

RIVER TO RIVER



Friday, June 19 at 3:00 pm
Sunday, June 21 at 3:00 pm
Monday, June 22 at 3:00 pm
at Pier 15

WELCOME TO DANCE MY LIFE

Inspired by the contrast in the paces of life between his native home of Burkina Faso and his adopted home of New York City, Souleymane Badolo's *Dance my life* is a celebration that crosses boundaries to highlight the similarities of what we all experience. In the fast-paced world of the present, there is a sense of urgency to accomplish as much as possible as fast as possible. Yet, people everywhere still feel and think about many of the same things - including work, family, prayer, joy, and sadness. This commonality of the human experience is at the center of *Dance my life*.

For River To River, the East River backdrop at Pier 15 is an ideal setting for a dance that celebrates our shared similarities in life experiences that we all feel.

ABOUT SOULEYMANE BADOLO

Souleymane 'Solo' Badolo is a Brooklyn-based choreographer and dancer born in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. He started his professional career as a dancer for DAMA, a traditional African dance company. In 1993, he founded his own Burkina Faso-based troupe, Kongo Ba Téria, which fuses traditional African dances with western contemporary dance and continues to tour internationally. Badolo has danced with world-renowned contemporary African dance company Salia ni Seydou, worked with French choreographers Elsa Wolliaaston and Mathilde Monnier, and performed with the National Ballet of Burkina. Badolo and Kongo Ba Téria were featured in the widely-screened documentary, *Movement (R)evolution Africa*, that illustrated the continent's emergent experimental dance scene. Since moving to New York City in 2009, Badolo has created a number of solo projects commissioned and presented by Danspace, New York Live Arts, Dance New Amsterdam, Harlem Stage, the 92nd Street Y, the Museum of Art & Design, and the *River To River Festival* presented by the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council. Badolo was commissioned to create a dance for Philadanco as part of *James Brown: Get on the Good Foot*, produced by The Apollo Theater for presentation there in October 2013, followed by national and international touring dates.

He has collaborated with Nora Chipaumire, Ralph Lemon, Reggie Wilson, and Jawole Willa Jo Zollar of Urban Bush Women. The Suitcase Fund of New York Live Arts has supported his ongoing research in Africa. Badolo was nominated for a Bessie Award as Outstanding Emerging Choreographer (2011) and in 2012, received the Juried Bessie Award (from jurists Lar Lubovitch, Yvonne Rainer and Jawole Willa Jo Zollar). He is a recipient of Wesleyan University's Mariam McGlone Emerging Choreographer Award (2014).

He was an artist-in-residence at the Institute for Curatorial Practice and Performance at Wesleyan University (2013), Mount Tremper Arts (2013) and Lower Manhattan Cultural Council's Process Space program (2013). Badolo is currently an artist-in-residence in Lower Manhattan Cultural Council's *Extended Life Dance Development* program (2013-2016).

He graduated from Bennington College with an M.F.A. in June 2013. He has since been a guest instructor at The New School (2014) and Denison University (2015).

PROJECT SUPPORT

Dance my life was developed as part of Lower Manhattan Cultural Council's *Extended Life Dance Development* program made possible in part by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

During River To River, you can enjoy a **25% discount** from the following Merchants Hospitality establishments by mentioning "River To River" between June 18-28, 2015: **The Black Hound, Clinton Hall, Industry Kitchen, Merchants River House, Pound & Pence, SouthWestNY, Watermark**

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Learn more about *River To River* at RiverToRiverNYC.com

Join the conversation on Twitter @LMCC, like us on [Facebook.com/LMCCNYC](https://www.facebook.com/LMCCNYC) and share with us on Instagram @LMCC_NYC

Make sure you use the hashtag #R2R15 so that we can follow along!

ABOUT RIVER TO RIVER

The annual River To River Festival is June 18-28 in Lower Manhattan and on Governors Island!

Over 11 days, River To River offers more than 60 **live events and happenings**, all of which are free to the public. As a festival goer, you can attend dance and music performances, **socialize** with festival artists and art lovers during our R2R Living Room events, and **learn** more about the creative processes of artists during our Open Studios events.

To learn more about River To River, visit RiverToRiverNYC.com.

SUPPORT LMCC

LMCC works in partnership with artists, individuals, local organizations, and civic, corporate, and cultural leaders to build vibrant communities that are at the forefront of arts and culture. Together, we foster artistic growth and long-term sustainability that invigorate our diverse neighborhoods downtown and reach communities throughout Manhattan and the wider NYC metro region.

JOIN OUR ROBUST NETWORK of individuals from across the business and cultural sectors who share a passion for both the arts and the growing community in Lower Manhattan. Find out more about ways to become a donor, a volunteer, or a sponsor, as well as how to support the artists working in our programs by attending a special event by visiting LMCC.net/support/

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Additional support has been provided by Ameriprise Financial, Con Edison, Mertz Gilmore Foundation, National Parks Service, NYC Department of Parks & Recreation, NYC Department of Transportation, and Trinity Wall Street.

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