# Danspace Project

Winter 2021

# DraftWork: Athena Kokoronis

Friday, March 12, 2021

Athena Kokoronis is an artist living in New York since 2005. Her art practice revolves around studying, referencing, researching and embodiment within the domestic space. Domestic Performance Agency (DPA) is the name and the space of practice for a choreographic process that gives attention to aspects of performance production, curation, food, cloth, fungi, and searches for the creative economy within these realms that begins and extends out of domestic scale with hospitality. Choreographic problemsolving with time, sensitivity, and intimacy are at the core of the DPA vision. Costume design is elemental to DPA process. Costume collaborations have been with Jasmine Hearn, Tatyana Tenenbaum, Jessie Young, Angie Pittman, David Thomson, Marion Spencer, Tyler Rai, Kensaku Shinohara, and Daria Fain. Holistic Micro-Patronages, like DPA Soup Subscriptions, operate all year long and are currently open to new subscribers. In 2018, CookBook: Domestic Performance Agency was published by Yonkers International Press (YIP), in conjunction with Dance & Process series at the Kitchen. A second edition was released in 2019 in conjunction with The New School (NYC) centennial exhibition. DPA is currently represented in Lydia Rodrigues Collection (NYC). domesticperformanceagency.com

**Ishmael Houston-Jones** is choreographer, author, performer, teacher, and curator. His improvised dance and text work has been performed worldwide. He has received three New York Dance and Performance "Bessie" Awards for collaborations with writer Dennis Cooper, choreographers Miguel Gutierrez and Fred Holland and composers Chris Cochrane and Nick Hallett. Houston-Jones curated Danspace Project's Platform 2012: Parallels, which concentrated on choreographers from the African diaspora and postmodernism and co-curated with Will Rawls Platform 2016: Lost & Found. Houston-Jones' work has been supported by The Herb Alpert Foundation, The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, The Foundation for Contemporary Arts and The Robert Rauschenberg Foundation.

## **About Danspace Project**

Danspace Project presents new work in dance, supports a diverse range of choreographers in developing their work, encourages experimentation, and connects artists to audiences.

For over 45 years, Danspace Project has supported a vital community of contemporary dance artists in an environment unlike any other in the United States. Located in the historic St. Mark's Church in-the-Bowery, Danspace shares its facility with the Church, The Poetry Project, and New York Theatre Ballet. Danspace Project's Commissioning Initiative has commissioned over 570 new works since its inception in 1994.

#### **Land Acknowledgment**

Danspace Project pays respect to Lenape peoples. We acknowledge that this work is situated on the Lenape island of Manhahtaan (Mannahatta) in Lenapehoking, the Lenape homeland. We pay respect to Lenape land, water, and ancestors past, present and future.

### Site Acknowledgment

"Before we begin, let's take a moment to acknowledge that the construction of this building, Saint Mark's Church-in-the-Bowery, was completed in 1799. That same year, New York State enacted the Gradual Emancipation Act, so it is reasonable to assume that this building where we are when we stand, sit, dance, and some still worship, was built by en-slaved individuals on what was the homeland of the Lenape people." – Ishmael Houston-Jones (Read more at danspaceproject.org/about)

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