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Dance Place Presents Second Annual Latinx Movement Festival *Festival Will Expand Programming to Include Community Classes, Film, Music & More*

WASHINGTON, D.C. (September 25, 2025): Dance Place is excited to present the second annual Latinx Movement Festival, taking place October 10 and 11, 2025 at 3225 8th Street NW, Washington, DC 20017. Led by founder, director and independent artist [Gabriel Mata](#), the Latinx Movement Festival is a dynamic annual event that celebrates the expansive artistry of Latinx dance makers and cultural workers across the United States. Tickets are on sale now and available for purchase [here](#).

Launched in 2024, the festival is rooted in the value of movement as both a physical and cultural practice. In 2025, the festival returns with expanded programming that includes film, multigenerational performances, community classes, artist talks, and new commissioned works.

“I don't see myself as solely working under the capacity of dance; I create movement in a performance form called *motion memoirs*,” explained Mata, who is also a member of Dance Place’s [Artist Advisory Council](#). “It was my way of connecting to my culture, to my stories, to *our* stories, in the many ways we have them. My work uses narrative, spoken word, song, and movement, and I could see that being played out with other artists in the area. When we recognize that we have a lot of artists working within movement, it's exciting to pair up some of these artists together: one mover and one musician; one mover and one poet. It's going to be exciting to have them be in conversation, in a generative performative form.”

Attendees will discover expanded programming and deeper community ties, all fostering artistic exchange and vital conversations on identity and belonging. Attendees will also experience:

- **Corazón Folklórico DC**'s cultural performance of Indigenous and regional Mexican traditions;
- **Felipe Moltedo**'s new multigenerational choreographic work;
- **Armando Ibañez**'s film exploring Queer Latinx experiences;
- Fresh perspectives from LA-based guest artist **Joel Mejia Smith**;
- New commissioned works by DC's own emerging choreographers **Armani Colón** and **Angel Ramirez**;
- A panel with **Dr. Manuel Cuellar**, Associate Professor of Latin American and Latinx Studies at The George Washington University;
- Q&A sessions with artists through the duration of the festival, and more!

The Latinx Movement festival highlights Latinx creators whose work engages contemporary, queer, and traditional forms of performance, movement, and storytelling. The Latinx Movement Festival DC offers a platform for voices often underrepresented in the dance and performance fields, while creating a welcoming space for cross-generational and interdisciplinary collaboration. This aligns with the theme of Dance Place's 45th season, *Home is Coming: Inspiration, Connection, Action*.



“Dance Place feels like a sense of home to me,” said Mata, who has been local to DC for 8 years. “In Mexico and Mexican culture, we all come together and *that* becomes our home. I’ve always thought that kind of collaborative gathering is exactly what happens at Dance Place. And that brings me a sense of comfort, and also a sense that I can push boundaries.”

Honestly, I don’t know of another theater or institution in the DMV that is doing this kind of work for the Latino community. The Latinx Movement Festival, in part, exists to be a *home* for the generative wealth and the dimensionality of how we can show up as artists. Dance Place has been there to help me process through it.”

Driven by Mata’s vision and supported by a growing network of community partners and artists, the Latinx Movement Festival is not just a celebration of dance: it is a movement for visibility, equity, and cultural celebration that continues to build momentum each year. Tickets are on sale now and available for purchase [here](#).

About Dance Place

Rooted in Washington, D.C., Dance Place supports movement artists by creating opportunities for creative development, performance, and education. The organization strengthens the dance field by investing deeply in artists and centering those who have been systemically excluded from it.

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