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S.F. Fresh Meat Festival continues to push boundaries

By **Claudia Bauer** June 12, 2018



Ballroom dancers Robbie Tristan and Ernesto Palma will perform.

Photo: Kegan Marling

Summer brings an abundance of festivals to the Bay Area, but few are likely to top the 17th annual Fresh Meat Festival for boundary-pushing performance.

The Sean Dorsey-helmed event, which runs Thursday-Saturday, June 14-16, at Z Space, celebrates queer and trans dance, music and theater with a dazzling array of artists and ideas. Among the acts on the bill are world-champion same-sex ballroom champions Robbie Tristan and Ernesto Palma, the spoken word of trans mestiza “monster queen” Elena Rose, and singer-songwriter Blackberri.

And those who love rock opera will want to be there Thursday and Friday nights for “The Red Shades,” a superhero concert-musical showcasing queer and trans artists of color. The show is set in mid-’60s San Francisco.

Friday includes ASL interpretation, and every night ends with an after-party.

More Information

17th Fresh Meat Festival: 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, June 14-16. \$10-\$50. Z Space, 762 Fulton St., S.F. 415-800-7943. www.pushdance.org/festival

— *Claudia Bauer*