



“My creation is a reflection of the process of embracing the unity of mind, body, emotion, and spiritual being. Working in the tradition of dance, my work has been an attempt to share with others the ideas, experiences, and emotions I have witnessed within my own cultural identity and history.”
-Sashar Zarif

CHOREOGRAPHIES OF MIGRATION (75 Minutes)

A beautiful collection of distinct, yet inter-connected moments from the past in search of the future...

Through this quartet of works, Zarif presents a very personal vernacular. From a pastiche of languages, cultures and movement, he creates a unique contemporary style and a fresh way of communicating using traditional Central Asian, Near Eastern and Western dance forms. Zarif's sense of displacement underlies *Choreographies of Migration*. Born into an immigrant family in Tehran, moving through India, Turkey, and other countries before arriving in Canada, he compels us to examine the various and often complicated relationships that inform ideas of home, identity and self. Each piece represents a different period of awareness and growth in his journey from Iran to Canada; each borrows from different stops in his physical and spiritual odyssey that saw him survive revolution, war and refugee camps.

- 1) **Cry of Leyla** - Remembering the whispers and memories of childhood.
- 2) **Najva** - A midnight prayer in nature.
- 3) **ANAR** - The cruelty of darkness. In memory of Azarmidokht.
- 4) **Life is The Feeling of A Migrating Bird** - Disconnected sense of fulfillment decorated with good and bad memories.

Choreography and Concepts: Sashar Zarif
Music: Sashar Zarif, Fargana Qaimova, Alizadeh, Hamidi, Jahangiri
Original Lighting Design: Arun Srinivasan
Costume Design: Sashar Zarif
Performers: Four to five dancers

Setup and Running Times:

- approx 6hr load in and level settings
- approx 2hr dancer rehearsal
- one hour break prior to performance
- 75min running time with intermission

General Venue Requirements:

- Minimum 18'x18' performance area
- Minimum 12' grid height
- Black dance floor
- White cyclorama (optional)
- Projector setup capabilities (projector supplied by artists)
- Warm and clean dressing rooms

Lights and Sound:

- House plots and sound plots to be forwarded to SZDT asap for planning

Props/Set:

All sets and props travel with SZDT and are free-standing, not require rigging from the grid.

Special Notes:

- Most SZDT programs can be adapted to suit the needs and realities of all venues. SZDT works closely with all interested parties to ensure the optimal performance opportunity is realized.
- SZDT promotes community engagement opportunities and welcomes using local participants to perform in larger group production.