

THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY THEATER

FALL 2022 / SPRING 2023

Jasmie Hearn
(creative residency)
July 2022

Jessie Young with Iris McCloughan
(creative residency)
July 2022

Phil Soltanoff and Steven Wendt /
The Institute of Useless Activity
THIS AND THAT
(co-presented with The Bushwick Starr)
September 7-24, 2022

Efrain Rozas
An Ocean of Forgiveness
(creative residency)
September 18, 2022

The Chocolate Factory's First Annual GALA
Honoring Donovan Richards Jr., Lucy Sexton
and Yoko Shioya
September 28, 2022

David Thomson
VESSEL
October 26-29, 2022

Dion TYGAPAW McKenzie
Devil Woman (Obeah Woman)
co-presented with ISSUE Project Room
and Queens Museum
November 12, 2022

Andrea Kleine
The End Is Not What I Thought It Would Be
November 4-5, 2022

Martita Abril
Huevos a la Mexcla (creative residency)
November 14-19, 2022

Ivy Baldwin
Folds
December 7-17, 2022

Dana Michel
TRUST STUDIES (creative residency)
January 2023

Leslie Cuyjet
(Untitled)
March 2023

Aaron Landsman
Night Keeper
March 2023

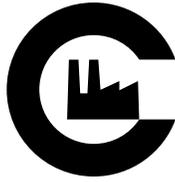
Kathy Westwater
Choreomaniacs + Revolver
April 2023

Juliana F. May
Family Happiness
co-presented with Abrons Arts Center
May 2023

Mallory Catlett / Restless NYC
DECODER: Nova Express
May 2023

Yanira Castro / a canary torsi
I came here to weep
June 2023

Raymond Pinto and Angie Pittman
With a Little Warmth to Light the Way
June 2023



**THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY THEATER
PRESENTS**

VESSEL

**October 26-29, 2022
Wednesday - Saturday
5pm-8pm**

Concept and Direction by **David Thomson**.

Created in collaboration with and performed by **David Thomson, Jaguar Mary X, Katrina Reid, Katie Workum, Nehemoyia Young** and **Martita Abril**.

Set Design by **Peter Born**
in collaboration with **David Thomson**
Sound Design by **James Lo**
Lighting Design by **Stan Pressner**
Costumes by **Athena Kokoronis**
Production Stage Manager: **Tricia Toliver**

Commissioned by **The Chocolate Factory Theater** with major support from **Lunder Institute of American Art at Colby College, Café Royal Cultural Foundation, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council Extended Life Fellowship**, and a **New York State Council on the Arts Individual Artist Commission**, with additional support from **Dance/NYC Advancement Fund, Foundation for Contemporary Arts**.

Residency support: **Gina Gibney Dance, Mabou Mines, Marble House Project, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, Katie Workum**.

In Kind Material support **Materials for the Arts, Movement Research**.

SPECIAL THANKS

This is the work of a community of artists and individuals who believed in my vision and I am so deeply grateful for their presence in the journey. It takes a village.

First and foremost I bow to the artists who gave so much of themselves in building this practice: Jaguar Mary X, Nehemoyia Young, Katie Workum, and Katrina Reid. And Leslie Cuyjet & Jess pretty for your presence in the initial stages. There are not enough words to say how profoundly moved I am by these women, who go to the edge and manifest the power and beauty of transcendence in this work.

Martita Abril, for taking on the essential role of guardian and more, you are a gifted angel.

I finally got to work with the wondrous Stan Pressner after all these decades!! Your generosity, care, joie de vie and thoughtful ideas gave me peace.

Peter Born, whose love, support, and artistic vision are woven into a number of my works and have made me a better artist, so much love to you!!!

Athena Kokoronis, who has been a light of possibilities in this process...and whose unique sculptural clothing brings joy!

James Lo, your artistic ingenuity, willingness, and patience are massively appreciated by all and add a layer of presence that catalyzes the work.

Tricia Toliver, I could not have produced this show without you!! How lucky I was to snag you just at the right time! You are a joy to work with and helped ground me.

Jaqueline Terrassa and Erica Wall for the major and invaluable support from The Lunder Institute of American Art! My residency there was pivotal! And the amazing Gabriel Chalfin-Piney who shepherded the artists and me in a way that made us feel at home.

Eva Yaa Asantewaa for offering me the Gibney Residency through The Eva Yaa Asantewaa Black Arts Leadership Award (EYABALA)!

Lili Chopra and Ana Fiore from LMCC, for your adamant support of artists. The fellowship planted the seed of this project and continued to water it during the pandemic.

Mabou Mines, to Sharon, Karen, Mallory, and Carl, for

inviting me into the fold, and honor to be amongst your company. And Wyatt for your technical and artistic support during the residency.

Marble House Project, where this idea was first publicly shared. Thank you Danielle, Tina, Simon and Tiffany.

Lucien Zayan for your unending support through the years.

Kennis Hawkins for opening your home.

Jim Findlay, for being willing at the moment.

To Sean Donovan and Kirsten Michelle Schnittker for translating my vision into clear language that helped fund this project.

Dialogues and spiritual kin were the fuel that kept me and this work moving forward:

Taka Yamamoto
Anna Martine Whitehead
Kate Watson-Wallace
Nia Witherspoon
Yasmine Diaz
Moirá Smiley
Siobhan McBride
Samita Sinha
Analia Segal
Ralph Lemon
Okwui Okpokwasili
Jen Brogle
Judy Hussey-Taylor
Seta Morton
devynn emory
Craig Bossi
T Richard Corcoran
Nicole Mannarino
Weena Pauly
Darrin Wright
Anna Therese Witenberg
Leslie Cuyjet
Eleanor Smith

And last but DEFINITELY not least, The KICK-ASS Chocolate Factory team!! Brian for your pre-pandemic invitation that allowed me to dream! And the phenomenal staff who made this massive dream materialize!

Sheila
Madeline
Shana
Shaniyat
Lydia
Will
Emily

PROGRAM NOTES

The program note is not yet complete but I will leave you with these nuggets of influence for the moment.

"It's when you release control that the interesting things happen. That's when your subconscious will start speaking in tongues, when you can't articulate the words yourself, when your body has an intelligence and wisdom that you hand the reins over to."
-Riz Ahmed

This work is influenced by the writings of

Édouard Glissant, *The Poetics of Relations*, the chapter on Opacity

Karen Barad, *Transmaterialities: Trans*/Matter/Realities and Queer Political Imaginings*

Byung-Chul Han, *The Disappearance of Rituals: A Topology of the Present*

BIOS

David Thomson

My work borders on choreography, performance, and installation, existing at the intersections of movement, text, sound, and song. I want to question the unconscious narratives regarding presence and identity, creating performances in a range of temporal forms from short works to durational tasks, that sabotage assumptions to provoke reimagining.

I have fallen into the mysteries of quantum physics as a metaphor for the poetics of presence, embracing the unseen as a palpable state of relations, catalysts, and possibilities. I am leaning toward transmissions rather than transactions.

If you're interested in other details:
<https://davidhamiltonthomson.com/main/>

Jaguar Mary X is a glossolalia vocalist, ritual performance artist and mover, making work informed by queer and black feminist discourse, afro-futurisms, plant sentience and shamanism.

Jaguar Mary X attended the Whitney Independent Studies Program in 1995 and completed MFA degrees

at California Institute for the Arts (Film/Video, 2009) and at Pratt Institute (Performance and Performance Studies, 2019) in Brooklyn. They identify as non-binary, agender. Originally from Washington, DC, they are currently in residence at the Art Life Institute founded by Linda Montano in Kingston, New York. They are the creator of the yearly, Queerteenth Performance Art Festival in Kingston. In 2022 they received the honor of the City of Kingston's Distinguished Artist Award for 2022-24.

Jaguar Mary X is on Radio Kingston twice a week as the voice and creator of Midday and Midnight Medicine Journey, a program that centers ancestral appreciation and international music by BIPOC experimental, electronic and ambient producers.

After a life-shifting experience with mugwort, they began to share the plant's healing properties, organizing ritual smudging performance happenings. Jaguar Mary X developed Artemisia Negra, a pop-up event offering handmade incense and other healing tools infused with mugwort (*L. artemisia vulgaris*) in 2019.

Katie Workum is a choreographer, improviser, singer, dancer and Authentic Movement facilitator living in NYC. In the studio she is currently making a dance theater piece with Weena Pauly to premiere in May '23. She is also co-founder and participant of Duvet; a group of artists, movers, friends, and researchers working together in the form and practice of Authentic Movement. Thank you JM, Katrina, and Nehemoyia for diving in together again and again and again. Thank you Martita for being our guardian angel. Thank you David for inviting me into this deeply rewarding process. Thank you reader for reading and being here with us. Take a look at www.katieworkum.org for all the who's, what's when's, where's and why's.

Katrina Reid is a dancer, choreographer, and storyteller. She collaborates with a range of artists who explore performance across dance, theater, ritual, music, and film. Select presentations include Queens Museum, ISSUE Project Room, the Knockdown Center, Current Sessions, AUNTS at Beach Sessions, the BMCC Tribeca Performing Arts Center, and Brooklyn Arts Exchange (BAX) as 2016-2017 Dancing While Black Fellow with Angela's Pulse. www.katrina-reid.com

Nehemoyia Young is a Brooklyn based movement artist. Her work considers both the sacred and secular, while also challenging how their bifurcation shows up in our bodies. Her work has been featured at Movement Research, Danspace, WildProject and Spelman College. She's worked alongside Okwui Okpokwasili, Andre Zachary, David Thomson, among others. She was a collaborator in the 2020 Movement Research Studies Project entitled "Are Y'all Really Feeling Me? : How Black Performance Moves Beyond just Matter(ing)". Nehemoyia is a 2019 graduate of Columbia University/Union Theological Seminary where she received a Masters in Theology, Performance Art & Ritual.

Martita Abril is a performer, choreographer, organizer, and teaching artist from the border city of Tijuana, México. She's worked with dance artists and companies throughout México, South America, and the US, including Lux Boreal, Cristina Baquerizo, Kim Brandt, Yoshiko Chuma, Rebecca Davis, Milka Djordjevich, Tess Dworman, Daria Fain and Robert Kocik The Commons Choir, Kat Galasso, Allyson Green, Abigail Levine, Mina Nishimura, Cori Olinghouse, Okwui Okpokwasili, Will Rawls, Larissa Velez-Jackson, and was a performer in Simone Forti's Dance Constructions at the Museum of Modern Art. Martita is currently working with Yanira Castro, Jennifer Monson and continues to create her own work. She's been a PECCA Scholar as a "Young Creator" and received a Mexican national fellowship from FONCA to continue making work in New York City. Martita was selected for the Fresh Tracks Residency at New York Live Arts and has served as a mentor for the New York Foundation for the Arts (NYFA) Immigrant Artist Program from 2015-2020. Her work has been seen at New York Live Arts, Sunday Service at The Knockdown Center curated by Yanira Castro, Movement Research at the Judson Church, CPR Performance Studio Open House, NYFA, HERE Art Center, Potiker Theater at UCSD, Instituto de Cultura de Baja California, and site-specifics throughout NYC and Tijuana. She is currently teaching workshops as part of iLAND for spanish speaking families and is the Programs and Events Manager at Movement Research (MR). Martita is also the Coordinator for MR at Judson Church on Monday nights. Martita-abril.org.

Peter Born (set design) works as a director, composer and designer of performance and installation, often in collaboration with Okwui Okpokwasili, with whom he created work, most recently in collaboration with Okpokwasili at the Loophole of Retreat at the 2022 Venice Biennale, as well as on their installation "Poor People's TV Room (SOLO)" at the New Museum (2021) and "on the way undone" (2021) at the High Line Park. Other collaborations with Okpokwasili include "Sitting on a Man's Head" (2019), "Adaku's Revolt" (2019), "At the Anterior Edge" (2018), "Poor People's TV Room" (2017), "when I return, who will receive me" (2016), "Bronx Gothic (The Oval)" (2014), "Bronx Gothic" (2013) and "pent up: a revenge dance" (2009), as well as an album they produced together "day pulls down the sky" (2019). Their work has also appeared in the Berlin Biennale and at the Tate. He collaborated with David Thomson as a director, designer and writer on "The Venus Knot" (2017) and "he his own mythical beast" (2018), and as a set designer for Nora Chipaumire's "rite/riot" (2014) and "El Capitan Kinglady" (2016). Four of Peter's collaborations have garnered New York Dance Performance "Bessie" Awards. His work as an art director and prop stylist has been featured in video and photo projects with Vogue, Estee Lauder,

Barney's Co-op, Bloomingdales, Old Navy, "25" magazine, The Wall Street Journal and No Strings Puppet Productions. He is a former New York public high school teacher, floral designer, corporate actor-facilitator, video maker and furniture designer.

Athena Kokoronis (costume design) is an artist, mother and founder of Domestic Performance Agency (DPA). As an art brand that holds all the things an artist is asked to do, DPA invites collaborations. Her work expands across Art, food, dance, pedagogical engagements, and design contexts. DPA upcoming collection will be represented in part of Lydia Rodrigues Collection this November, a bi-yearly fashion retail salon. @Ircnyc.online She is a 2023 Rome Prize design fellow with Jasmine Hearn. Eat at DPA 24/7 Diner this December. Find out more: domesticperformanceagency@gmail.com

Stan Pressner (lighting design) has created the lighting for dance, theatre, opera and music events on five continents. His work can be found in the repertoires of, among others: The New York City Ballet, Bayerische Staatsoper, The Lyon Opera Ballet, Geneva Opera Ballet, Bill T. Jones/ Arnie Zane, Ralph Lemon and Company, Bayerische Staatsballet, The Atlanta Ballet, The Boston Ballet, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Stephen Petronio and Dancers and The Netherlands Dance Theatre. His work includes: Jean Genet's The Blacks for the Stockholm Staatsteatern and The Market Theatre of Johannesburg, Dances with Piano or... an evening of solos for Mikhael Baryshnikov, La Clemenza de Tito, The Abduction from the Seraglio and The Rake's Progress for the Munich Staatsoper, Scenery and lighting for The Logic of the Birds, Scenery and lighting for John Jasperse' See Through Knot for The White Oak Project, Giant Empty for John Jasperse . Broadway designs include Twelfth Night and Richard III for the Globe Theatre. He served as UCLA's Visiting Professor of Dance Lighting from 1992-1994 and is currently on faculty at both the Juilliard School and NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. He also serves as the resident lighting designer of the Lincoln Center Festival. As a theatre consultant, he works with Theatre Projects Consultants, currently on the redevelopment of Lincoln Center and a new cultural policy for the City of Dallas as well as the development of the Arts District in Dallas. Mr. Pressner is the recipient of a 1988 New York Dance and Performance Award ("Bessie") for cumulative achievement, a 1997 Cable Ace Award for Bravo's Inside the Actor's Studio and a 1988, 1991 and 1994 American Theatre Wing Design Award nomination. He has come to prefer Stein.

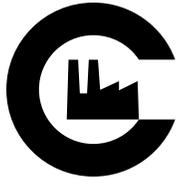
James Lo (sound design) has created scores for choreographers Jodi Melnick, Justin Cabrillos, Molly Lieber and Eleanor Smith, Vicky Shick, Oren Barnoy, Neil Greenberg, Elena Demyanenko, Katie Workum, Heather Olson, Sarah Michelson, Maria Hassabi, Jennifer Monson, Levi Gonzalez, Ralph Lemon, RoseAnne Spradlin, and Lucy Guerin among others.

He received New York Dance and Performance (BESSIE) Award for John Jasperse's furnished/ unfurnished and for Donna Uchizono's State of Heads. In addition to composition and sound design, Lo has worked as an embedded systems engineer for Robert Ashley, Elizabeth Streb, and David Behrman, and as an enterprise software consultant for many major financial services and life sciences companies.

Tricia Toliver (Production Stage Manager) was the resident Lighting Designer/Technical Director for the Barnard College Dance Department from 2009-2022. She has worked for the Vail International Dance Festival since 2013 and has also stage-managed for Yo-Yo Ma and the Silk Road Project. She has had the pleasure of working primarily in the dance world for such companies as the Trisha Brown Dance Company, Lucinda Childs, Lar Lubovitch, The Limon Dance Company, Doug Varone and Dancers, Donald Byrd/The Group, Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo, Susan Marshall, David Dorfman Dance and Complexions. Her other credits include production management for the National Ballet of Cuba, Netherlands Dance Theatre II, City Center Theater and NJPAC as well as stage managing Cirque Dreams, Jungle Fantasy on Broadway in 2008. She has a B.A. in dance from UCLA and an M.F.A. in dance from the University of Washington and danced with Donald Byrd/The Group from 1987-1991.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge that The Chocolate Factory Theater is situated on the unceded ancestral lands of the Munsee Lenape and Canarsie people. We pay respect to the past, present and future stewards of these lands. The Chocolate Factory Theater respectfully offers this acknowledgment as a small step on a path towards recognition and repair, with the understanding that acknowledgment is not a substitute for action.



ABOUT THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY THEATER

The Chocolate Factory Theater exists to encourage and support artists in their process of inquiry. We engage specifically with a community of artists who challenge themselves and, in doing so, challenge us. We believe that by supporting the labor of artists and the public presentation of their work, we contribute to elevating New York City as a thriving and more equitable wellspring of ideas.

The Chocolate Factory embraces artistic practice as an integral part of the artist's whole life, an essential component of the life of our community and a key element of a larger national and international artistic dialogue. As such, we host artists as our equal partners with shared autonomy, trust and appreciation. While we seek to make big ideas and extended relationships possible, we commit to working at a small, intimate and personal scale, with few artistic compromises or boundaries.

We achieve all of this by creating a vessel for artistic experimentation through a residency package serving the whole artist - salary, space, responsive and flexible support for the development of new work from inspiration to presentation.

MAJOR SUPPORTERS: Lily Auchincloss Foundation, Harkness Foundation, The Henry Luce Foundation, the Willem de Kooning Foundation, and Teiger Foundation through the Coalition of Small Arts New York, New York Community Trust, New York State Parks, NYC Council Majority Leader Jimmy Van Bramer, NYS Assemblywoman Catherine T. Nolan, Plaxall, The Chocolate Factory Theater Trustees, The McGue Millhiser Trust, Mental Insight Foundation, Mertz Gilmore Foundation, Robert Rauschenberg Foundation, Carl and Laurie Rogers, Select Equity Group Foundation, Emma A. Sheaffer Charitable Trust, Shine Electronics, Shubert Foundation, The Trust for Mutual Understanding, and our many individual donors.

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Brian Rogers	Co-Founder/Artistic Director
Madeline Best	Director of Operations
Shaniyat Chowdhury	Director of Development
Regine Pieters	Development Associate
Peter Richards	House Videographer
Michael Reardon	Graphic Design
Shana Crawford	Production Manager
Lydia Sloan	Front of House
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Andres Santiago, Will	
Scott, Serena Wong	
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THANK YOU TO OUR ANNUAL SUPPORTERS: Luciana Achugar, Gerrilea Adams, Madani Adjali, Noel Allain, Robert Altman, Claude Antonelli, Paul Bader, Regina Bain, Ivy Baldwin, Maria Bauman, Jodi Bender, Rachel Berman, Karen Bernard, Philip Bither, Nancy Black, Suzanne Bocanegra, Rob Bralow, Betsey Brock, Nicholas Brooke, Chloe Brown, Barbara Bryan, Asli Bulbul, Nicola Bullock, Johnny Butera, Michael Cairl, Kim Calichio, Aimee Campbell, Carianne Carleo-Evangelist, Yanira Castro, Mallory Catlett, Don and Katha Cato, Solana Chehtman, Peggy Cheng, Michelle Chivu, Janet Clancy, Hilary Clark, Laura Colby, Jane Comfort, Donna Costello, Juan Cruz, Shoshona Currier, William Cusick, Leslie Cuyjet, Lane Czaplinski, Amela Demirovic, Maggie Dick, Lisa DiClerico, Laura Diffenderfer, Annie Dorsen, Nelson Downend, Joanne M. Doyle, Ursula Eagly, Hilary Easton, Carter Edwards, Robert Flam, Mary Fleischer, Robert Flynt, Jack Frost, Catherine Galasso, Michael Logan & Susan Garabedian, Beth Garrett, Beth Gill, Justin Goldbach, Neil Greenberg, Marcus Hagenbarth, Patricia Carrick & David Hagenbarth, Evie Hantzopoulos, Clay Hapaz, Yusuke Hashimoto, Cynthia Hedstrom, Kendal Henry, Sami Hopkins, Abeer Hoque, Asa Horvitz, Owen Hughes, Irene Hughes, Nene Humphrey, Paul Januszewski, Mikeah Jennings, Chai Jindasurat, Allison Kahn, Lyndsey Karr, Rachel Kauder Nalebuff, Kathryn Kaufmann, Charles Kerr, Nunally Kersh, Charles Kessler, Sam Kim, Drew Klein, Heather Kravas, Thomas Kriegsmann, Peter Ksander, Aaron Landsman, Paula Lawrence, Paul Lazar, Rebecca Lazier, Sarah Leonard, Abigail Levine, Eva Lewandowski, Pooches LIC, Lynn Lobell, Danielle Luscombe, Melanie Maar, Sisto Martello, Kristin Marting, Meridith Maskara, Juliana May, Megan Mayer, Julie Mayo, Dylan McCullough, John McGregor, Jeff McMahan, Charles Meara, Michele Melnick, JoAnne Meyers, Amey Miller, Virginia Millhiser, Jennifer Monson, Elisabeth Motley, Mio Nakamura, David Neubert, David Neumann, Jennifer Newman, Mina Nishimura, Magnus Nordberg, Eric & Elaine Ohlson, Mr. Pancks, David Parker, Annie-B Parson, Nicholas Paul, Carla Peterson, Amadeo Plaza, Danielle Porcaro, Barbara Pryor, Tony Quinn, Charles Rice-Gonzalez, Melissa Riker, Melinda Ring, Ramon H. Rivera-Servera, John Robinson, Carl & Laurie Rogers, Paul Rogers, Alexandra Rosenberg, Jonah Rosenberg, Jeffrey Rosenstock, Jessica Rutherford, Moitri C. Savard, Chris Schlichting, Matthew Shalzi, Helen Shaw, Victoria Shick, Howard Silver, Phil Soltanoff, Nick Spanos, Anna Sperber, George L. Stamatiades, Jeffrey Steinman, Tina Stipanovic, Jason Stuart, Ryan Suda, Kay Takeda, Leyya Tawil, R. Taylor, Tatyana Tenenbaum, David Thomson, Mira Todorova, Garrick Trapp, Donna Uchizono, Laurie Uprichard, Rachel Valinsky, Dan Van Note, Aynsley Vandenbroucke, Matthew Wallace, Marya Warshaw, Martin Wechsler, Philippa Wehle, Cathy Weis, Julie Weprin, Kathy Westwater, Phyllis Whitehouse, Maureen Whiting, Frank Wu, Matvei Yankelevich, Jon Yanofsky, Judith Zangwill, Cathy Zimmerman (as of June 30, 2022).

