

Conference of the Birds



Conference of the Birds is an evening-length movement theater work created by an ensemble of artists from across the globe, inspired by the epic poem of Farid Ud din Attar, and incorporating stories gathered from modern-day refugees and other migrants. These stories are told through a hybrid language of dance, projection and sound, creating a four-dimensional world that we inhabit together for 70 minutes.

Choreography: Wendy Jehlen (US)

Music: Shaw Pong Liu (US)

Shaho Andalibi (Iran/Canada)

Sandy Singh (India)

Projection Design: David Bengali (US)

Calligraphy: Pouya Jahanshahi (Iran/US)

Light Design: Anika Nayak (US/India)

Ensemble:

Ibrahim Abdo (Egypt)

Luciane Ramos da Silva (Brazil)

Yasin Anar (Turkey)

Sarveshan Gangen (South Africa/India)

Ching-I Chang (Taiwan/US)

Danang Pamungkas (Indonesia)

Marcel Gbeffa (Benin/France)

Yousef Sbieh (Palestine/Denmark)

performances to date:

Boston Center for the Arts, MA

Dance Place, DC

Mahaney Center for the Arts, VT

Bharat Rang Mahotsav International Theater
Festival, India

Ubumuntu Arts Festival, Rwanda

Ramallah Contemporary Dance Festival, Palestine

Infecting the City Festival, South Africa

KINANI Festival, Mozambique

coming up:

Arrow Street Arts, Cambridge, MA

Journées Chorégraphiques de Carthage, Tunisia

“a new contemporary language – muscular, luxuriously weighted and full-bodied, chockful of gestural flourishes, and kinetically courageous.” *The Boston Globe*

“an experience we all hope for when we enter a theatre, one that takes us on an emotional and visceral journey that can shift the imprints in our core.” *Asian Age, India*

“courageous choreography”
Festival Diary, New Delhi, India

“a conscious study at all levels that embraced Sufism with multimedia arms...Love was constantly present, whether in a mystical or contemporary performance language, as an anti-authoritarian act, an act against racism and against false integrity.” *Palestine Cultural Platform*



Migrations, a companion project to Conference of the Birds, is created locally in workshops and can be performed by 20-40 community members. Migrations is a celebration of our gathering together, our confluences, our crossings of borders and boundaries. Migrations has been created and performed in Boston and Cambridge, MA; Providence, RI; New York City; Washington, DC; Beijing, China; Maputo, Mozambique; Ramallah, Palestine; Cape Town, South Africa; and Kigali, Rwanda.

More info and contact:



Tour support: ANIKAYA has secured funding to support international airfare for US touring.

ANIKAYA has received support for *Conference of the Birds* and our other programs from **US embassies** and from the **Arts Envoy** program.

Visas: ANIKAYA has decades of experience securing visas for our international artists to come to the US and to travel to countries around the world.

All of our artists have P1B artist visas sponsored by ANIKAYA.

