplines. *Tethered Apparitions*, choreographed by Greenwalt-Murphy, spins a delicate picture of how "personal ideals tie us to one another and attach us to illusory worlds of our own creation." The piece features an original score by local musician and artist Matt Holmes, as well as art objects created by Call.

