

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 5-9, 2024

Stacy Grossfield
metamorphosis 2
March 20-30, 2024

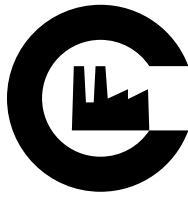
Leslie Cuyjet
For All Your Life
April 10-13, 2024

Heather Kravas
overly merry
May 2024

Alex Romania
Face Eaters
May 17-25, 2024

Angie Pittman
Black Life Chord Changes
June 2024

jess pretty
call and response
June 2024



THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY THEATER

PRESENTS

Stacy Grossfield *metamorphosis 2*

March 20-30, 2024

Choreography by **Stacy Grossfield**

Performed by collaborators **Alexandra Albrecht, Tuva H.** and **Nola Sporn Smith** with **Hannah Franzen, Nishka Pierson** and **Dianna Warren**

Lighting design by **Madeline Best**

Sound design by **Ryan Gamblin**

Video Design by **Gil Sperling**

Special Effects by **J & M Special Effects**

Special Effects and prop master **Hilary Brown-Istrefi**

Ballet costumes by **Benefis**

metamorphosis 2 was created, in part, through the Space Grant Program at BAX/ Brooklyn Arts Exchange with support from the Sustainable Arts Foundation. This project was supported, in part, by a Foundation for Contemporary Arts Emergency Grant.

SPECIAL THANKS

Alex & Nola, we are finally here! 03/2024 has arrived. Thank you for your artistry, your late night/early morning texts, your questions, and your support of me and this work. I love you so much. Tuva, after all we've both been through in the past 8 years, we are also finally here! Thank you for coming across the world 6 weeks ago, diving in head first from day one, and trusting me and this work. I am so grateful for your creativity. Hannah, Nishka, and Dianna, thank you for agreeing to do this crazy weird piece! I am in awe of you and your devotion to this work from the beginning (auditions!) and throughout this very, very short process. Thank you, Laura Witsken, for being half of my brain for the production work for m2. Many thank yous to Emma Rose Brown for understudying and being a supportive helping hand! Thank you, Ryan, for creating so much to work with and helping this piece fulfill its destiny. Thank you, Siena, for rolling with all this in stride. Thank you, Jeremy Chernick and Katia Carmichael at J&M Special Effects! Thank you, Hilary, for once again wrangling all these special effects and being amazing at controlling it all! Thank you, Madeline! I can't believe how easy it was to work with you for the first time and how quickly you manifested the lighting, wow. Thank you, Mimi Lien, for being in the C.F. with me and once again helping me over my road blocks with figuring out elements in the room. Thank you Brian and Shelia. I didn't know I could love the C.F. and you two more than I already did, since 2000-whatsit. This place is unparalleled on so many levels. Thank you, Shana, you are extraordinary and remarkably calm in such a fascinating way. Thank you, Gil, you will never cease to amaze me on so many levels as a human being. I am lucky to get to spend my life with you...also you, the talented video designer.

To all these wonderful donors of this work,
THANK YOU: Nina Sporn, David Herskovitz, Jim Findlay, Joey Grossfield, Ruth Sperling, Alec Duffy & Mimi Lien, Ellen Twaddell and Daniel Davidson, Marjorie Becker Shaw, Galia Sasson, Diane Eisenstat, Neal Grossfield, Romy Smith, Martha Sherman, Alon Sperling, Shevi Rosenfeld & Nava, Steve and Linda Breskin, Charlotte Pinson, Laurel and Joel Pinson, Jon Froehlich, Jane Coyle, Megan Williams, Ruby Rosser, Jesse Rosser, Nicholas Croft, Juliana May, Emily Power, Amanda Caplan, Mariel Tavakoli, Julie Mayo, Anna Maltby Patil, Adrienne Westwood, Yanira Castro, Cynthia McGee Parker, Lauren Svrjcek, Niki Williams, Jessica Massart, Molly Ross, Molly Poerstel, Natalie Green, Alexandra Rosenberg, Oren Barnoy, Lee Anne McGee, Rebecca Warner, David Commander, Lesley Tse, Neil Greenberg, Janessa Clark, Anna Carapetyan, Katie Griffler, Michael Cardinali, Mariah Maloney, Eleanore Plenta, Beth Gill, Terry Girard, Anna Sperber, londs reuter, Katie Dean, Amy Gazley, Megan Byrne, Ivy Baldwin, Tatyana Tenenbaum, Jenni Homer, Abigail Levine, Krista Jansen, Meredith Belis, Joe Welter, Jeremy Lydic and Tina Goldstein, Jesse Freedman, Kensaku Shinohara, and Laura S. Romero.

BIOS

Stacy Grossfield was a 2019 Bessie Award nominee for Outstanding Breakout Choreographer. She was born and raised in Lakeland, FL and has choreographed and performed in New York City since 2003. Her most recent work, metamorphosis, was presented at The Kitchen in the Dance and Process series, April 2019, and was remounted at In The Works (January 2020). Her previous works include hot dark matter presented by JACK, Fur & Tulle, and Red, Pink, Black - the latter for which she

received a Manhattan Community Arts Fund grant in 2013. She has shown her work at BAX, BRIC Studio, CPR, CATCH, DTW, Food for Thought at Danspace Project, Movement Research at the Judson Church, Roulette, and through AUNTS at various venues including Arts@Renaissance, NADA Art Fair, and the New Museum. Grossfield is a choreographer for hire and choreographed the one-man-show, Quiet, Comfort, a Hoi Polloi production at JACK, as well as the Okkervil River music video "Judey On A Street". She was a 2008-2009 Fresh Tracks artist-in-residence at DTW. She has served on dance panels in NYC and taught a feedback class at Brooklyn Studios for Dance called Show & Listen. She holds a BFA in Dance Performance from SUNY Purchase. sgrossfelddanceprojects@gmail.com

Alexandra Albrecht (performer) is a Bessie-nominated performer based in New York since 2004. She has been a collaborator on original dance and performance works by Hilary Easton, Liz Glynn, Natalie Green, Ryan McNamara, Nick Mauss, Jillian Peña, Sam Pinkleton and Ani Taj/The Dance Cartel. She curated dance at The Tank from 2009-2012, and on the roof of her apartment during the pandemic. This is her second work with Stacy Grossfield. Say hello at albrecht.alexandrac@gmail.com.

Madeline Best is a Lighting Designer, Performer, Mother and the Director of Operations at the Chocolate Factory Theater. Madeline's design practice grows from an interest in the way light affects a space and how it feels for audience members and performers alike. Her lighting design supports the work of collaborative artists, most recently Katy Pyle/Ballez, Heather Kravas, Milka Djordjevich, Efrian Rozas, luciana achugar, Andrea Kleine, Anne-B Parson/ Big Dance Theater, and others. Madeline grew up in Durham, North Carolina, studied

at Bennington College and currently lives in Long Island City, Queens.

Hannah Franzen (performer) is a New York based dancer, artist, and bonafide midwestern girl. She was raised in the Chicago suburbs and spent her formative years in northern Michigan where she began her classical ballet training at Interlochen Arts Academy. She went on to study at Colorado Ballet Academy, San Francisco Ballet School, and The Joffrey Ballet in Chicago. She is currently in her final year at New York University Tisch School of the Arts. This is both her first time working with Stacy Grossfeld, and performing at The Chocolate Factory Theater. For more on Hannah you can find her @hdog_2002 on Instagram.

Ryan Gamblin is a sound designer, composer, and artist based in Brooklyn, NY, working across performance, installation, and music. Their practice centers the use of original composition, found media, and system manipulation. They have worked with artists including Faye Driscoll, Big Dance Theater, 600 Highwaymen, The Civilians, Mallory Catlett / Restless NYC, Jess Barbagallo, Tei Blow, Theater Mitu, Portland Experimental Theater Ensemble, among many others. @sound.by.ryan | RyanGamblin.com

Tuva Hildebrand (performer) (SE/NYC) is a performer, choreographer, improviser and somatic movement practitioner specialized in Skinner Releasing Technique and the body of work of Eva Karczag (NE/NYC). She was based in NY 2011-2018 and has worked with choreographers such as Heather Kravas and Stacy Grossfeld. In Sweden she is a founder of the organization Platform for Improvisation and Somatics (PIS); holding space for workshops, classes, lectures, public talks, WIP showings and festivals in the city Malmö and on a farm in the countryside. She performs with the collective Kollaborativet; high-scale immersive

performances for differently abled and extra-lingual audiences. Her own work deals with themes such as care, intimacy, violence, eco-queer-feminism, the power of language and states beyond language. It is either participatory where the audience is guided through an intimate sensorial journey or based on improvisational scores that creates a vulnerable relationship between spectator and performer. Her next piece with the working title “see me tissues unfolded inside out / always becoming never arriving” premieres at Dansstationen in Malmö, Sweden in April 2025. She is very grateful to be back in New York to be a part of this cast and project! tuvahildebrand.com

Nishka Kale Pierson (performer) is a 7th grader at I.S. 318 in Brooklyn. She has been studying ballet since she was 6 years old, and is currently taking classes at Mark Morris. Ballet is one of Nishka's many interests, which also include playing the clarinet, acting, reading and writing, and playing softball and soccer.

Nola Sporn Smith (performer) is a dance & theater artist from Brooklyn, NY. She has worked with Stacy Grossfeld since 2016, and was nominated for a “Bessie” Outstanding Performer Award for her performance in Grossfeld's metamorphosis at The Kitchen. She has also performed with Amanda Szeglowksi/ cakeface, Donna Uchizono Company, Nicole Mannarino, Eryka Dellenbach, Kensaku Shinohara, Luciana Acuña & Alejo Mognillansky (Buenos Aires), the band Dead Tooth, and others. Her ongoing collaborations with Molly Ross as MOLLY&NOLA have been presented throughout NYC, recently at Judson Memorial Church and Center for Performance Research, and their first evening-length work will premiere at Roulette Intermedium in May 2024. Nola is a caretaker of The Woods, an affordable rehearsal space and venue for artists

located in Ridgewood, Queens.
@spornographer

Gil Sperling (video designer) is a multimedia performance maker and designer of projections and interactive experiences. Noted video design collaborations in dance include work by Stacy Grossfield, Hadar Ahuvia and Sage Ni'Ja Whitson. Video and interaction design credits include shows at HERE Arts Center, The Chocolate Factory, The Cologne Opera House, BRIC, JACK, Danspace Project, The New Ohio, The Doxsee, and LPAC; collaborating (among others) with theater directors David Herskovits, Kristin Marting, Uwe Eric Laufenberg, Erika Latta, Mia Rovegno and Edward Einhorn, and artists Jonathan Gonzalez and Keren Moscovitch. Bessie Award winner for outstanding visual design. Graduate of the School of Visual Theater in Jerusalem; holds a master's degree from NYU/Tisch, Interactive Telecommunications Program. Former fellow at LABA: laboratory for Jewish culture, and the Academy of Media Arts, Cologne. Gil's multimedia performance work has been presented at the 14th Street Y (New York), the Berlin New Music Festival, Hellerau European Arts Center (Dresden) and Kampo Museum (Kyoto). sperrr.net

Hilary Brown-Istrefi (special effects and props master) is a Canadian-American director, choreographer, performer, educator, curator, and cultural organizer. Originally from Toronto, now living in Rockaway Beach, she is a graduate of École de danse contemporaine de Montréal and over the last decade has performed in the works of Melissa Riker, Bouchra Ouizguen, Jillian Peña, Doug Elkins, Linda Tegg, and Candice Breitz. In 2013, she co-founded the award-winning performance collective, Same As Sister (S.A.S.), with her twin Briana Brown-Tipley. Their interdisciplinary commissions have been presented internationally at The Citadel: Ross Centre for Dance (Toronto); Base: Experimental

Arts + Space (Seattle); Marmo - Libreria d'Arte Contemporanea (Italy); Archaeological Museum of Messenia (Greece); Danspace Project (NYC); Centre d'Art Marnay Art Centre (France); BRIC Arts | Media House (NYC); and New York Live Arts (NYC), among other venues. S.A.S. is currently a commissioned resident artist of the 2023 HERE Artist Residency Program (HARP) in NYC. Hilary initiated HB² PROJECTS in 2017, as a choreographic platform to expand her collaborations in performance. HB² has presented work throughout NYC as a resident artist of Trisk's 2023 Resident Artist Program at Triskelion Arts; Norte Maar's 2018 Dance at Socrates Residency at Socrates Sculpture Park; and Exploring the Metropolis' 2017-18 Choreographer + Composer Residency at Jamaica Center for Arts & Learning.

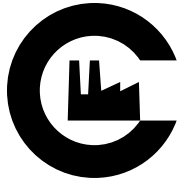
Dianna Warren (performer), a Michigan native, trained on scholarship at the Chicago City Ballet and Joffrey Ballet Schools. She has been a member of the Washington Ballet, Cleveland Ballet, Ballet Met, and Das Berner Ballet Switzerland, where she performed various soloist roles. She has also guested nationally and abroad. For seven years, she was a member of the Ballet/Chorus of Phantom of the Opera on Broadway. She is currently teaching Ballet, Pointe, and Variations in New York City. She is also a certified GYROTONIC instructor. Dianna has been on the faculty at Peridance as well as the Martha Graham School, French Academie of Ballet, and NYU/Gallatin. She is mostly teaching but happy to revisit the stage now and again!

**Donate to Stacy Grossfield Dance Projects for
this performance:**



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

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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, 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