AMERICAN REALNESS IS DEAD LONG LIVE **MERICAN**

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AMERICAN REALNESS 2015

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Welcome to American Realness 2015!

Thank you for being here - again, or for the first time! This is the sixth edition of American Realness and I am excited as ever to be presenting it in partnership with the Abrons Arts Center. I must start by saying a huge thank you to Jay Wegman for taking this project on and helping to make it happen each year. Another huge thank you to the more than two hundred and fifty of you who have already gotten the 2015 festival going by becoming Members of the House of Realness! I am so grateful for your support and truly couldn't make this happen without you.

Featuring artists from across the US with a concentration of New York makers and a small selection of international artists, American Realness 2015 includes: four world premieres from Keith Hennessy, Miguel Gutierrez, Jack Ferver and Anne Imhof (presented by MoMA PS1); three North American premiers from Ivo Dimchev, Florentina

Holzinger & Vincent Riebeek and Jeremy Wade (co-presented with Goethe-Institut New York); two New York premieres from Tere O'Connor and Michelle Ellsworth; two theatrical premieres from luciana achugar and Tere O'Connor; the avant-premiere of Simone Aughterlony, Antonija Livingstone, & Hahn Rowe's Supernatural; and seven encore engagements from Miguel Gutierrez (co-presented with Gibney Dance), Karen Sherman, Cynthia Hopkins, The Ballez, Liz Santoro & Pierre Godard, My Barbarian, and Dynasty Handbag. The festival additionally includes the North American premiere of Neal Medlyn's Pop Star Series, The 2015 Emerald Edition, which presents pared down versions of the seven performance works inspired by Lionel Richie, Phil Collins, Prince, Britney Spears, Miley Cyrus, Insane Clown Posse and Michael Jackson, that comprise Medlyn's epic Pop Star Series. It is another jam-packed program with lots of must-see events! I recommend purchasing the festival pass, which includes a ticket to 6 AR 2015 performances at the Abrons Arts Center for \$100!

American Realness wouldn't be complete without a party, so AR 2015 features two! An opening night reception for Members of the House of Realness and a blow-out festival bash, *REALNESS – A Night of Dance Art*, presented by Susanne Bartsch and Zurich-based party KUNT organized by Marc Streit and Lukas Beyeler.

Because I know you all love a good conversation, AR 2015 offers a discursive program that includes: *READING*, AR's platform for critical writing; *To Whom it May Concern*, a Movement Research workshop with Claudia La Rocco; a public conversation between choreographers Trajal Harrell and Eiko Otake with President of the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, Sam Miller (presented by MoMA); and *Why Choreography Now?*, a reading, discussion and performance to celebrate the recent publication of *The Choreographic* by Jenn Joy.

Through visceral, visual, and text-based explorations of perception, sensation and attention, the artists of American Realness are exposing issues and questions about identity, form, ritual, death, history, pop-culture, cooperation and the professionalization of art making in an American-focused, globally-minded context. American Realness exposes the cracks in the façade: of the practice of art making; of the construction of contemporary society; of our increasing inability to slow down and really see, hear and think. American Realness is an opportunity to reclaim the reins and rewrite the narratives.

For eleven days in January American Realness inhabits the Abrons Arts Center and offers an opportunity to engage with the present.

Participate. You know you want to.

I'll see you there.

Thomas Benjamin Snapp Pryor Founder, Curator & Producer



PERFORMANCE PARTY DISCOURSE CALENDAR



MIGUEL GUTIERREZ

Age & Beauty Part I: Mid-Career Artist/Suicide Note or &:-/

CO-PRESENTED BY GIBNEY DANCE

THURS JAN 8, 6:00 PM + 8:30 PM Fri Jan 9, 5:30 PM + 7:30 PM . Sat Jan 10, 6:30 PM

RUN TIME: 60 minutes

GIBNEY DANCE: AGNES VARIS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER 280 Broadway (Entrance at 53A Chambers) / tickets \$20 / GibneyDance.org

Age & Beauty Part 1: Mid-Career Artist/Suicide Note or &:-/ is the first of a suite of queer pieces Gutierrez is creating over the course of three years that addresses the representation of the dancer, the physical and emotional labor of performance, tropes about the aging gay choreographer, the interaction of art making with administration, the idea of queer time and futurity, and mid-life anxieties about relevance, sustainability and artistic burnout. Part 1 is a duet for 43-year-old Gutierrez and 24-year-old performer/dancer Mickey Mahar and follows from a packed set of precise unison dances to an irreverent and celebratory corruption of orderliness, suggesting modes of communication and relations where hyper-emotional affect is not only the conceptual and choreographic core of the performance, but also the only hope for continuing in this fucked-up world.

Age & Beauty Part 1: Mid-Career Artist/Suicide Note or &:-/ was commissioned for the 2014 Whitney Biennial and was made possible with support and developmental residencies from the Maggie Allesee National Center for Choreography at Florida State University, the Idomaines[program at Centre Chorégraphique National de Montpellier Languedoc-Roussillon in Montpellier, France and Hollins University in Roanoke, Virginia.

KEITH HENNESSY

Bear/Skin WORLD PREMIERE

THURS JAN 8, 7:00 PM . FRI JAN 9, 8:30 PM SAT JAN 10, 7:00 PM . SUN JAN 11, 2:30 PM

RUN TIME: 65 minutes

ABRONS ARTS CENTER EXPERIMENTAL THEATER 466 Grand Street / tickets \$20 / AbronsArtsCenter.org

Motivated by grand spectacle and ambitious prayer *Bear/Skin* appropriates Nijinsky's choreography for *Le Sacre du Printemps* (1913) to consider Modernism's dependence on appropriations of the indigenous, folk, exotic and oriental to ask questions about ritual and art today.

"There will be a bear dance that has nothing to do with gay bears and everything to do with *Rite of Spring*, teddy bears, the reconstruction of native/folk bear dances, action movies and virgin sacrifice, springtime in the northern hemisphere, the land I grew up on and where my parents are buried, and the land I now live on where my uncle and many others are buried. But it's also about dancing and ritual and appropriation; the struggle between being both settler and indigenous, nomad-refugee and precarious freelancer. Don't expect a lecture or much coherence. Come to heal and be healed or not."—Keith Hennessy

Beat/Skin is produced by Circo Zero with support from the Zellerbach Family Foundaton and San Francisco Grants for the Arts. Project Management by Alec White. Fiscal Sponsorship by CounterPULSE.





KAREN SHERMAN

One with Others

THURS JAN 8, 8:30 PM . FRI JAN 9, 8:30 PM SAT JAN 10, 5:30 PM . SUN JAN 11, 5:30 PM

RUN TIME: 65 minutes

ABRONS ARTS CENTER UNDERGROUND THEATER 466 Grand Street / tickets \$20 / AbronsArtsCenter.org

Dance, words, and scrap wood are the raw materials for *One with* Others, an examination of who we become due to the choices we make – or that others make for us. Crude, handmade wooden appendages - part prop, prosthetic, costume - stand alongside text and choreography to form a trio of jerry-rigged tools that dismantle affinities and art; who we are to each other; and what it means to be seen, handled, used and needed.

One with Others was made possible in part with a research and development residency and co-production support by Vermont Performance Lab with funding support from the New England Foundation for the Art's National Dance Project with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and VPL's Creation Fund donors. The creation and presentation of *One with Others* is supported by the National Endowment for the Arts in cooperation with the New England Foundation for the Arts through the National Dance Project. Major support for NDP is provided by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, with additional support from the Community Connections Fund of the MetLife Foundation. General Operating support was made possible by the New England Foundation for the Arts with funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. NY premiere commissioned and presented by The Chocolate Factory Theater. This project was also made possible through the generous support of The Jerome Foundation, The Map Fund, InRez at Studio 206, the MN State Arts Board, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago / MCA Stage, and many generous individuals. One with Others is a sponsored project of Springboard for the Arts, a nonprofit arts service organization.



IVO DIMCHEV

Fest NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

THURS JAN 8, 10:00 PM . FRI JAN 9, 10:00 PM SUN JAN 11. 10:30 PM

RUN TIME: 60 minutes

ABRONS ARTS CENTER PLAYHOUSE 466 Grand Street / tickets \$20 / AbronsArtsCenter.org

Fest is set in the context of an imaginary festival in Copenhagen. The main characters are the performer Ivo Dimchey, a curator, a technician and a critic. What starts off as a realistic piece soon turns into a fantasy about sex and power.

"One day I just realized how bored I was with the conventionality of my everyday professional communications. So I thought that breaking this convention by creating a fictional story would be a good way to go. Fest tells the story of my going to a festival in Copenhagen to present my solo Som Faves. The performance explores and makes visible the subconscious connections between power and desire in any professional relations. Fest is absolute fiction and is not based on any real personal experience. Let's say it's inspired by some... But mostly it's inspired by my guilty love for Theatre in its more 'conventional' setting."-Ivo Dimchev

Fest was produced by Humarts Foundation and Volksroom Brussels with co-production support from ImPulsTanz, Vienna; Kaaitheater, Brussels; Frascati, Amsterdam. This production of Fest was supported by fund from the Bundeskanzleramt Österreich

BUNDESKANZLERAMT # ÖSTERREICH



CYNTHIA HOPKINS

A Living Documentary

FRI JAN 9, 5:00 PM . SAT JAN 10, 8:30 PM TUES JAN 13, 5:00 PM . WED JAN 14, 8:30 PM SAT JAN 17, 3:00 PM . SUN JAN 18, 5:00 PM

RUN TIME: 90 minutes

ABRONS ARTS CENTER UNDERGROUND THEATER 466 Grand Street / tickets \$20 / AbronsArtsCenter.org

A Living Documentary is a comedic, no-nonsense reflection on the trials and tribulations of earning a living as a professional theater artist in the 21st century. Intertwining elements of musical comedy, documentary, and fiction, Hopkins's newest work intersperses autobiographical storytelling with portrayals of semi-fictional comedic characters, all the while asking myriad questions about the realities of artistic life in New York City.

A Living Documentary was commissioned by New York Live Arts and made possible, in part, by the National Endowment for the Arts (additional support was given by contributors to the Dance Theater Workshop Commissioning Fund at New York Live Arts.) A Living Documentary was developed, in part, through residencies at The Watermill Center (in partnership with New York Live Arts.) Bunker in Slovenia (through the Suitcase Fund); Mount Tremper Arts; and Acadia Summer Arts Program. Some material for this work was developed through showings at the Catch performance series.

FLORENTINA HOLZINGER & VINCENT RIEBEEK

Kein Applaus für Scheisse NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

FRI JAN 9, 5:30 PM . SAT JAN 10, 10:30 PM SUN JAN 11, 9:00 PM

RUN TIME: 60 minutes

ABRONS ARTS CENTER EXPERIMENTAL THEATER 466 Grand Street / tickets \$20 / AbronsArtsCenter.org

"They do it differently. They turn the rules upside down. They don't give a shit about conventional standards. Jesus, if only we could experience this freedom just for one day in our life."

- Evelyne Coussens

In *Kein Applaus für Scheisse*, which translates to *No Applause for Shit*, Florentina Holzinger and Vincent Riebeek flirt with the 1970s performance art canon to explore the limits of possibilities for the stage. The resulting portrait depicts contemporary pop culture's rich tapestry: an intangible mixture of dance, trashy pop, theater, roller-skating, acrobatics and performance. A choreography that constantly risks losing its balance when one of the two performers flagrantly tries to hog the stage for the closing applause.

Kein Applaus für Scheisse was produced by CAMPO (Gent, BE), NONA (Mechelen, BE) with the support of SNDO (Amsterdam, NL). Executive Producer: CAMPO. Performances at American Realness are supported by Flanders House, ICK Amsterdam & CAMPO.









TERE O'CONNOR

Sister NEW YORK PREMIERE

FRI JAN 9, 7:00 PM . SUN JAN II, 4:00 PM

RUN TIME: 35 minutes

ABRONS ARTS CENTER PLAYHOUSE
466 Grand Street / tickets \$20 / AbronsArtsCenter.org

Sister re-embraces an idea first developed by O'Connor in his work Four Sister Dances that premiered at The Kitchen in 1989. "I tried to escape the omnipresence of theme and variation in dance by immersing myself in what I call 'variation and variation.' I looked to sisters as a metaphor for duplication, sameness and difference. I was attempting to validate a different idea regarding 'development' in a dance, one that didn't offer an anchoring point." In Sister, hyper-intricate rhythmic systems provide the chatter between the performers as they are propelled into an increasingly mysterious cascade of events.

Sister was commissioned by the Krannert Art Museum at the University of Illinois and is the third work in Tere O'Connor's BLEED project. BLEED was made possible by the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and additional funding from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the Boeing Company Charitable Trust; The MAP Fund, a program of Creative Capital supported by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation; the Campus Research Board and the Creative Research Board in the School of Fine and Applied Arts at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign; the Maggie Allesee National Center for Choreography at Florida State University; and Bia Tree Productions, Inc.



THE BALLEZ ARTISTIC DIRECTOR KATY PYLE

Variations on Virtuosity, a Gala Performance with the Stars of The Ballez

SAT JAN 10, 2:00 PM . SUN JAN 11, 9:00 PM

RUN TIME: 45 minutes

ABRONS ARTS CENTER UNDERGROUND THEATER 466 Grand Street / tickets \$20 / AbronsArtsCenter.org

The Ballez celebrates the virtuosity of complexly gendered people by choosing the grandiose container of ballet for its presentation. The company celebrates a lineage of dykes and post-modern performance by telling queer/dyke histories inside the framework of classical ballet narratives. Following this tradition, the stars of The Ballez will present *Variations on Virtuosity*, a Gala Performance of excerpts from The Ballez repertoire. Champagne to follow.

Variations on Virtuosity has received creative support from Brooklyn Arts Exchange, Danspace Project in collaboration with The Jerome Foundation, Mount Tremper Arts, Rockbridge Artist's Exchange, and the 259 Kickstarter supporters who produced *The Firebird, a Ballez*.





LIZ SANTORO & PIERRE GODARD

Relative Collider

SAT JAN 10, 4:00 PM . SUN JAN 11, 5:30 PM

RUN TIME: 45 minutes

ABRONS ARTS CENTER EXPERIMENTAL THEATER 466 Grand Street / tickets \$20 / AbronsArtsCenter.org

Relative Collider is a machine offering the opportunity to see, to measure, to quantify, to exchange information between nervous systems; a collision of watching. It calls into question what is exchanged, created, and destroyed in the act of observing in order to understand the physical laws of attention. Relative Collider seeks a point of contact between movement and text, where they each have the sole purpose of their own performance in front of an audience. Atoms subjected to different force fields, recombined into molecules that precipitate or dissolve under the attention of the viewer.

Relative Collider is a coproduction of The Chocolate Factory Theater, Abrons Arts Center, Théâtre de Vanves, L'Atelier de Paris - Carolyn Carlson, with the support of FUSED (French US Exchange in Dance), The Jerome Foundation, DRAC Ile-de-France, Point Ephémère, Centre National de la Danse and ImPulsTanz Festival.

SIMONE AUGHTERLONY, **ANTONIJA LIVINGSTONE** & HAHN ROWE

Supernatural AVANT-PREMIERE

SAT JAN 10. 8:30 PM . SUN JAN 11. 7:00 PM

RUN TIME: 80 minutes

ABRONS ARTS CENTER PLAYHOUSE 466 Grand Street / tickets \$20 / AbronsArtsCenter.org

Observing the Supernatural grants access to a shared kaleidoscopic body. With axes, wood, violin, electronics and the bare body, Simone Aughterlony, Antonija Livingstone and Hahn Rowe stage an inquiry into vibrant matters. Human and non-human actants camp together on a hot-pink terrain under an unblinking fluorescent sky. Supernatural suggests a wilderness that signifies a plurality of agencies without ontological hierarchy. Queer lives encourage the dissolution of normative identity patterns. Supernatural actively chops up the topography of gender perceptions and welcomes the joyful technoconstruction of multiple bodies and pleasures. Is this movement research or fun post-porn practice? Whatever it is, it brings the bodies and companion materials in conversation to know no difference between being excited, being exciting, and being excited with.

Supernatural is produced by Simone Aughterlony / Verein für allgemeines Wohl with co-production support from Gessnerallee Zürich, HAU Hebbel am Ufer Berlin, Künstlerhaus Mousonturm Frankfurt, Theater Freiburg, Supported by the NATIONALES PERFORMANCE NETZ (NPN) Coproduction Fund for Dance, which is funded by the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media on the basis of a decision by the German Bundestag, Stadt Zürich Kultur, Kanton Zürich Fachstelle Kultur and Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia.











TERE O'CONNOR

Undersweet THEATRICAL PREMIERE

MON JAN 12, 5:30 PM . TUES JAN 13, 8:30 PM WED JAN 14, 5:30 PM

RUN TIME: 35 minutes

ABRONS ARTS CENTER EXPERIMENTAL THEATER 466 Grand Street / tickets \$20 / AbronsArtsCenter.org

In *Undersweet*, O'Connor works from the supposition that formalism might result from repressed sexual desire. The work is a choreographic meditation on how this paradox finds expression in dance, or possibly even generates it. O'Connor and his longtime musical partner James Baker will collaborate on the score, weaving excerpts from Jean-Baptiste Lully's Attys in and out of the soundscape. Undersweet was created on and with Michael Ingle and Silas Riener. It premiered in an earlier iteration at the River to River Festival in June 2014.

Undersweet was commissioned by LMCC and presented as part of the River To River Festival 2014. It was developed during an LMCC artist residency as part of their Extended Life Dance Development Program, made possible in part by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Additional support from the Creative Research Fund in the College of Fine and Applied Arts at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign.

MICHELLE ELLSWORTH

Preparation for the Obsolescence of the Y Chromosome NEW YORK PREMIERE

MON JAN 12. 6:30 PM. TUES JAN 13. 8:30 PM WED JAN 14, 5:00 PM

RUN TIME: 50 minutes

ABRONS ARTS CENTER UNDERGROUND THEATER 466 Grand Street / tickets \$20 / AbronsArtsCenter.org

Preparation for the Obsolescence of the Y Chromosome attempts to prepare (both on a micro and macro level) for the end of men. Simultaneously committed to conservation and archival efforts, Ellsworth works in the tradition of folklorist Alan Lomax. Using web technology, replacement apparatus (including a male gaze simulator), choreography (including gratitude-inspired token gestures), and the latest data from the Whitehead Institute at MIT, this work both combats and fuels rumors about the implications of the Y Chromosome's reputed shrinkage.

Preparation for the Obsolescence of the Y Chromosome was commissioned by MCA Denver's Feminism + Co and EcoArts Connections.



MIGUEL GUTIERREZ

Age & Beauty Part 2: Asian Beauty @ the Werq Meeting or The Choreographer & Her Muse or &:@& WORLD PREMIERE

MON JAN 12, 8:00 PM . TUES JAN 13, 10:00 PM WED JAN 14, 10:00 PM . FRI JAN 16, 6:00 PM SAT JAN 17, 8:30 PM . SUN JAN 18, 3:00 PM

RUN TIME: 80 minutes

ABRONS ARTS CENTER PLAYHOUSE 466 Grand Street / tickets \$20 / AbronsArtsCenter.org

Age & Beauty Part 2: Asian Beauty @ the Werq Meeting or The Choreographer & Her Muse or &: @& is the second installment in the Age & Beauty Series. Part 2 deals with Gutierrez's long-term creative/ work relationships and features performer/choreographer Michelle Boulé, arts manager Ben Pryor, and lighting designer Lenore Doxsee. The piece uses retrospection and archive to demonstrate how relationships, money, and flights of fancy are at the center of all art making.

Age & Beauty Part 2 is made possible with support from the MAP Fund, a program of Creative Capital supported by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project with support from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. General Operating support was made possible by the New England Foundation for the Arts with funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. Additional support provided by Maggie Allesse National Choreographic Center at Florida State University, Hollins University, Fisher Center for the Performing Arts at Bard College, and Mount Tremper Arts

JEREMY WADE

Death Asshole Rave Video NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

CO-PRESENTED BY THE GOETHE-INSTITUT NEW YORK

MON JAN 12, 10:00 PM . TUES JAN 13, 5:00 PM WED JAN 14, 8:30 PM . SAT JAN 17, 3:00 PM SUN JAN 18. 1:30 PM

RUN TIME: 75 minutes

ABRONS ARTS CENTER EXPERIMENTAL THEATER 466 Grand Street / tickets \$20 / AbronsArtsCenter.org

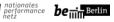
Jeremy Wade presents, Death Asshole Rave Video, a one-man show. An asshole that interrogates death and the agreements we make as a society. In a gothic and queer-scape, Wade offers vehicles for experiencing different deaths – death of theatre, death of value, death of sense, and death of attachment. He demands for us to die before we die. He asks us if all of the social agreements that have been made are either breaking or already broken. What's next? It's time to die!

Death Asshole Rave Video is co-presented with the Goethe-Institut New York with additional support from the NATIONALE PERFORMANCE NETZ as part of the Gastspielförderung Tanz International from funds of the commission of the Bundesregierung für Kultur und Medien and the culture and arts ministries of the federal states and by the Berlin Senate Chancellery -Cultural Affairs Department.

Co-production: Zodiak - Center for New Dance.









LUCIANA ACHUGAR

OTRO TEATRO: The Pleasure Project THEATRICAL PREMIERE

TUES JAN 13, 6:00 PM . THURS JAN 15, 6:30 PM SAT JAN 17, 4:30 PM

RUN TIME: 80 minutes

ABRONS ARTS CENTER PLAYHOUSE
466 Grand Street / tickets \$20 / AbronsArtsCenter.org

OTRO TEATRO: The Pleasure Project is the culmination of a three-month-long procession of public space interventions made throughout NYC and Biel/Bienne, Switzerland, that seek to viscerally activate the passive spectator. Anti-spectacular yet super-natural, it is less a performance and more of a practice of moving performance closer to ritual. A ritual of growing ourselves a new and much-needed 'post-civilized' body; a collective body with audience and performers; a collective utopian body, a sensational body, a connected body, a decolonized body, an anarchic and animal body, that is full and filled with pleasure, with love and magic. The Pleasure Project is a performance as an intervention for a theater in ruins.

The Pleasure Project was originally presented as part of Arts East River Waterfront initiative, a project of Lower Manhattan's Cultural Council and commissioned by 'le Mouvement-Performing the City' Festival in Biel/Bienne, Switzerland. OTRO TEATRO: The Pleasure Project was developed in part through an LMCC artist residency in 2014 as part of their Extended Life Dance Development Program; and through the Hatchery Project, a collaborative residency initiative between The Chocolate Factory, Live Arts Brewery/Philadelphia Live Arts Festival, Maggie Allesee National Center for Choreography at Florida State University, and Vermont Performance Lab made possible with major funding from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and additional support by the National Endowment for the Arts.

JACK FERVER

Night Light Bright Light WORLD PREMIERE

WED JAN 14, 6:30 PM . FRI JAN 16, 10:00 PM SUN JAN 18, 7:00 PM

RUN TIME: 50 minutes

ABRONS ARTS CENTER PLAYHOUSE 466 Grand Street / tickets \$20 / AbronsArtsCenter.org

In *Night Light Bright Light*, Jack Ferver draws inspiration from, and parallels between, his own life and the life, art and death of Fred Herko.

"Fred Herko was a dancer, an actor, a choreographer, and he took a bath and got out and danced naked in front of his friend to Mozart, finally dancing out of a window to his death. I am a dancer, an actor, a choreographer, and I love taking baths and I have danced naked though have yet to jeté out a window. I have often talked about suicide with my childhood friend Reid Bartelme. Reid will join me in the work. Reid is a beautiful dancer. Reid will make sure I don't jump."

—Jack Ferver

Night Light Bright Light was commissioned through New York Performance Artists Collective in partnership with Joshua Lubin-Levy and Department of Performance Studies (NYU). Residency support provided by Abrons Art Center's AIRspace Residency Program.



POPSTAR SERIES THE 2015 EMERALD EDITION

Over the course of eight years, Neal Medlyn constructed a series of performance pieces built around the music, lives, and personae of a series of pop stars: Lionel Richie, Phil Collins, Prince, Britney Spears, Miley Cyrus, Insane Clown Posse and Michael Jackson. Using and often re-imagining and re-purposing their songs, combined with intuitively related outside sources like fairy tales, literature and personal biography, Medlyn's *Pop Star Series* creates a new world and mythology from the loud noises, contradictions and fevered intensity of pop culture. Seen only once in their entirety in Germany, this is a new, intimate version of all seven of the *Pop Star Series* shows.

ABRONS ARTS CENTER UNDERGROUND THEATER 466 Grand Street / tickets \$20 / AbronsArtsCenter.org

The Lionel Richie Opera + Coming in the Air Tonight

THURS JAN 15, 7:00 PM

RUN TIME: 60 minutes

The Lionel Richie Opera is built around a Lionel Richie greatest hits CD. The songs play in the order they appear on the CD to score a fairy tale about a love triangle between the queen of the land of unicorns, a violent and sullen prince and a musician, interwoven with personal biography and imagery from opera, Richie's life, and introducing the language of the *Pop Star Series*.

Coming in the Air Tonight is built around Phil Collins, urban legends, blood and the color white, a fever dream of childhood friendships, matricide, show business, biography and religious iconography.

Unpronounceable Symbol

THURS JAN 15, 10:00 PM

RUN TIME: 60 minutes

Using Prince songs and woven through with text from a variety of literary, musical, film and court sources, *Unpronounceable Symbol* consists of two characters within the same person fighting and having sex and descending into hell before being reborn as the Messiah.



... Her's a Queen

FRI JAN 16, 7:00 PM

RUN TIME: 60 minutes

A story of redemption told in reverse and a struggle between knowing and the perceived purity of ignorance, ...Her's a Queen turns Britney Spears music and biography, especially centering on the "Blackout" album period of her career into a noise punk fairy tale going from a place of destruction and ending in a place of forgetful emptiness.

Brave New Girl

FRI JAN 16, 10:00 PM

RUN TIME: 60 minutes

The conflict between and within characters in the Series reaches a kind of apex as the multiple personas and music of Miley Cyrus and Hannah Montana, combined with imagery from the Dostoevsky novel *The Idiot*, as well as the imagery and identities of the characters in each of the *Pop Star Series* shows so far start to collapse in on themselves. *Brave New Girl* delves into teen bedroom culture, loneliness, heartbreak and personal biography.

Wicked Clown Love

SAT JAN 17, 7:00 PM

RUN TIME: 65 minutes

A descent into the wilderness using the lore and music and culture of Insane Clown Posse and the subculture of juggalos, combined with political, cultural and class ideas of masculinity, the Series travels into the darkness of horror rap, sprayed soda. *Moby Dick* and suicide.

King

SAT JAN 17, 10:00 PM

RUN TIME: 70 minutes

The ending, the attempted ending, the reach for a definitive version of the vast mythology of The Series as well as a grappling with the music, art and impact of Michael Jackson, outmoded forms of show business, aging, loneliness. The final epic attempt to find some sort of meaning within the *Pop Star Series*, all seven of these attempts at a new mythology.

King, a project of Creative Capital, which premiered at The Kitchen in 2013, has been made possible in part by the Cutting Edge Fund of the New York Foundation for the Arts.



MY BARBARIAN

The Mother and Other Plays

THURS JAN 15, 8:30 PM . SAT JAN 17, 7:00 PM SUN JAN 18, 5:00 PM

RUN TIME: 60 minutes

ABRONS ARTS CENTER EXPERIMENTAL THEATER 466 Grand Street / tickets \$20 / AbronsArtsCenter.org

How do you solve a problem like *The Mother*? Bertolt Brecht's 1932 play, about a Russian woman who is radicalized when her son joins the Communists, is didactic, ideological and Epic in every sense. My Barbarian, an art collective consisting of Malik Gaines, Jade Gordon and Alexandro Segade, confronts these legacies of leftist theater, along with the symbolic and political ramifications of motherhood, with a playful, and critical, sense of humor. My Barbarian's *The Mother and Other Plays* includes masks made of old Soviet newspapers (really!), musical numbers, improvised content, and, also maintains the Brechtian concept of the Lehrstück, or learning play, by inviting audience members to participate in select scenes. Complicating the narrative, My Barbarian interrupts the piece with scenes from their repertoire, including *Counterpiblicity* (2014), a performance based on MTV's The Real World: San Francisco (1994) and an essay by queer theorist José Esteban Muñoz.

The Mother and Other Plays premiered in the form of a multi-media art exhibition at Susanne Vielmetter Los Angeles Projects in 2013, and was included in the 2014 Whitney Biennial. This production was made possible in part by a 2014 LMCC Process Space artist residency.

DYNASTY HANDBAG

Soggy Glasses, A Homo's Odyssey

FRI JAN 16, 8:30 PM . SAT JAN 17, 10:00 PM SUN JAN 18, 8:30 PM

RUN TIME: 60 minutes

ABRONS ARTS CENTER EXPERIMENTAL THEATER 466 Grand Street / tickets \$20 / AbronsArtsCenter.org

Soggy Glasses, A Homo's Odyssey, is a feminist, comedic, fanny-packed, monomythic hero-journey. Using Homer's Odyssey as both dramaturgical framework and toilet paper, Dynasty Handbag recasts the masculine allegory of returning home in a feminist context, on a voyage though her extremities, heart, mind, bowels, and artist colon-y. Using voiceovers, video interaction, and a giant plush "hero" sandwich, Dynasty Handbag employs the female physical and spiritual body as the terrain for her journey home, in an ultimate Homeric search for her true nature, and she will most likely fail.

Soggy Glasses, A Homo's Odyssey was originally commissioned by Franklin Furnace for the BAM 2014 Next Wave Festival. Soggy Glasses was supported by residencies at Yaddo and The MacDowell Colony, and is made possible, in part, by a 2014 LMCC Process Space artist residency.



ANNE IMHOF DEAL, 2015

SAT JAN 17, 2:00 PM . SUN JAN 18, 2:00 PM

RUN TIME: 4 hours

MoMA PS1

22-25 Jackson Avenue / FREE with museum admission

In her inaugural US solo project Anne Imhof works with a group of performers, composers, lawyers, and a family of white rabbits. Incorporating sequences of the artist's earlier works, SCHOOL OF THE SEVEN BELLS (2013) and RAGE (2014), DEAL, 2015 unfolds over the course of two days and in two different locations simultaneously. Through continuous reintroductions of structural motifs in space the work focuses on relations of coded transactions between participants. The result is an image gradually emerging in time. With: Franziska Aigner, Billy Bultheel, Frances Chiaverini, Ian Edmonds, Mickey Mahar, Olga Pedan and Lea Welsch.

Anne Imhof, *DEAL*, 2015 is a MoMA PS1 Commission as part of *Sunday Sessions*. With special thanks to Goethe-Institut.

Sunday Sessions is organized by Jenny Schlenzka, Associate Curator with Alex Sloane, Curatorial Assistant and Rosey Selig-Addiss, Associate Producer.

Sunday Sessions and the VW Dome at MoMA PS1 are made possible by a partnership with Volkswagen of America

Major support is provided by MoMA's Wallis Annenberg Fund for Innovation in Contemporary Art through the Annenberg Foundation.





"A NEXUS OF SMART, CUTTING-EDGE PERFORMANCE."

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- SIOBHAN BURKE, THE NEW YORK TIMES

"A MUST SEE FOR THE SAVVY DANCE EXPLORER."

- BRIAN SCHAEFER, THE NEW YORK TIMES



JAMANCE

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MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE RECEPTION

Champagne Toast for American Realness Donors

THURS JAN 8, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

ABRONS ARTS CENTER

466 Grand Street / pledge \$25 or more / americanrealness.com/donate

We kick off American Realness 2015 with a Champagne toast to celebrate the start of a sixth edition of the festival. Donors of \$25 or more are invited to the Members of the House Reception. Make your donation today and join us on January 8!

This fall thanks to 258 generous Members of the House, we raised \$15,751 on Kickstarter! There's still time to become a Member of the House which can entitle you to receive reserved seats to AR performances, behind-the-scenes invitations, and more.

Visit AmericanRealness.com/donate for more details.

SUSANNE BARTSCH AND KUNT

REALNESS-A Night of Dance Art

SAT JAN 10. 11:00 PM - 4:00 AM

TRIBECA GRAND

288 Church Street (Corner of Walker Street) / FREE

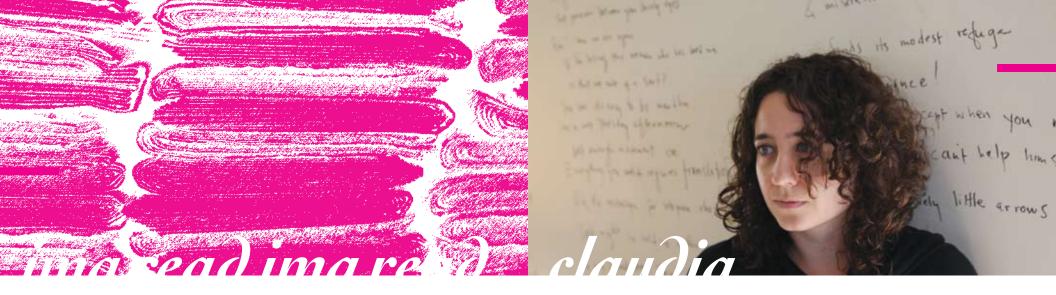
New York Party Impresario Susanne Bartsch teams up Zurich-based party KUNT, organized by Marc Streit and Lukas Beyeler, for a festival party with a Swiss Made Focus. The event will feature performances from Swiss artists Marie-Caroline Hominal, Daniel Hellmann, Emma Murray, Kiriakos Hadjiioannou, and Alexandra Bachzetsis with additional performances from NYC and US nightlife favorites including JONTE', Gage of the Boone, VivvyAnne ForeverMORE, and FlucT – Sigrid Lauren & Monica Mirabile.

Realness, A Night of Dance Art is made possible with support from the Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia.



RMANCE S PARTY DAR CALENDAL





READING

A Platform for Critical Writing

AMERICANREALNESS.COM/READING

READING started as a zine in 2013 and became a blog in 2014. The project continues in 2015 with a series of commissioned essays. All writings will be posted to AmericanRealness.com/reading. Be sure to check out the blog leading up to and throughout the festival for critical and contextual writings reflecting on festival artists, performances and the local, national and international dance and contemporary performance scene.

A MOVEMENT RESEARCH WORKSHOP WITH CLAUDIA LA ROCCO

To Whom it May Concern

THURS JAN 8, 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM MON JAN 19, 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM FRI JAN 23, 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

ABRONS ARTS CENTER ROOM 302 466 Grand Street / \$80 / MovementResearch.org

Criticism is art. It must aspire to reach the heights, depths, and strange in-betweens it grapples with in the art of others, and in the wider culture it seeks to interrogate. This workshop will function like a laboratory, open to all individuals interested in better understanding themselves and their world through words and art. *To Whom it May Concern* is offered through a partnership with Movement Research and will include the possibility of publication. Participants will have access to discounted tickets for festival performances.

Claudia La Rocco is a poet, critic and teacher whose work frequently revolves around interdisciplinary collaborations and performances. She contributes regularly to *Artforum* and *The New York Times*, and runs *ThePerformanceClub.org*, which won a 2011 Creative Capital/ Warhol Foundation Arts Writers Grant and focuses on criticism as a literary art form. She is a member of the Off the Park press and her selected writings were published by Badlands Unlimited in fall 2014.

movement research



TRAJAL HARRELL, EIKO OTAKE AND SAM MILLER

In Conversation

THURS JAN 15, 7:00 PM

MUSEUM OF MODERN ART, THE ROY AND NIUTA TITUS THEATER 2, T2 11 W 53rd St / \$12 adult, \$10 senior, \$8 student, \$5 member guest, FREE for members / MoMA.org

As a part of *In one step are a thousand animals*, American choreographer Trajal Harrell's two-year Annenberg Research Commission Residency at the Museum of Modern Art, Harrell confronts the history, construction, and interpretation of butoh and modern and contemporary dance. For the second iteration of the project, Harrell engages in conversation with Eiko Otake, Japanese choreographer and dancer, who works primarily with her partner Koma. Eiko and Koma studied with Kazu Ohno and Tatsumi Hijikata, and moved to New York in the 70s, developing their own choreographic practice. Together with Sam Miller, the President of the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, the two artists will talk about the artistic legacy of avant-garde dance in 1960s Tokyo, Eiko's integral participation in that scene, and the parallel aesthetic threads in their work.

Organized by Ana Janevski, Associate Curator, with Martha Joseph, Curatorial Assistant, Department of Media and Performance Art.

The project is made possible by MoMA's Wallis Annenberg Fund for Innovation in Contemporary Art through the Annenberg Foundation.

MoMA

JENN JOY

Why Choreography Now? Reading, Conversation, Performance of The Choreographic

SAT JAN 17, 1:00 PM

ABRONS ARTS CENTER PLAYHOUSE 466 Grand Street / FREE

Why Choreography Now? celebrates the launch of The Choreographic by Jenn Joy. Please join us for a reading, conversation with the Hilary Clark, DD Dorvillier, Miguel Gutierrez, Heather Kravas, remarks by Kelly Kivland, projections by James Foster, a surprise performance and a toast to all the artists!

Written in intimate conversation with experimental works in contemporary dance, visual art, and theory, *The Choreographic* considers what choreography – as practice, as concept – offers to this particular moment of cultural crisis marked by deluges distinctly political and climatic. To engage choreographically is to position oneself in relation to another, to participate in a scene of address that anticipates and requires a precarious mode of attention, even at times against our will. Trespassing across corporeal and cerebral conjecture – from tremulous laughter, to ecstatic spasm, to stuttering stillness – the choreographic works against linguistic signification and virtuosic representation; it is a labor of contact that touches even across distance.



PERFORMANCE PARTY DISCOURSE CALENDAR COURSE

@r CALENDAR

11:00 PM TBG

		THURSDAY JANUARY 8			SUNDAY JANUARY II
4:00 PM	302	Claudia La Rocco, To Whom it May Concern, Session 1	2:30 PM	EXP	Keith Hennessy, Bear/Skin
5:00 PM	GAL	Members of the House Reception	4:00 PM	PLY	Tere O'Connor, Sister
6:00 PM	GIB	Miguel Gutierrez, Age & Beauty Part 1: Mid-Career Artist/	5:30 PM	UDG	Karen Sherman, One with Othe
		Suicide Note or &:-/	5:30 PM	EXP	Liz Santoro and Pierre Godard,
7:00 PM	EXP	Keith Hennessy, Bear/Skin	7:00 PM	PLY	Simone Aughterlony, Antonija L
8:30 PM	GIB	Miguel Gutierrez, Age & Beauty Part 1: Mid-Career Artist/			Supernatural
		Suicide Note or &:-/	9:00 PM	EXP	Florentina Holzinger and Vincer für Scheisse
8:30 PM	UDG	Karen Sherman, <i>One with Others</i>	0.00 PM	1100	
10:00 PM	PLY	Ivo Dimchev, Fest	9:00 PM	UDG	The Ballez, Variations on Virtuos with the Stars of The Ballez
			10:30 PM	PLY	Ivo Dimchev, Fest
		FRIDAY JANUARY 9	10.001111		2
5:00 PM	UDG	Cynthia Hopkins, A Living Documentary			MONDAY JANUARY I2
5:30 PM	EXP	Florentina Holzinger and Vincent Riebeek, Kein Applaus	5:30 PM	EXP	Tere O'Connor, <i>Undersweet</i>
5:30 PM	GIB	für Scheisse Miguel Gutierrez, Age & Beauty Part 1: Mid-Career Artist/ Suicide Note or &:-l	6:30 PM	UDG	Michelle Ellsworth, <i>Preparation</i> the Y Chromosome
	5117		8:00 PM	PLY	Miguel Gutierrez, Age & Beaut
7:00 PM	PLY	Tere O'Connor, Sister	0.001111		Werq Meeting or The Choreog
7:30 PM	GIB	Miguel Gutierrez, <i>Age & Beauty Part 1: Mid-Career Artist/</i> Suicide Note or &:-/	10:00 PM	EXP	Jeremy Wade, Death Asshole
8:30 PM	EXP	Keith Hennessy, <i>Bear/Skin</i>			
8:30 PM	UDG	Karen Sherman, <i>One with Others</i>			TUESDAY JANUARY I3
10:00 PM	PLY	Ivo Dimchev, Fest	5:00 PM	UDG	Cynthia Hopkins, A Living Docu
			5:00 PM	EXP	Jeremy Wade, Death Asshole
		SATURDAY JANUARY IO	6:00 PM	PLY	luciana achugar, OTRO TEATRO
2:00 PM	UDG	The Ballez, Variations on Virtuosity, A Gala Performance with	8:30 PM	EXP	Tere O'Connor, <i>Undersweet</i>
4.00 DN4	EVD	the Stars of The Ballez Liz Santoro and Pierre Godard, Relative Collider	8:30 PM	UDG	Michelle Ellsworth, Preparation the Y Chromosome
4:00 PM	EXP	•	10:00 PM	PLY	Miguel Gutierrez, Age & Beaut
5:30 PM	UDG	Karen Sherman, One with Others			Werq Meeting or The Choreogi
6:30 PM	GIB	Miguel Gutierrez, <i>Age & Beauty Part 1: Mid-Career Artist/</i> Suicide Note or &:-/			more
7:00 PM	EXP	Keith Hennessy, <i>Bear/Skin</i>			
8:30 PM	UDG	Cynthia Hopkins, A Living Documentary			
8:30 PM	PLY	Simone Aughterlony, Antonija Livingstone and Hahn Rowe, Supernatural			
10:30 PM	EXP	Florentina Holzinger and Vincent Riebeek, <i>Kein Applaus</i> für Scheisse			

Susanne Bartsch & KUNT, REALNESS - A Night of Dance Art

hers d, Relative Collider Livingstone and Hahn Rowe, ent Riebeek, *Kein Applaus* osity, A Gala Performance on for the Obsolescence of uty Part 2: Asian Beauty @ the ographer & Her Muse or &:@& e Rave Video cumentary e Rave Video RO: The Pleasure Project on for the Obsolescence of uty Part 2: Asian Beauty @ the ographer & Her Muse or &:@&

@r CALENDAR

		WEDNESDAY JANUARY 14			SATURDAY JANUARY 17		
5:00 PM	UDG	Michelle Ellsworth, Preparation for the Obsolescence of the Y Chromosome	8:30 PM	PLY	Miguel Gutierrez, Age & Beauty Part 2: Asian Beauty @ the Werq Meeting or The Choreographer & Her Muse or &:@&		
5:30 PM	EXP	Tere O'Connor, Undersweet	10:00 PM	UDG	Neal Medlyn, Pop Star Series, The 2015 Emerald Edition:		
6:30 PM	PLY	Jack Ferver, Night Light Bright Light			King		
8:30 PM	UDG	Cynthia Hopkins, A Living Documentary	10:00 PM	EXP	Dynasty Handbag, Soggy Glasses, A Homo's Odyssey		
8:30 PM	EXP	Jeremy Wade, Death Asshole Rave Video					
10:00 PM	PLY	Miguel Gutierrez, Age & Beauty Part 2: Asian Beauty @ the			SUNDAY JANUARY 18		
		Werq Meeting or The Choreographer & Her Muse or &:@&	1:30 PM	EXP	Jeremy Wade, Death Asshole Rave Video		
			2:00 PM	PS1	Anne Imhof, DEAL, 2015		
		THURSDAY JANUARY I5	3:00 PM	PLY	Miguel Gutierrez, Age & Beauty Part 2: Asian Beauty @ the		
6:30 PM	PLY	luciana achugar, OTRO TEATRO: The Pleasure Project	5 00 DM	EV/D	Werg Meeting or The Choreographer & Her Muse or &:@&		
7:00 PM	UDG	Neal Medlyn, Pop Star Series, The 2015 Emerald Edition:	5:00 PM	EXP	My Barbarian, <i>The Mother and Other Plays</i> Cynthia Hopkins, <i>A Living Documentary</i>		
		Lionel Richie Opera + Coming in the Air Tonight	5:00 PM	UDG	, , ,		
7:00 PM	MoMA	Trajal Harrell, Eiko Otake and Sam Miller, In Conversation	7:00 PM	PLY	Jack Ferver, <i>Night Light Bright Light</i> Dynasty Handbag, <i>Soggy Glasses</i> , <i>A Homo's Odyssey</i>		
8:30 PM	EXP	My Barbarian, <i>The Mother and Other Plays</i>	8:30 PM	EXP	Dynasty Handbag, Soggy Glasses, A Horno's Odyssey		
10:00 PM	UDG	Neal Medlyn, Pop Star Series, The 2015 Emerald Edition:			MONDAY, IANIHA DV IO		
	050	Unpronounceable Symbol	4.00 DM	200	MONDAY JANUARY 19 Claudia La Bassa Ta Mham it May Canaara Session 2		
			4:00 PM	302	Claudia La Rocco, To Whom it May Concern, Session 2		
		FRIDAY JANUARY 16			FRIDAY JANUARY 23		
6:00 PM	PLY	Miguel Gutierrez, Age & Beauty Part 2: Asian Beauty @ the Werq Meeting or The Choreographer & Her Muse or &:@&	4:00 PM	302	Claudia La Rocco, To Whom it May Concern, Session 3		
7:00 PM	UDG	Neal Medlyn, Pop Star Series, The 2015 Emerald Edition: Her's A Queen					
8:30 PM	EXP	Dynasty Handbag, Soggy Glasses, A Homo's Odyssey			VENUES		
10:00 PM	UDG	Neal Medlyn, <i>Pop Star Series, The 2015 Emerald Edition:</i> Brave New Girl	302, GAL, UDG, PLY	EXP,	ABRONS ARTS CENTER 466 Grand Street, New York, NY 10002		
10:00 PM	PLY	Jack Ferver, Night Light Bright Light	GIB		GIBNEY DANCE: AGNES VARIS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER		
		SATURDAY JANUARY 17			280 Broadway, New York, NY 10007		
1:00 PM	PLY	Jenn Joy, Why Choreography Now? Reading, Conversation, Performance of The Choreographic			Entrance at 53A Chambers		
2:00 PM	PS1	Anne Imhof, DEAL, 2015	TBG		TRIBECA GRAND 288 Church Street, New York, NY 10013		
3:00 PM	UDG	Cynthia Hopkins, A Living Documentary			, ,		
3:00 PM	EXP	Jeremy Wade, Death Asshole Rave Video	MoMA		MUSEUM OF MODERN ART		
4:30 PM	PLY	luciana achugar, OTRO TEATRO: The Pleasure Project			11 West 53rd Street, New York, NY 10019		
7:00 PM	EXP	My Barbarian, The Mother and Other Plays	PS1		MoMA PS1		
7:00 PM	UDG	Neal Medlyn, Pop Star Series, The 2015 Emerald Edition: Wicked Clown Love			20-25 Jackson Avenue, Long Island City, NY 11101		

AMERICAN REALNESS

Created by Thomas Benjamin Snapp Pryor (tbspMGMT) in partnership with the Abrons Arts Center in January 2010, American Realness is a festival of contemporary dance and performance. An internationally recognized platform for the discovery of new works from subversive artists, tearing at the boundaries of their forms, American Realness commands attention for the proliferation of choreographic and performative practices transcending the traditions and rewriting the definitions of American dance and performance. In 2014 the festival expanded its scope to include the work of international artists, engaging in a global dialogue on the practice and presentation of contemporary dance and performance.

TEAM

Thomas Benjamin Snapp Pryor, Founder, Curator, & Producer Natalie Robin, Associate Producer Will Cotton, Production Manager Brídín Clements, Producing Assistant Ian Douglas, Festival Photographer Marin Sander-Holzman / Marin Media Lab, Festival Media Producer Shayna O'Neill, Playhouse Production Stage Manager Leslie Smith, Playhouse Lighting Supervisor Joseph Wolfslau, Festival and Playhouse Sound and Video Supervisor Jack Lynch, Experimental Production Stage Manager Kate Bashore, Experimental Lighting Supervisor Ashley Ottensmeier, Experimental Sound and Video Supervisor Aislinn Curry, Underground Production Stage Manager Keegan Butler, Underground Lighting Supervisor Andrew Modansky, Underground Sound and Video Supervisor Bethanie Herman, Elizabeth McSurdy, Emma Phipps, Branden Sherman, Administrative Interns Elise Bellamy, Oliver Bruce, Bridget Cronin, Lauren Law, Peter Lockwood, Trouve Ivo, Andrea Miller, Sawyer Martoglio, Shanna Polzin, Gabby Weinstein, Production Interns

tbspMGMT

is an experiment in new models of management, curation and presentation for new dance and contemporary performance. tbspMGMT builds support to produce and diffuse artists' projects through a network of national and international residency centers, contemporary art centers, festivals, universities, foundations and municipalities. Through the maintenance of ongoing dialogues between artists and institutions, tbspMGMT works to identify and strengthen these networks through partnerships around new research and artistic production.

FUNDING

American Realness is made possible with support from the Abrons Arts Center, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, The Mertz Gilmore Foundation, rpm projects and the Members of the House of Realness.

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8X10 House, Pedro Arieta, Matthew Herbertz, Johnson Hor, Luna Paese, Katherine Pan, Annie Tippe, Rebecca Warzer

as of 12.21.2014

ABRONS ARTS CENTER

The Abrons Arts Center is the 2014 OBIE Award-winning performing and visual arts program of the Henry Street Settlement, a 118 year-old social service organization on Manhattan's Lower East Side. The Abrons supports the creation and presentation of bold, multi-disciplinary work; cultivates artists in all stages of their practice through residencies, educational programs, and commissions; and serves as an international intersection of cultural engagement for artists and audiences.

Each year the Abrons offers over 250 performances, 12 gallery exhibitions, and 25 residencies for emerging and international performing and visual artists. The Abrons also provides New York City public schools with teaching artists, involving more than 3,000 students annually.

Henry Street Settlement, founded in 1893, serves 50,000 New Yorkers each year with social service, arts and health care programs from 17 program sites on Manhattan's Lower East Side.

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FUNDING

Abrons Arts Center programs are made possible through the kind support of these good people: Louis and Anne Abrons Foundation, Inc., The ASCAP Foundation, Irving Caesar Fund, Milton and Sally Avery Arts Foundation, Tita Cahn Trust, The Daniel J. & Edith A. Ehrlich Family Foundation, Jacques and Natasha Gelman Trust, Mertz Gilmore Foundation, Harkness Foundation for Dance, The Emily Davie and Joseph S. Kornfeld Foundation, The Jerome Foundation, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Patagonia Foundation, The Peg Santvoord Foundation, The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, The Bulova Steston Fund, The Thanksgiving Fund, The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, The Barker Welfare Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, New York State Council on the Arts, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, New York City Department of Education, and many generous individuals.

PHOTOS

Yasmina Haddad, Lukas Beyeler & Patrick Mettraux, Eric McNatt, Robbie Sweeny, Karen Sherman, Danny Willems, Jeff Sugg, Ginta Tinta, Grant Halverson, Hedia Maron, Yasmina Haddad, Jorge León, Tere O'Connor, Michelle Ellsworth, Eric McNatt, Fritz Welch, Alex Kangangi, Jeremy Jacob Schlangen, Ian Douglas, Neal Medlyn, Neal Medlyn, Andrea Mohin/NYTimes, Erica Beckman, Allison Michael Orenstein, Neal Medlyn Stephanie Berger, Alex Escalante, Nadine Fraczkowski, MCH, Lukas Beyeler & Patrick Mettraux, Ian Douglas, Lukas Beyeler & Patrick Mettraux, grafføvcfa, Jose Carlos Teixeira, Julieta Cervantes courtesy of The Museum of Modern Art, Eileen Travell courtesy of DD Dorvillier, Eric McNatt, Yasmina Haddad.

Design . Sondra Graff/rpm:projects

