

Five reasons to go to The Vancouver International Tap Festival



SHAWN CONNER

[More from Shawn Conner](http://VANCOUVERSUN.COM/AUTHOR/THATSHAWNCONNER) (HTTP://VANCOUVERSUN.COM/AUTHOR/THATSHAWNCONNER)

Published on: August 31, 2016 | Last Updated: August 31, 2016 11:23 AM PST



Dormeshia Sumbry-Edwards is one of the featured performers at this year's Vancouver International Tap Dance Festival, which runs from Sept. 1-4. Photo courtesy of Eduardo Patino. *EDUARDO PATINO / PNG*

Vancouver International Tap Dance Festival

Sept. 1 to 4 | *Various venues*

Tickets and info: vantapdance.com (<http://vantapdance.com>)

1. Tap's not dead! This is the 17th edition of the annual festival, which features some of the biggest names in the world of tap dance, both performing and teaching.
2. Dormeshia Sumbry-Edwards. This year's fest marks the first appearance of Sumbry-Edwards, whose credits include almost every major tap movie or show that has appeared since the eighties (including the lead role in the 2007 independent film *The Rise and Fall of Miss Thang*, described on IMDB as "an urban tap dance drama"). Accolades include an Astaire Award, a Bessie Award, and a Hooper Award. Oh, and she was also the private tap instructor to Michael Jackson.
3. *And Still You Must Swing*. A Canadian premiere, *And Still You Must Swing* stars Sumbry-Edwards, Derick K. Grant, and Jason Samuels Smith, three of the world's top ambassadors of tap. This work, at the Norman Rothstein Theatre Sept. 2 at 8 p.m., was a sold-out hit at the 2016 Jacobs Pillow Dance Festival. The *New York Times* said that "The hour-long show is a study in swing ... As the hoofers trade turns in the spotlight, each yields songs from the ground, scraping and stroking and piercing the floor in ways that confound the eye and ear with their intricacy."
4. *Tap Masters!* Another Canadian premiere, *Tap Masters!* features top tappers including Ted Levy, Billy Siegenfeld, Terry Brock, Joel Hanna, Travis Knights and Claudia Rahardjanoto, and Andre Prashard at the Norman Rothstein Theatre Sept. 3 at 8 p.m. Levy is also the feature attraction of opening night's *Ted Levy Talks*, in which the Emmy Award-winning Broadway legend shares highlights from his career.
5. *Sit, Talk and Tap Workshop /Project*. The festival closes with a 15-minute work-in-progress, wherein festival participants will be invited to provide feedback. (Sept. 4 at 5 p.m., at the Faris Theatre, Scotiabank Dance Centre)

Vancouver Flyers



Comments

We encourage all readers to share their views on our articles and blog posts. We are committed to maintaining a lively but civil forum for discussion, so we ask you to avoid personal attacks, and please keep your comments relevant and respectful. If you encounter a comment that is abusive, click the "X" in the upper right corner of the comment box to report spam or abuse. We are using Facebook commenting. Visit our FAQ page (<http://www.vancouver.sun.com/news/story.html?id=7195492>) for more information.

1 Comment

Sort by **Newest**



Add a comment...



Andrew Prashad · Actor/Singer/Dancer/Musician/Choreographer/Instructor at Self Employed Artist

Appreciate the shout out... The spelling of my name is "Andrew Prashad"... Just sayin 😊

Like · Reply · Sep 1, 2016 7:52am

Facebook Comments Plugin

([HTTP://WWW.POSTMEDIA.COM](http://www.postmedia.com))

© 2017 Postmedia Network Inc. All rights reserved.

Unauthorized distribution, transmission or republication strictly prohibited.

Powered by WordPress.com VIP (<https://vip.wordpress.com/>?

[utm_source=vip_powered_wpcom&utm_medium=web&utm_campaign=VIP%20Footer%20Credit](https://vip.wordpress.com/?utm_source=vip_powered_wpcom&utm_medium=web&utm_campaign=VIP%20Footer%20Credit))