

## SZDT - TOUR PRODUCTIONS

**SASHAR  
ZARIF  
DANCE  
THEATRE**



*“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

### **SAMA-E RAST**

**(75 Minutes)**

*An unprecedented, multi-layered evening of dance and music connected to the mystic traditions of Azerbaijan, Iran, the Middle East and Central Asia... The Dance of Mugham is the Sufi-Shamanic art of spirit that exists in and out of the physical realm.*

*Sama-e Rast* represents a mystical journey of man's spiritual ascent through mind and love to self-discovery in the dance style of Mugham. Centuries ago, Mugham was an integrated practice that brought poetry, music, and dance together to represent seven unique psychological moods. Over the years, the connection between the poetry and music disappeared and the dance element deteriorated such that only traces of it exist today. In *Sama-e Rast*, walking on the vulnerable edge of emotions, Sashar Zarif, in an extraordinary collaboration with internationally acclaimed Alim Qasimov and his Ensemble. The piece passionately reintegrates dance back into the art form, the result of eight years of collaboration between these unparalleled artists to reincarnate this lost artistic practice. Program includes presentation of 20 minute documentary film.

*Choreography and Performance: Sashar Zarif  
Creative Collaborator; Composition and Musician: Alim Qasimov  
Creative Facilitator: Elizabeth Langley  
Original Lighting Design: Arun Srinivasan  
Projection and Costume Design: Sashar Zarif*

**Performance Option A** - One performer (singing and dancing)

**Performance Option B** - One performer dancing with live musicians

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 or equivalent
- 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 requiring 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.