

# THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY THEATER

## FALL 2023 / SPRING 2024

Wanjiru Kamuyu  
*A disguised welcome...*  
September 22-23, 2023

Second Annual Gala  
September 27, 2023

Takahiro Yamamoto  
*NOTHINGBEING*  
October 5-7, 2023

Antonio Ramos and the Gangbangers  
*CEREMONIA*  
(at Abrons Arts Center)  
October 19-21, 2023

chameckilerner  
*Aging Prelude*  
October 20-28, 2023

Michelle Ellsworth  
*Evidence of Labor and The Post-Verbal Social Network*  
November 9-11, 2023

Jen Rosenblit + Phil Hayes  
*Creative Residency*  
November 2023

Brian Rogers  
*Small Songs*  
December 6-9, 2023

Animals and Giraffes  
December 12, 2023

Hannah Krafcik + Emily Jones  
*Creative Residency*  
December 2023

Juliana May  
*Family Happiness (reprise)*  
January 11-14, 2024

Hilary Clark  
*Creative Residency*  
January 2024

Stina Nyberg + Kaki King  
*Creative Residency*  
January 2024

Kim Brandt  
*Creative Residency*  
February 2024

Ursula Eagly  
*Dream Body Body Building*  
March 5-9, 2024

Stacy Grossfield  
*metamorphosis 2*  
March 20-30, 2024

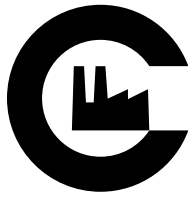
Leslie Cuyjet  
*For All Your Life*  
April 10-13, 2024

Heather Kravas  
*overly merry*  
May 2024

Alex Romania  
*Face Eaters*  
May 17-25, 2024

Angie Pittman  
*Black Life Chord Changes*  
June 5-8, 2024

jess pretty  
*call and response*  
June 26-29, 2024



**THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY  
THEATER**

**PRESENTS**

**jess pretty**  
***call and response***

June 26-29, 2024

choreography / performance : **jess pretty**

set design/ styling : **jess pretty**

sound: **Stephanie Mills, Luther Vandross,  
Roberta Flack, Whitney Houston, Gladerene  
Pretty**

sound editing: **jess pretty**

lighting design / production manager: **Maggie  
Heath**

DJ: **DJ Luccihugh**

creative questioning / guidance / activation:  
**keyon gaskin, Niall Jones**

**gratitude:**

i'm grateful for my practice (my life)  
i'm grateful for my body, for my ancestors, for  
my family, for my lineage, for my archive  
i'm grateful for voice memos

i'm grateful to the Chocolate Factory for  
continuing to say yes and hold space for me/  
my work over time

i'm grateful for keyon and Niall

i'm grateful for Maggie

i'm grateful for Tyler

i'm grateful for my community who have been  
engaging with me in these call and response  
streets (Jeremy Toussaint-Baptiste, Jordan  
Demetrius Lloyd, Carlo Antonio Villanueva,  
Kris KQ Pourzal, Alex Eady, Emma Marlar,  
Laura Osterhaus Rosenstone, Hana Tanberg,  
Will Rawls, Cynthia Oliver, Morgan Bassichis,  
Talvin Wilks, Stephanie Acosta, Angie Pittman,  
Jasmine Hearn, Bessie MacDonough Thayer)

thank you to the Chocolate Factory, Materials  
for the Arts, and REMIX for the furniture.

## BIOS

**jess pretty** is on a quest for pleasure that transcends time and the spaces she claims to reside in. her practices include writing, teaching, cooking, singing, conjuring, and dancing.

pretty received an MFA in Dance with a minor in Queer Studies from the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign. she has shown her work at the Chocolate Factory Theater, La Mama Experimental Theater Club (2017 La Mama Moves Festival), New York Live Arts (as a 2016/17 Fresh Tracks artist), CATCH!, Gibney Dance Center, Brooklyn Studios for Dance, the CURRENT SESSIONS, panoply performing arts space, Green Street Studios, and three ACDA conferences. pretty has been an artist in residence at Kent State (2017), the Chocolate Factory Theater, and the Center for Performance Research (2019-2020) and was a 2020 member of the Queer Art Fellowship. pretty has collaborated and been a part of the works of: Will Rawls, Claudia Rankine, Kevin Beasley, Okwui Okpokwasili, Peter Born, Catherine Gallasso, David Thomson, Katie Workum, Niall Jones, Jennifer Monson, Cynthia Oliver, Leslie Cuyjet and Dianne McIntyre. pretty is the Director of AUNTS.

pretty currently lives in Minneapolis, MN where she is an Assistant Professor of Dance at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities.

**Maggie Heath** is a production designer located in Queens, NY. They received a BFA from Portland State University focusing in sculpture, though found a creative home in theaters and with dancers. Heath works with light and objects, interested in the immateriality of light and how it reveals, obscures, and defines our relationship to the space between objects and the body. A long standing obsession with how we see and what we seek while roaming through darkness follows Heath in all of their artistic ventures. Recent designs include: *yuniya edi kwon, silver through the grass like nothing* (in progress, premiering 2025); Will Rawls, [*siccer*] (2023); Marcel Dzama, *To Live on the Moon (For Lorca)* (2023); Portland Experimental Theatre Ensemble, *Cardiac Organ* (2023); SUN HAN GUILD, *EARTH IRIDESCENCE / SORROW CHURN* (2023); Linda Austin + Allie Hankins, || /ə 'sɪŋgəl pɪŋk klaʊd/ (2022).

DJ and music producer **DJ Luccihugh** brings the good vibes with her wherever she goes. With her own unique

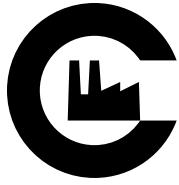
flair, Luccihugh's sets highlight her versatile sound and the depth of her music knowledge that is beyond her years. She loves an event where she can allow her creativity to thrive, weaving guests through a musical journey. With quiet confidence, Luccihugh measures her success by a poppin' party with an unforgettable dance floor. She's based in Los Angeles but ready to go wherever the next gig takes her.

**keyon gaskin** prefers not to contextualize with their credentials.

**Niall Jones** is an artist based in New York City. He constructs, inhabits and explores the theatre as a mode and location of instability and incompleteness. Niall received a Bessie Award nomination for Outstanding Emerging Choreographer in 2017 and more recently a 2021 Grants-To-Artists Award from the Foundation for Contemporary Art. Recent performance works by Niall include: *Sis Minor, in Fall* at Abrons Arts Center, New York (2018); *Fantasies in Low Fade* at the Chocolate Factory, New York (2019); *A Work for Others* at The Kitchen / Queenslab, New York (2021); *Open Studio* at MoMA PS1, Queens (2021); *In the Efforts of Time* at Staatliche Akademie der Bildenden Künste, Stuttgart (2022); *dark de luxe: a mess for body, shadow, and other rogue im/materials* at Jack Art Center, Brooklyn (2022); *an un real* at The Shed, New York (2022); *COMPRESSION* at Performance Space New York (2022) as well as *Hahaha* as part of the School for Temporary Liveness, Vol.3, Philadelphia (2023).

## **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 is an artist-centered organization, built by and for artists. Co-founders Sheila Lewandowski and Brian Rogers began making work together in 1995 and quickly saw the need for a creative home to support their work and the work of fellow experimental performance-based artists. The Chocolate Factory therefore has grown and developed within and through a creative process that centers the development of new work, as guided by makers.

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, CATES Tutoring NYC, Con Edison, Howard Gilman Foundation, Harkness Foundation, The Henry Luce Foundation, the Willem de Kooning Foundation, and Teiger Foundation through the Coalition of Small Arts New York, Jerome Foundation, jetBlue, Lambent Foundation, M&T Bank, National Endowment for the Arts, New York Community Trust, New York Foundation for the Arts, NYC Council Member Julie Won, NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, New York State Council on the Arts, The Chocolate Factory Theater Trustees, The McGue Millhiser Trust, Mental Insight Foundation, Mertz Gilmore Foundation, Queens Borough President Donovan Richards, Jr., Robert Rauschenberg Foundation, Rise Light and Power, Select Equity Group Foundation, Shubert Foundation, Emma A. Sheaffer Charitable Trust, Shine Electronics, Trust for Mutual Understanding, and our many individual donors.

## STAFF

Sheila Lewandowski	Co-Founder/Executive Director
Brian Rogers	Co-Founder/Artistic Director
Madeline Best	Director of Operations
Regine Pieters	Associate Director of Development
Gerard Minaya	Assistant to the Executive Director
Peter Richards	House Videographer
Michael Reardon	Graphic Design
Shana Crawford	Production Manager
Yuby Hernandez	Marketing and Outreach Consultant

## TRUSTEES

Chris Ajemian, Diane Eisenstat (President), Daniel Fish, Vallejo Gantner, Neil Greenberg, Jonathan Kratter (Treasurer), Jerry Laspisa, Sheila Lewandowski, Diana Manalang, Angie Pittman, Antonio Ramos, Brian Rogers, Jimmy Van Bramer (Secretary), Frank Wu, Moe Yousuf.

THANK YOU TO OUR ANNUAL SUPPORTERS: Jennifer Adjali, Madani & Jen Adjali, Chris Ajemian, Stan Aleshin, Roya Amirsoleymani, Anonymous Anonymous, Sarah Atwood, Linda Austin, Richard Aviles, Angel Ayon, Regina Bain, Ivy Baldwin, Jordan Barbour, Meg Barnette, Chloe Bass, Peter Bellamy, Jodi Bender, Margaret Bennett, Ted Berger, Karen Bernard, Hannah Berson, Alice Berstein, Madeline Best, David Binder, Philip Bither, Gavin Black, Nancy Black, Suzanne Bocanegra, Agnes Borinsky, Tammy Bormann, Peter Born, Chuck Bracken, Rob Bralow, Karen Brooks Hopkins, Carol Bryce-Buchanan, Stormy Budwig, Richard Burdon, Patrick Burke, Aimee Campbell, Tymberly Canale, Carianne Carlo-Evangelist, Leah Carrell, Robin Carson, Gonzalo Casals, Amy Cassello, Yanira Castro, Don and Katha Cato, Irene Chaldaris, Travis Chamberlain, Rosane Chamecki, Miles Chapin, Rachel Chavkin, Meilan Chen, Peggy Cheng, Amy Chin, Hilary Clark, Kristen Clifford, Michelle Coffey, Laura Colby, Jane Comfort, Liana Conyers, Marc Cooper, Martha Cooper, Matthew Coquard-Wallace, Donna Costello, David Cote, Olivia Cothren, Diana Crum, Shoni Currier, William Cusick, Leslie Cuyjet, Lane Czaplinski, Kristen Daley, Stonie Darling, Jim Dawson, Kate De Zegonita, Kyle deCamp, Thomas DeFrantz, Warlito Deleon, Amela Demirovic, Nick Desai, Lisa DiClerico, Silvia Dinale, Stacey Dinner, Milka Djordjevic, Maura Donohue, David Dorfman, Annie Dorsen, Robert & Alice Eagly, Ursula Eagly, Hilary Easton, Bob Eisen, Diane Eisenstat, Barbara Etzel, Jim Findlay, Daniel Fish, Karen Fitzgerald, Mary Fleischer, Robert Flynt, Joe Fonseca, Jordan Franklin, Jack Frost, Catherine Galasso, Vallejo Gantner, Beth Gill, Kara Gilmour, Levi Gonzalez, Cydney Goodrum, Beth Graczyk, Neil Greenberg, Miguel Gutierrez, Rebecca Hadley, Cara Hagan, Marcus Hagenbarth, Clay Hapaz, Jon Harper, Casey Hayes-Deats, Cynthia Hedstrom, Yuby Hernandez, David Herskovits, Pati Hertling, Melanie Hickerson, Ivan Himanen, Seth Hochman, Patricia Hoffbauer, Asa Horvitz, Owen Hughes, Nene Humphrey, Dan Hurlin, Judy Hussie-Taylor, Pat Irwin, Lucy Jackson, Mark Jackson, Jane Jerardi, Jeffrey Jones, Justin Jones, Harriet Juli, Allie Kahn, Jason Kaiser, Karen Kandel, Tamill Kapp, Kirstin Kapustik, Barbara Karger, Lyndsey Karr, Rachel Kauder Nalebuff, Maura Keefe, Charles Kerr, Nunally Kersh, Jeannette Kim, Sam Kim, Jon Kinzel, Brad Kisicki, Andrea Kleine, Kristen Kosmas, natalia Kowal, Jonathan Kratter, Heather Kravas, Rob Krulak, Peter Ksander, Claudia La Rocco, Gundega Laivina, Aaron Landsman, david lang, Jerry Laspisa, Paul Lazar, Rebecca Lazier, Sarah Leonard, Andrea Lerner, Abigail Levine, Judith Levitt, Andrew & Claire Lewandowski, Eva Lewandowski, Sheila Lewandowski, Katinka Locascio, Sean Loisel, Andrew London, Andrea Louie, Robert Luna, Clarinda Mac Low, Diana Manalang, Alka Mansukhani, Cori Marquis, Kristin Marting, Meridith Maskara, Kay Matschullat, Diane Max, Sarah Maxfield, Juliana May, Cynthia Mayeda, Megan Mayer, Nathan Maynard, Julie Mayo, Brendan McCall, Tamara McCaw, Dylan McCullough, Jeff McMahon, Joseph Melillo, Joe Melillo, Charmaine Mendoza, JoAnne Meyers, Amanda Middaugh, Amey Miller, Gerard Minaya, Tom Mituzas, Jon Moniaci, Elizabeth Moreau, Alton Murray, Denisa Musilova, Iki Nakagawa, Mio Nakamura, Thomas Namako, David and Erica Neumann, Leslie Nilsson, Jodee Nimerichter, Mina Nishimura, Cathy Nolan, Kasey O'Brien, Tara O'con, Jody Oberfelder, Sarah Obraitis, Okwui Okpokwasili, Robert Ouimette, Annie B Parson, Shari Pascaros, Rebecca Patek, John Patterson, Caroline Paul, Christopher Pennington, Cassie Perlmutter, Carla Peterson, Craig Peterson, Tricia Pierson, Angie Pittman, Danielle Porcaro, Michael Preston, Katherine Profeta, Barbara Pryor, Tony Quinn, Gabriella Rhodeen, Aaron Rhyne, Peter Richards, Katrin Robertson, John Robinson, Heather Robles, Nat Roe, Brian Rogers, Carl & Laurie Rogers, Paul Rogers, Amy Rogoway, Alex Rosenberg, Jeff Rosenstock, Jade Roth, Matt Sabena, Aki Sasamoto, Moirith Savard, Davison Scandrett, Jay Scheib, Chris Schlichting, Susan Schroeder, Zoe Scofield, John Scott, Lori Seid, Lucy Sexton, Helen Shaw, Martha Sherman, Vicky Shick, Shawn Sides, Sara Silva, Howard Silver, Michael Simonelli, Lauren Slone, Phil Soltanoff, Andres Soto, Marion Spencer, Anna Sperber, Robin Staff, Harry Stahl, Janet Stapleton, Benjamin Stark, Leonard Steinbach, Jody Falco and Jeffrey Steinman, Jason Stuart, Litchinut Studios, Amber Sutherland, Amy Swanson, Kay Takeda, James Tankersley, Brian Tate, Tatyana Tenenbaum, David Thomson, Luis Torres, Mary Torres, Meghann Trago, Jack Trinco, Donna Uchizono, Laurie Uprichard, Jimmy Van Bramer, Aynsley Vandenbroucke, Lynnea Villanova, Daria Walcott, Matthew Wallace, Ming Wang, Marya Warsaw, Stephen Facey & Jay Wegman, Cathy Weis, Michael Weiss, Steven Wendt, Ryan Suda and Julie Weprin, Kathy Westwater, Adrienne Westwood, Phyllis Whitehouse, Maureen Whiting, Gary Winter, Katherine Wolpe, Janet Wong, Frank Wu, Shon-An Wu, John Wyszniwski, Takahiro Yamamoto, Lingling Yang, Matvei Yankelevich, Jon Yanofsky, Netta Yerushalmy, Lu Yim, Moe Yousuf, Lucien Zayan, Karl Zielaznicki, Liz Ziemiński, Cathy Zimmerman (as of December 31, 2023).

