

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 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 2024

Stacy Grossfield
metamorphosis 2
March 2024

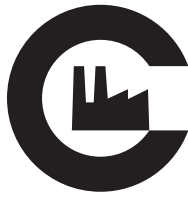
Leslie Cuyjet
For All Your Life
April 2024

Heather Kravas
overly merry
May 2024

Alex Romania
Face Eaters
May 2024

Angie Pittman
Black Life Chord Changes
June 2024

jess pretty
call and response
June 2024



THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY THEATER PRESENTS

Michelle Ellsworth *Evidence of Labor and the Post-Verbal Social Network*

November 9-11, 2023

Evidence of Labor (EOL)

Creators: **Michelle Ellsworth** and **Satchel Spencer**

Dancers: **Jadd Tank, Elle Hong, Ondine Geary, Uli Miller, Onye Ozuzu, Michelle Ellsworth**

Lighting Designer: **Madeline Best**

Sound and Video Designer: **Max Zara Bernstein**

Programmer: **Satchel Spencer**

Apparatus Designer: **Bruce Miller**

Apparatus Builders: **Bruce Miller, Bruce Bryne, Mike Lake**

Sewing: **Michelle Ellsworth, Beth Osnes, and Melisande Osnes**

Alpine Hornist and Lyricist: **Ann Ellsworth**

Ceramics: **Priscilla Cohan**

The Post-Verbal Social Network (PVSN)

Creator: **Michelle Ellsworth**

Dancers: **Brittney Banaei, Lauren Beale, Max Zara Bernstein, Charlotte Conway, Chris Conway, Laura**

Conway, Ben Donehower, John Ellsworth, Michelle Ellsworth, Ondine Geary, Constance Harris, Elle Hong, Luke Iwabuchi, Laura Kim, Ting Lester, Hanna McCaslin, Bruce Miller, Uli Miller, Megan Odom, Lerato Osnes, Onye Ozuzu, Erika Randall, Laura Ann Samuelson, Zoe Scofield, Ryan Seeling, Satchel Spencer, Kevin Sweet, and Jadd Tank.

Lighting Designer and Reactive Artist: **Ryan Seelig**

Sound and Video Designer: **Max Zara Bernstein**

16mm and the most recent prototype video work:
Laura Conway

Assistant Camera: **Uli Miller**

Music used in Conway's filmed prototypes: **Ben Donehower**

Misc Language: **Ann Ellsworth** and **Erika Randall**

Ceramics: **Priscilla Cohan**

Programmer: **Satchel Spencer**

Apparatus Builder: **Bruce Miller**

Production Manager: **Emily Rea**

Evidence of Labor: Dish Towels Division

A subsidiary of "State of the Kitchen," "Dish Towels" are less technically complex but share the Kitchen's commitment to alternative language-based thought representations and publishing platforms. Dish Towel content includes several original kinetic alphabets and multiple new fonts (including sand ball font, dead-man pant font, ceramic q-tip font, and hair font), as well as instructions on how to make several language disposal systems. Central to this work is the knowledge that even if the language-based ideas expressed on the "Dish Towels" are unhelpful intellectually/politically/spiritual, they are at least still absorbent. Dish towels would not exist without Priscilla Cohan. The wood, metal, and ceramic artifacts were made by either Priscilla Cohan or Bruce Miller.

Evidence of Labor: Audience Division

People who like the idea of going to “Evidence of Labor” but don’t actually want to go can pay other people or inflatable sharks to go for them. Patrons get full credit and are provided evidence of their audience labor, which allows them to support Ellsworth, The Chocolate Factory, EMPAC, and Art without having to go to “another” show. Evidence of their audience labor includes: a physical ticket, a dish towel, and a photo of their paid proxy (human or suspended inflatable shark). Modeled after the Mormon practice of baptisms for the dead (also called proxy baptisms) and sex work, this new audience opportunity liberates patrons to simultaneously be responsible citizens of an art eco system—and still do what the hell they really want to do.

FUNDING CREDITS

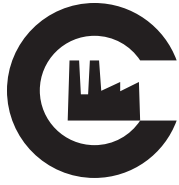
Post Verbal Social Network was made possible by the New England Foundation for the Arts’ National Dance Project, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. *Post Verbal Social Network* is also supported by a Guggenheim Fellowship, the Headlands Center for the Arts Residency program, The MacDowell Colony, the Atlas Institute and the Center for Humanities and the Arts at CU Boulder, and the Boulder County Arts Alliance.

Evidence of Labor is co-commissioned by EMPAC / the Curtis R. Priem Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY and The Chocolate Factory Theater. Additional support came from the University of Colorado Boulder.

Super grateful. Thanks all. So many hands-on hands at OTB, EMPAC, CU, and Chocolate Factory.

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: Madani Adjali, Cosme Aguilar, Robert Altman, Sarah Atwood, Ivy Baldwin, Jordan Barbour, Meg Barnette, Ted Berger, Karen Bernard, Philip Bither, Nancy Black, Gavin Black, Suzanne Bocanegra, Agnes Borinsky, Chuck Bracken, Chloe Brown, Carol Bryce-Buchanan, Stormy Budwig, Patrick Burke, Michael Cairl, Tymberly Canale, Carianne Carleo-Evangelist, Robin Carson, Gonzalo Casals, Amy Cassello, Yanira Castro, Don and Katha Cato, Travis Chamberlain, Rachel Chavkin, Peggy Cheng, Amy Chin, Janet Clancy, Hilary Clark, Christen Clifford, Laura Colby, Jane Comfort, Marc Cooper, Laura Coquard-Patry, Donna Costello, David Cote, John Crews, Shoshona Currier, William Cusick, Leslie Cuyjet, Lane Czaplinski, Jim Dawson, Kyle deCamp, Thomas DeFrantz, Lisa Deller, Lisa DiClerico, Milka Djordjevich, Maura Donohue, Annie Dorsen, Joanne M Doyle, Walter Dundervill, Robert & Alice Eagly, Ursula Eagly, Diane Eisenstat, Stephen Facey, Daria Fain, Daniel Fish, Wil Fisher, Mary Fleischer, Robert Flynt, Joe Fonseca, Jack Frost, Catherine Galasso, Icema Gibbs, Peter Gilbert, Beth Gill, Kara Gilmour, Francine and Lenny Goldstein, Levi Gonzalez, Neil Greenberg, Miguel Gutierrez, Rebecca Hadley, Marcus Hagenbarth, Clay Hapaz, Cynthia Hedstrom, David Herskovits, Sally Hess, Owen Hughes, Nene Humphrey, Dan Hurlin, Judy Hussie-Taylor, Pat Irwin, Paul Januszewski, Jeffrey Jones, Justin Jones, Harriet Juli, Allison Kahn, Karen Kandel, Rachel Kauder Nalebuff, Alix Keast, Charles Kerr, Catherine Kerr, Sam Kim, Jon Kinzel, Brad Kisicki, Andrea Kleine, Kristen Kosmas, Heather Kravas, Rob Krulak, Peter Ksander, Claudia La Rocco, Aaron Landsman, Paul Lazar, Rebecca Lazier, Andrea Lerner, Eva Lewandowski, Andrea Lewandowski, Katinka Locascio, Susan Logan, Clarinda Mac Low, Stacey-Jo Marine, Meredith Maskara, Kay Matschullat, Juliana May, Cynthia Mayeda, Megan Mayer, Julie Mayo, Dirk McCall, Dylan McCullough, Jeff McMahon, JoAnne Meyers, Amanda Middaugh, Amey Miller, Virginia Millhiser, Thomas Mituzas, Jennifer Monson, Zoe Morsette, Mio Nakamura, David Neumann, Mina Nishimura, Jody Oberfelder, Annie-B Parson, Shari Pascarosa, Rebecca Patek, John Patterson, Caroline Paul, Craig Peterson, Carla Peterson, Ethan Philbrick, Molly Poerstel, Katherine Profeta, Barbara Pryor, Tony Quinn, Aaron Rhyne, Peter Richards, John Robinson, Heather Robles, Paul Rogers, Brian Rogers, Paul Rogers, Carl & Laurie Rogers, Amy Rogoway, Alexandra Rosenberg, Jeffrey Rosenstock, Jay Scheib, Chris Schlichting, Susan Schroeder, Carol Serrano, Lucy Sexton, Martha Sherman, Karen Sherman, Shawn Sides, Howard Silver, Lauren Slone, Phil Soltanoff, Marion Spencer, Anna Sperber, Leonard Steinbach, Jeffrey Steinman, Ryan Suda, Maho Suiso Ogawa, Kay Takeda, Brian Tate, Tatyana Tenenbaum, David Thomson, Jack Trinco, Donna Uchizono, Laurie Uprichard, Laurie Uprichard, Aynsley Vandenbroucke, Adrienne Verrilli, Daria Walcott, Catherine Weis, Michael Weiss, Steven Wendt, Kathy Westwater, Adrienne Westwood, Phyllis Whitehouse, Shane Williams-Ness, Rob Wilson, Janet Wong, Miranda Wright, John Wright, Frank Wu, Takahiro Yamamoto, Lingling Yang, Jon Yanofsky, Netta Yerushalmy, Lu Yim, Mohammad Yousuf, Lucien Zayan, Karl Zielaznicki, Andros Zins-Browne, Norah K Zuniga Shaw (as of June 30, 2023).

