

## Firebird by Nejla Yarkin



German/American/Turkish choreographer Nejla Yarkin will surprise Gala attendees as Firebird/Phoenix in the beautiful Dank Haus Märchenwald on May 6th. In many myths and cultures, the Firebird/Phoenix is a messenger of hope, purifying the land and sea, bestowing fertility wherever it lands. In addition, the mythical creature represents the union between the Earth and the Sky serving as the mediator and messenger between the two.

Also look out for the month of June and July 2023, Choreographer Nejla Yarkin will surprise park visitors as Firebird/Phoenix in 15 different Chicago Parks parks to celebrate the return of summer.

### **Bio for Nejla Yarkin (Performer/Choreographer):**

Described by The New York Times as "a magician, telling tales and creating worlds" and "a fierce and supple performer," Chicago-based choreographer Nejla Yarkin travels the globe inspiring empathic connections between people and their environments. She creates solos, choreographs ensemble dances for stages and sites, collaborates on plays and film/ video projects, and educates young artists. Nejla hails from Germany; her artistic lineage enfolds European dance- theatre, American Modern Dance, African-American modern dance, and numerous international influences. She is the recipient of awards from the Princess Grace Foundation, the National Performance Network, 3Arts and the Baryshnikov Arts Center, among others. Most recently she was awarded the **2023 Guggenheim Fellowship** and the 2022 DCASE Esteemed Artist Award. For more info visit [www.ny2dance.com](http://www.ny2dance.com)