

MCA Stage 2014–15

Theater
Dance
Music

at the
Edlis
Neeson
Theater

Winter/Spring

Manual Cinema

Mementos Mori

Jan 15–18, 2015

Stan's Cafe

The Cardinals

Jan 22–24, 2015

Sònia Sánchez

Le Ça (The Id)

Feb 13–15, 2015

Mariano Pensotti

Cineastas (Filmmakers)

Feb 26–Mar 1, 2015

Joffrey Academy of Dance

*Winning Works: Choreographers
of Color*

Mar 7–8, 2015

The Seldoms

Power Goes

Mar 20–29, 2015

Ragamala Dance and Rudresh

Mahanthappa

Song of the Jasmine

Apr 10–12, 2015

International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE): Anna Thorvaldsdottir

In the Light of Air

Apr 26, 2015

Creative Music Summit

Nicole Mitchell

May 2, 2015

Renée Baker

May 3, 2015

Third Coast Percussion with

Glenn Kotche

Wild Sound

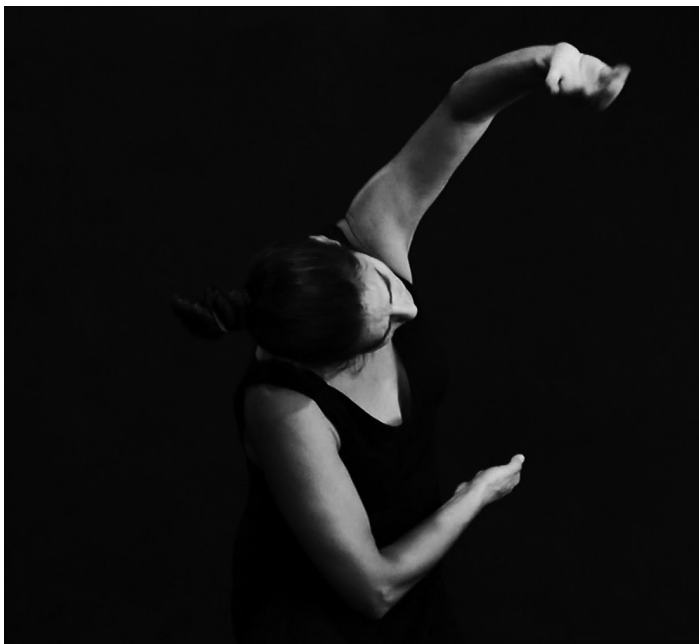
May 21–22, 2015

Sònia Sánchez

Le Ça (The Id)

Feb 13–15, 2015

Sònia Sánchez, *dance*
David Soler, *electric guitar*
Miguel Ángel "El Londra" Soto Peña,
vocals
Ander Agudo, *live sound mix*



Presented as part of
the Chicago Flamenco
Festival 2015.

The Chicago Flamenco
Festival 2015 is a
collaboration of the
Instituto Cervantes,
Arte y Vida Chicago,
the Museum of
Contemporary Art
Chicago, Old Town
School of Folk
Music, and the
Flamenco Arts
Center. It runs
February 6 through
March 7, 2015.

The Festival
programs span the
wide-ranging world
of flamenco music,
dance, and films.
They feature
ascending as well as
legendary performers.
Over five weekends,
more than ten
distinctive
performances take
place in different
venues, expanding
the dedication of
the Instituto
Cervantes in Chicago
to support the
presentation of
today's rich array
of Spanish and
Hispanic culture.
For more informa-
tion visit [http://
chicago.cervantes.es](http://chicago.cervantes.es).

Sònia Sánchez
Photo: Dani Alvarez

Generous support
for MCA Dance is
provided by David
Herro and Jay Franke.

Sònia Sánchez: *Le Ça*
is made possible by
the Program for the
Internationalization
of Spanish Culture
(PICE), under the
Mobility grants
awarded by the state
company Acción
Cultural Española
(AC/E).

AC/E

*Spain's Public Agency
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**Edlis Neeson
Theater**

**Museum of
Contemporary Art
Chicago**



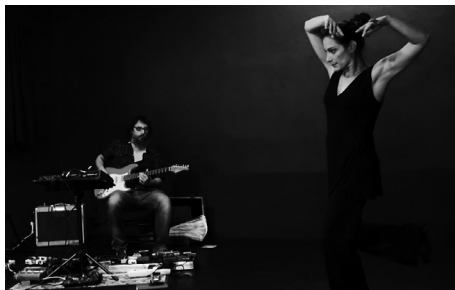
**Instituto
Cervantes**
Chicago

About the Program

Le Çà started with Sònia Sánchez investigating the sound of shoes and various kinds of wood. At first filtering them using different microphones, she eventually turned from experimentation with recording technologies to the surrounding sounds of a forest in Spain's Catalunyan region, where she lived in solitude for a time. Discarding everything except techniques for generating sounds from her own feet, palms, fingers, and vocal cords, "as if facing an orchestra that has lost its score," Sánchez began composing with her body. "The sounds of the forest came in, the sounds of darkness, of pain, of joy, which were my companions for many years."

Carrying this emotional charge into the studio, Sanchez improvised over five months with a series of collaborators including musicians and dancers of flamenco, jazz, and contemporary forms.

The result is a creative breakthrough in flamenco. By extolling technique and minimal scenery over the expected flourish of ornate costumes and narrative, *Le Çà* offers live composing for the body through choreographed and improvised tapping, stamping, and vocals, to live electronics and electric guitar.



Artists Up Close

MCA Stage's series of artist-centered talks, workshops, and open studios allows the public to engage with artists in intimate settings and provides a closer look at the creative process. Join us today.

MCA Studio

Earlier this week, as part of the Open Doors program, museum visitors were invited inside the theater to observe the artists working on the final stage of production.

MCA Talk: First Night

Feb 13

Audience members are invited to stay at the end of the performance for a conversation with Sònia Sánchez. Moderated by Yolanda Cesta Cursach, Associate Director of Performance Programs.

MCA Studio: Workshop with Sònia Sánchez

Sat, Feb 14, 1-4pm

Sònia Sánchez teaches flamenco technique grounded in the form, musicality, and rhythm of the body, drawing from her formal training with La China and Butoh master Hisako Horikawa and with attention to her investigation into the sound of flamenco dance. Sánchez trains participants in composing sound with the body and improvisation that fuses flamenco dance and vocal technique with electronics.

Sònia Sánchez
Photo: Dani Alvarez

Ragamala Dance and Rudresh Mahanthappa *Song of the Jasmine* Apr 10–12, 2015



Powerful jazz fuses with magnetic South Indian music and dance in *Song of the Jasmine*. Thoroughly original, Aparna and Ranee Ramaswamy and the Ragamala Dance ensemble are joined by acclaimed saxophonist and composer Rudresh Mahanthappa, who leads a live South Indian music quintet.

Rudresh Mahanthappa
Photo: Alice Gebura

**MCA Stage
2014–15**

Buy tickets online
at mcachicago.org

Song of the Jasmine
Aparna Ramaswamy
Photo: Alice Gebura

**Theater
Dance
Music**

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Edlis
Neeson
Theater**

About the Artists

Sònia Sánchez

completed her academic instruction at the Conservatory of Dance in Madrid, Spain, continuing her training in Barcelona where she was introduced to Butoh, and more specifically the technique of Hisako Horikawa. Born in 1974 in Sabadell, Catalunya's second largest city, Sánchez has always been rooted in flamenco, studying with the masters Ciro and La China, and collaborating with Antonio Canales, Cristina Hoyos, Albert Pla, Núria Espert, J. M. Cañizares, Alfredo Kraus, Duquende, and Tomatiño.

Her exploration of flamenco's essence and limits has led her to collaborations with various artists outside the form, including Butoh dancer Jordi Mas, trumpeter Julián Sánchez, and electronics composer Joaquim Puigtió. Her free-jazz project, Sai Trio, is an ongoing collaboration with pianist Agustí Fernández (National Prize for Culture; Prize of Barcelona for Music) and the acclaimed jazz drummer Ivo Sans.

Sánchez dance work includes *Retales* (2007); *Rincones y claros de bosques* (*Edges and clearings of the woods*) (2008); and *23 de Mayo* (2009). Her solo, *El pliegue* (2012), toured to Dansmakers Amsterdam and Rencontres Choréographiques de Saint Denis. *Le Ça* premiered March 2014 at Mercat de Les Flors, Barcelona, and has toured to Mexico City, for the FMX International Festival; Dusseldorf, as part of the Flamenco Festival at Tanzhaus; and Paris, for Rencontres Choréographiques de Saint Denis. The MCA Stage presentation is its North American premiere.



David Soler

is a prolific composer and guitarist, and has recorded and performed with avant-pop and jazz bands in Europe and the US for two decades. In addition to contemporary guitarists such as Bill Frisell and Robert Fripp, he cites as his greatest influences the twentieth-century composers Béla Bartók, Olivier Messiaen, and Frank Zappa. The recent release by his own instrumental electro-avant music project, Denga, titled *Botánicas*, is produced by Lee Townsend, legendary producer of Frisell, Fred Hersch, and many others. The recording features Soler's collaborators for the past decade: pianist Erik Deutsch, bassist Ben Rubin, and percussionists Borja Barrueta and Marc Pino.

El Londo (Miguel Ángel Soto Peña)

is a native of Jerez de la Frontera (Cádiz). He started singing in flamenco groups at the age of twelve and debuted as soloist in the Imperial Theatre of Seville in 1992. In 1994 he was invited by guitarist/director Gerardo Núñez to perform in his production of *Amor Brujo* at the Seville Biannual, and toured nationally the next year with the company in Núñez's production of *Yerma*, directed by Nuria Espert.

Sònia Sánchez
Photo: Dani Alvarez



El Londra completed his formal training in canto with the national company Nuevo Ballet Español, based in Madrid, as accompanist to classic flamenco dance figures such as Joaquín Grilo, Belén Maya, and Sara Baras and touring with the national company throughout Europe and the US with the productions *El Cachorro*, directed by Salvador Távora; *Torero* directed by and featuring choreographer/dancer Antonio Canales; and *The House of Bernarda Alba*, featuring the bailaora Carmen Cortés. El Londra also tours internationally with leading contemporary flamenco dancers Israel Galván, Andrés Marín, Isabel Bayón, Pastora Galván, Mercedes Ruiz, and Hiniesta Cortés.

He regularly collaborates and tours with flamenco vocal innovators including Miguel Poveda, Enrique Morente, Carmen Linares, Chano Lobato, and Remedios Amaya. He is featured in the recordings *Aroma* by José Luís Montón, *Sendero de lo Imposible* by Santiago Lara, *Rey* by Antonio Rey, *Diapasión* by Chicuelo, and *Corazón de Flamenco* which he coproduced with Juan Diego. His newest recording *Luna de enero* is a project with Miguel Poveda on his label Carta Blanca Records, and produced by the celebrated guitarist Santiago Lara.

Sònia Sánchez
Photo: Dani Alvarez

Thank you

Lead support for the 2014–15 season of MCA Stage is provided by Elizabeth A. Liebman.

Additional generous support is provided by Caryn and King Harris, and Lois and Steve Eisen and the Eisen Family Foundation.

The MCA is a proud member of Museums in the Park and receives major support from the Chicago Park District.

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As of January 2015



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The MCA is a proud partner of the National Performance Network.

Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago

As an internationally renowned institution devoted to contemporary culture, the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago presents the most thought-provoking visual art and performing arts of our time. MCA Stage is a vibrant series presenting theater, dance, and music by leading artists from the US and around the world in MCA's three-hundred-seat Edlis Neeson Theater.

MCA Stage's groundbreaking performances are an integral part of MCA Chicago's artist-activated, audience-engaged programming. Along with the museum's exhibitions and educational initiatives, they encourage a broad and diverse community to experience and discuss the work and ideas of living artists.

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Program notes compiled
by Yolanda Cesta Cursach

220 East Chicago Avenue
Chicago, IL 60611
312.280.2660
mcachicago.org

Courtesy guidelines and information

Parking

Validate your ticket at the coat check for \$12 parking in the MCA garage (220 East Chicago Avenue) or the Bernardin garage (747 North Wabash). Discounted parking is limited to six hours on the date of performance.

Lost and Found

To inquire about a lost item, call the museum at 312.280.2660. Unclaimed articles are held for thirty days.

Seating

Please switch off all noise-making devices while you are in the theater.

Patrons are seated at the management's discretion. Food and open beverage containers are not allowed in the seating area.

Reproduction

Unauthorized recording and reproduction of a performance is prohibited.

General information

312.280.2660

Box office

312.397.4010

Volunteer for performances

312.397.4072

mcastage@mcachicago.org

Museum hours

Tuesday: 10 am–8 pm

Wednesday–Sunday: 10 am–5 pm

Closed Mondays, Thanksgiving,
Christmas, and New Year's Day