Mid Atlantic Tours FY24 Artist Roster

Touring period: July 1, 2023- June 30, 2024

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Calpulli Mexican Dance Company (New York)

*Dance & Storytelling*

*Photo: Stefanie Delgado*

**Website:** [https://calpullidance.org/](https://calpullidance.org/)

**Media:** [https://vimeo.com/364415857/522898084d](https://vimeo.com/364415857/522898084d); [https://vimeo.com/188145165](https://vimeo.com/188145165)

**Estimated fee range:** $10,000-$15,000 plus travel/housing (or $15,000-$20,000 inclusive)

**Tour Manager contact information:**

Name: Leigh Ann Gann, Company Manager

Email: [lgann@calpullidance.org](mailto:lgann@calpullidance.org)

**Bio:**

Founded in 2003 in NYC, Calpulli Mexican Dance Company celebrates the rich diversity of Mexican and Mexican-American cultural heritage through dance-based programming that includes live music. Calpulli produces professional performances, arts-in-education programming, and community outreach activities that are free or low-cost and target the underserved Mexican communities.

Calpulli provides a home for artists and audiences to explore a range of themes through a Mexican lens at a time when Mexican voices are silenced by racism, classism, and politically motivated social policy. We are Mexican-led; most board, staff and artists are from Mexican &
Latino communities; we also do business as Calpulli Danza Mexicana, and present our programs in Spanish and English. With each new production Calpulli gives voice to the Mexican diaspora, prioritizing collaboration with Mexican or Mexican-American choreographers, set-designers, and composers to reflect the breadth and beauty of our community.

We share Mexican culture with audiences that are diverse, including dance enthusiasts and immigrant families who attend performances and community classes in large numbers. We reach thousands through performance and education programs and have been recognized by the New York Times and other press, by presenters in NYC and around the US, and increasingly by funders including NEFA, Howard Gilman Foundation, and Harkness Foundation for Dance.

**Project description:**

Calpulli Mexican Dance Company offers two full-length dance theater productions for touring, both of which are linked to well-known Mexican cultural events. The two seasonal productions we propose are *Dia de los Muertos* (Day of the Dead), which celebrates a prominent Fall holiday, and *Puebla: The Story of Cinco de Mayo*, which attracts interest throughout the springtime. The seasonal nature of each story would allow for us to take advantage of the full year for touring. Each production features a cast of approximately 14 to 18 dancers and 6 to 7 musicians who add a richness and depth to our performances.

After more than a decade presenting regional repertoire, we began to explore ways to connect more deeply with audiences of all backgrounds, and created our first full-length, narrative-based works. We began by drawing on aspects of Mexican culture, history and identity, and our first attempts were both popular and critically recognized works about traditional Mexican wedding customs with *Boda Mexicana*, 2017 and day of the dead traditions, *Dia de los Muertos*, 2018. In 2019, we debuted two new works *Puebla: The Story of Cinco de Mayo* and *Navidad: A Mexican-American Christmas*, both based on existing stories. These works reveal Calpulli’s maturation into sophisticated storytelling featuring folk and other dance forms, live music, spectacular wardrobe, and arresting scenic and lighting design.

**Dia de los Muertos** centers around two lovers, Lupita and Raul, who are adored by their fellow townsfolk. While they prepare for dia de los muertos festivities, a town aristocrat, Maximiliano, plots to win Lupita for himself. In a tragic twist of fate, a poison intended for Raul lands in Lupita's hands and she transitions into the world of the dead where La Catrina is Queen and glorious individuals dance in a world of merriment. To La Catrina’s surprise, Lupita is melancholic at the memory of Raul. Taking pity on her, La Catrina allows Lupita one final dance with Raul in the world of the living. The program features folk dance and music from the Mexican regions of la Huasteca, Jalisco, Michoacan, and Nayarit, as well as classical and contemporary dance and music. The story reflects a universal need to honor and remember those who have gone before us, and allows Calpulli to explore the significance of this glorious and colorful Mexican ritual that is a syncretism of pre-Columbian and Catholic rites, and which has become culturally significant in the USA. Our aim is that the show will inspire audiences of all backgrounds to feel a message of hope and connection, while at the same time creating new appreciation of the folk dances and customs that help tell the story.
*Puebla: The Story of Cinco de Mayo* tells the story of the battle of Puebla, which marked a turning point in Mexico’s history, when the people of Puebla defeated what was then the world’s strongest army, that of the French Empire, on May 5th, 1862. In Mexico, this is commemorated primarily as a military event, where in the US it is often confused with Independence Day (Sept 16) and celebrated with Mexican beer, sombreros, and nachos. Through this show, Calpulli shares the real history and cultures associated with the event with audiences. This work features music, dance, and costuming from the many cultures of the state of Puebla, including the indigenous groups whose presence there predates the arrival of the Spanish, and to a lesser extent the French and noted political figures who played a role in the history. Calpulli’s Artistic Director, Alberto Lopez, a Puebla-native, imbues the story with images, textiles, and their textures informed by his upbringing in the area. This is supplemented by Calpulli’s extensive research into the complex history of this battle.
DuPont Brass (Washington, DC)

Music

Photo: Erica L. Blake, IG: @ericalblake

Website: dupontbrass.com

Media:

Owe Me A Party @ The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
Let's Go by DuPont Brass @ The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

Estimated fee range: Fee: $6,500-9,000 + transportation, lodging, and backline (rider)

Tour Manager contact information:

Name: Brent Gossett
Email: dupontbrass@gmail.com

Bio:

DuPont Brass is a unique, soulful, brass ensemble hailing from the D.C. Metropolitan Area. Originally composed of five music majors from Howard University trying to raise money for tuition during the Christmas season, they have now grown to a 9-piece ensemble consisting of brass, a rhythm section, and vocalists. Gaining popularity from playing at local Metro stations, DuPont Brass started out professionally playing for weddings, banquets, and other private events in the surrounding area. Thanks to the foundation laid in their earlier years, DuPont Brass has had the opportunity to perform in conjunction with the D.C. Jazz Festival, The Washington Performing Arts Society, and on the prestigious Kennedy Center Millennium Stage.
Consistently touching the hearts of the community with their heartwarming testimony, DuPont Brass has been featured on WPFW's “Live at Five” three times and featured in the Washington Post Newspaper five times. Through their training in both classical and contemporary styles, the rising supergroup has developed a sound that mixes varied genres of music, including jazz, hip-hop, and R&B. In their latest effort, Music Education, DuPont Brass shows us why they are qualified to excel in both the education and performance arenas of the music industry. Filled with a diverse arsenal of musical styles, they present a body of work made with every kind of listener in mind.

**Project description:**

The engagement activities that we would tour with would include a 60-75 min live concert, and a 30-45 minute workshop from our educational curriculum that has a variety of options to engage audiences from childhood to adulthood.

Our engagement activities include the following:

**Live Interactive Performances**
- Full Band EXP: Ages 8+
- NOLA Secondline: Ages 4-14
- Instrumental Petting Zoo: Ages 4-8
- Watch the Beat Build: Ages 8+

**Workshops**
- Business
- Theory
- Production
- Improvisation
- Stage Presence
- Interviews

For more detailed information regarding our “Ed. Series” please visit the webpage below.

[DuPont Brass Education Curriculum](#)

[Stage Plot, Input List, & Rider](#)
From China to Appalachia: Cathy Fink & Marcy Marxer with Chao Tian (Maryland)

Music: world music, multi-genre roots music

Photo: courtesy of the artists

Website: https://www.cathymarcy.com/from-china-to-appalachia

Media: Live from Ashe County Arts Council

Dark Eyes, jazz on ukulele, guitar, yanqin: https://youtu.be/sSpl4yyWwrk

Ruby: Appalachian repertoire, vocal with gourd banjo, dumbek, yanqin: https://youtu.be/SmBvmTSbiDE

August Flower, Traditional Chinese Folk Melody (yanqin, banjo, guitar): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Du0ixRr0iQ

Estimated fee range: $3500-$5000

Tour Manager contact information:

Name: Cathy Fink
Email: cfrink@mindspring.com

Bio:

GRAMMY Award winning American Roots artists Cathy Fink & Marcy Marxer join with Chinese classical hammered dulcimer player Chao Tian in a show that combines music from China to
Appalachia and beyond. Instrumentation includes yangqin (Chinese hammered dulcimer), gourd banjo, five-string banjo, ukulele, guitars, dombek, cello-banjo and mandolin. Songs are both in English and in Chinese.

The group’s repertoire includes traditional Chinese and Appalachian music as well as contemporary and traditional music from around the world. Unusual combinations explore new arrangements to old music, such as “Dark Eyes” where ukulele, yangqin and guitar create a new pallet for this Russian folk song turned jazz manouche tune. Cathy and Marcy join Chao in singing a Chinese lullaby, “Nani Wan” and Chao easily adds her love of American Old-Time music to fiddle tunes and songs.

From China to Appalachia was borne of a friendship and mutual love of musical exploration experienced in jam sessions that inspired a show speaking to the power of music to connect cultures.

Classically trained since the age of five, Chao Tian spent years working as an instructor and the director of the Arts Education Center at Beijing Language and Culture University (BLCU). She is a founding member of BLCU Arts College’s music department and has been appointed as an officer of the International Culture Exchange Program in 2019. Chao has performed in over 30 different countries and regions across the globe and collaborated with numerous talented musicians in many unprecedented projects. In 2015, she was accepted into the prestigious Artist in Residence program at the Music Center at Strathmore, where she met Cathy Fink. Cathy has served as a mentor-in-residence in that program for fifteen years.

TWO-TIME GRAMMY® Award Winners, Cathy Fink & Marcy Marxer Marxer are master musicians with a career spanning 40 years. Their superb harmonies are backed by instrumental virtuosity on the guitar, five-string banjo, ukulele, mandolin, cello-banjo, and more. Their repertoire ranges from classic country to western swing, gypsy jazz to bluegrass, and old-time string band to contemporary folk (including some original gems). Cathy & Marcy have performed at hundreds of bluegrass and folk festivals and taught at close to 100 music camps worldwide. Happily known as “social music conductors” ready to start a jam session, a community sing, or create a music camp helping others learn to play and sing, the duo’s past students include Kaki King and Rhiannon Giddens.

Together, Cathy, Marcy and Chao have performed at the Music Center at Strathmore (MD), the Ashe County Arts Council (NC), Common Ground on the Hill (MD), Amp by Strathmore (MD) and Takoma Ranch (DC).

**Project description:**

From China to Appalachia Artist Engagement Activities

Concert- various lengths from 30 minutes to full evening of two 45-50 minute sets with intermission
Workshops- We are able to work with music students in schools and after school settings talking about our wise array of instruments, techniques used and their history. By example, Ashe Co., NC, we worked with music students from the Junior Appalachian Musicians program giving a demo of our instruments, teaching a tune to play together and then playing music together.

Schools/Community Children’s Concert- School, library or community settings. Interactive shows that entertain and educate, sharing cultures and musical joy.

Outreach Events- We offer outreach concerts and events for senior facilities and other community groups unable to travel to an arts venue.

Master Class- We offer a master class in the collaborative process of finding the common ground in our music and creating arrangements. For middle school students through college.
Jerron Herman (New York)

*Dance*

*Photo: Maria Baranova.*

*Website:* [jerronherman.com](http://jerronherman.com)

*Media:* [VITRUVIAN Trailer & Info Deck](#)

*Estimated fee range:* $5,500 - $7,500 + travel

*Tour Manager contact information:*

  Name: Candace I Feldman
  
  Email: [queenc@interimcorp.art](mailto:queenc@interimcorp.art)

*Bio:*

Jerron Herman is a disabled dancer and writer who creates works to facilitate welcoming. He currently serves on the Board of Trustees at Dance/USA and regularly writes on art and culture. His play, 3 Bodies, was published in Theater Magazine June 2022 issue. Jerron also curated the series "Access Check 2.0" at the Shelley & Donald Rubin Foundation (2019-2020) and "Discourse: Disabled Artists at the Joyce" for The Joyce Theater (2021). His awards include a 2020 Disability Futures Fellowship, made possible by the Andrew W. Mellon and Ford Foundations respectively; the Grants to Artists Award from the Foundation for Contemporary Arts and a Jerome Hill Artist Fellowship from the Jerome Foundation, both in 2021.
Project Description:

Hailed by the Brooklyn Rail as “a triumph of intention and reinvention, centering disability and celebrating Herman’s rebirth as his own divine form”, VITRUVIAN shares an allegorical tale of the life cycle of the Vitruvian man as he traverses multiple hemispheres, now in the embodiment of a Disabled Black man. Based on Da Vinci’s famous sketch, the piece explores the ways natural phenomena and history enter and live in the body. VITRUVIAN has been featured on NY1 and CBS New York as a show to see. The full evening was commissioned by Abrons Arts Center and developed during artistic and scholastic residencies at the Petronio Residency Center and Georgetown University. Other presentations have included a site specific interpretation at Governor's Island and virtual showings for the Passport Program at Lincoln Center as well as a month-long screening season at Abrons Arts Center. VITRUVIAN was archived into the Jerome Robbins Dance Division at the New York Public Library of Performing Arts following its premiere.

Community engagement activity options: click here

Download tech rider
The Legendary Ingramettes (Virginia)

Gospel

Photo: Pat Jarrett/ Virginia Humanities

Website: https://legendaryingramettes.com/

Media:

- Take a Look In the Book (Released 2020) https://soundcloud.com/thelegendaryingramettes
- Until I Die (Live) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J3SlaTNZ0DM
- Take A Look In the Book (Live) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C79BS_TEDXA
- I’ve Endured (Accaepella with piano, live 2022) https://youtu.be/_gz950fvM5M
- I Have a Dream (Conversation and performance from community engagement event on gospel and the Civil Rights movement) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zhUndDQqgaY
- Electronic Press Kit https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_1Qx6iVEoxGEC2t-u2FZZpOsEMntmVUa/view?usp=sharing

Note: The group is a 2022 recipient of the prestigious National Endowment for the Arts National Heritage Fellowship https://www.arts.gov/honors/heritage/legendary-ingramettes
**Fee Range:** $7,500,00 -$10,000.00 plus Production/Accommodation/Hospitality and Local Ground Transportation (where needed)

**Tour Manager contact information:**

Name: David Gaar, FreshenUp Arts

Email: david@freshenuparts.com

**Bio:**
Six decades of music, sixty-five years of song, generations tied together through the force of will of a matriarchy of powerful Black women. This is female-fronted gospel group The Legendary Ingramettes, founded by the late Maggie Ingram as a way to keep her family together through hardship. Maggie’s eldest daughter Reverend Almeta Ingram-Miller now leads this scintillating group that puts roof-raising harmonies front and center with a sound that reaches up to the heavens. Crowned Richmond, Virginia's "First Family of Gospel Music," The Legendary Ingramettes bring explosive energy and powerful vocals backed by a rock-solid house-shaking rhythm section that moves the body and the spirit.

**Project description:**
The Legendary Ingramettes tour with a front line of singers (3-4) plus a full backing band (drums, keys, bass, guitar). While their music is rooted in the church, they have a history of sharing their music to non-religious audiences or audiences from different spiritual backgrounds.

The group has six decades of community work behind them through service and song. They are adept at educational and community workshops. Their program “How I Got Over” connects the Ingram family story and music with the Civil Rights movement, including their involvement with Oliver Hill Sr., the Virginia attorney who led the team that won Brown v. Board of Education, the seminal Supreme Court case that led to the desegregation of American public schools.
Martha Redbone (New York)

*Americana/ Roots*

*Photo: Will Maupin*

**Website:** [https://sroartists.com/artists/martharedbone/](https://sroartists.com/artists/martharedbone/)

**Media:**

ROOTS PROJECT VIDEO: [https://youtu.be/a10Zu1M_7C8](https://youtu.be/a10Zu1M_7C8)

BONE HILL VIDEO: [https://youtu.be/8X00unC44I4](https://youtu.be/8X00unC44I4)

**Estimated fee range:**

ROOTS PROJECT: $5,000 – $7,500, plus Lodging (Quintet: four rooms; Quartet: three rooms; Two rooms), plus Backline (see tech rider)

BONE HILL: $12,500 – $15,000, plus Lodging (seven rooms), plus Backline (see tech rider)

**Tour Manager contact information:**

Name: Bill Marquardt

Email: bill@sroartists.com

**Bio:**

Native & African-American vocalist/songwriter/composer/educator, Martha Redbone, is known for her unique gumbo of folk, blues, and gospel from her childhood in Harlan County, Kentucky infused with the eclectic grit of pre-gentrified Brooklyn. Inheriting the powerful vocal range of
her gospel-singing African American father and the resilient spirit of her mother’s Cherokee/Shawnee/Choctaw culture, Redbone broadens the boundaries of American Roots music. With songs and storytelling that share her life experience as a Native and Black woman and mother in the new millennium, Redbone gives voice to issues of social justice, bridging traditions from past to present, connecting cultures, and celebrating the human spirit. Her album The Garden of Love- Songs of William Blake, produced by Nitty Gritty Dirt Band founder/Grammy Winner John McEuen is an unexpected twist — "a brilliant collision of cultures" (The New Yorker) — Redbone’s magnificent voice, Blake’s immortal words, and a masterful cornucopia of roots music (blues, gospel, bluegrass, soul and traditional Southeastern Woodlands). Featured on All Things Considered the album released on her own imprint Blackfeet Productions rose to the Top Ten on Amazon Folk Charts for many weeks and has become the bedrock of her live shows bringing audiences to their feet with her fiery old time mountain gospel singing and foot-stomping energy. Redbone and her long-term collaborator/husband, composer/pianist/producer Aaron Whitby are called "the little engine that could [by their] band of NYC’s finest blues and jazz musicians" (Larry Blumenthal/Wall Street Journal). From grassroots beginnings at powwows across Indian Country and in the underground clubs of NYC Redbone has built a passionate fan base with her mesmerizing presence and explosive live shows. Her debut Home of the Brave — "Stunning album, the kind of woman who sets trends" (Billboard) — garnered extremely positive critical attention while her sophomore album Skintalk — described as the soulful sound of "Earth, Wind and Fire on the Rez" (J Poet, Native Peoples Magazine — took her music to Europe and the Far East. Albums Skintalk and The Garden of Love: Songs of William Blake are recognized in the Library Collection and "Up Where We Belong: Native Musicians in Popular Culture" exhibits in the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian in Washington DC. Redbone is Composer for the Public Theater’s 2019 production of For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/ When the Rainbow is Enuff, a revival/re-imagining of the 1976 classic choreopoem by the late Ntozake Shange. Redbone joined the all women-of-color Creative Team to celebrate the author’s historical work and legacy, and enjoyed a 4-week extended run through December that received rave reviews with notable mentions for their team's original compositions and score — "supreme music...brilliant" (NY Daily News).

**Project description:**

ROOTS PROJECT, an acoustic ensemble led by Martha Redbone on vocals and hand percussion, Aaron Whitby on piano and keyboard, plus one to five additional band members on acoustic guitar, strings, drums, and vocals. MRRP perform a range of folk, country, Piedmont blues, gospel, bluegrass, soul, and traditional American Indian music, including selections from: THE GARDEN OF LOVE–SONGS OF WILLIAM BLAKE, “A brilliant collision of cultures,” lauded the New Yorker of Martha’s magnificent voice, Blake’s immortal words and a masterful cornucopia of roots music, and SKINTALK, recognized as an example of Contemporary Native American music in the Permanent Library Collection at the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian.
BONE HILL, an interdisciplinary musical theater work inspired by the lives of Redbone’s family in the hills of coal-mining Appalachia. A multi-racial Cherokee and African American family, they are permanently bonded to their culture, identity, and the mountain despite its violent past and the ever-changing laws of the land that threaten to extinguish them. Commissioned by Joe’s Pub/NEA and Lincoln Center for the Arts, Bone Hill – The Concert is touring extensively nationwide and is a recipient of the NEFA National Theater Project Creation and Touring Grant and National Performance Network Creation Fund.

Community Engagement:

ACTIVITIES: Residencies, Workshops, Master Classes, School Programming, Lectures/Speakers
OVERVIEW: Fellow of the Native Arts and Cultures Foundation, Martha Redbone offers a plethora of outreach activities, especially for youth. For example, Martha helped curate the Native American session of Carnegie Hall’s youth K-2 music program MUSICAL EXPLORERS. Martha also offers historical and motivational lectures covering topics, including Native American and Indigenous rights, arts in politics, and her leadership experience with organizations like Man Up Campaign (global youth movement to eradicate violence against women).

DETAILS: https://sroartists.com/artists/bonehill/#outreach

Tech Rider: Upon request
