
Danspace Project

Fall 2022

DraftWork hosts free, informal showings of new works in varying stages of development.

Join us after the showings for a conversation and Q&A between the artists and DraftWork curator, Ishmael Houston-Jones.

Martita Abril was originally scheduled to present on this afternoon. Due to unforeseen circumstances, she will now be presenting at an upcoming DraftWork in April 2023. Stay tuned!

Nora Alami *The Eros Project*

Sound: Jasmine Hearn, Mitski, Acid Arab
Inspired by the texts: "Uses of the Erotic" by Audre Lorde + "Eros the Bittersweet" by Anne Carson

Nora Alami is a Moroccan dance artist and creative producer currently living in Brooklyn. Nora's artistic work creates performative situations to activate our chosen and inherited identities. Her choreography has been shared at the Triskelion Arts, Center for Performance Research, New York Live Arts, International Center of Photography, pOnderosa, and Movement Research at Judson Church. She has performed at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, River to River Festival, and toured internationally with Jadd Tank at the 2018 Focus on Mediterranean Choreography platform in Castiglione del Tevere and Spoleto, Italy. She has been awarded the 2017 New York Live Arts Fresh Tracks Choreographic Residency, 2021 JACK Residency, 2021 BRIClab: Performing Arts Residency Artist, 2021 Rest and Restore Residency at The Petronio Center, and 2022 Resident Artist at Triskelion Arts. Currently, Nora collaborates as a creative producer with Jasmine Hearn and on the Steering Committee for FAILSPACE. IG: @noralami; thenoralami@gmail.com

DraftWork:

Nora Alami & DonChristian Jones

Saturday, December 17, 2022 | 3pm

curated by Ishmael Houston-Jones

DonChristian Jones

The Politics of Mourning in the Neoliberal State

Inspired in title by the essay *The Politics of Mourning in the Neoliberal State* by Lissa Skitolsky, c. Susquehanna University, 2017

DonChristian Jones is a multi-hyphenate artist, musician, and director. They have shown and performed in spaces such as the Whitney Museum, MoMA PS1, New Museum, Brooklyn Museum, the Shed, Webster Hall, Danspace Project, and the Center for Performance Research. Much of their work today is informed by their time spent painting murals on Rikers Island with incarcerated youth, and teaching at Harvey Milk HS/ Hetrick-Martin Institute. As a rapper, singer, songwriter, and producer, Jones released *Where There's Smoke*, named by Forbes as one of the best hip hop albums of 2018. In 2020, DonChristian founded Public Assistants Inc. as an organizing base and community design collective.

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Ishmael Houston-Jones (DraftWork curator) is a 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. In 2022 he received the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship.

FUNDING FOR DRAFTWORK

DraftWork is presented, in part, with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council.



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 enslaved individuals on what was the homeland of the Lenape people." - Ishmael Houston-Jones (Read more at danspaceproject.org/about)

COMMUNITY GUIDELINES

At Danspace Project, we value people, connections, inquiry, listening, adaptability, and equity. These values can only be upheld when respect, care, and safety are practiced. Please visit danspaceproject.org/community-guidelines for more information on how to help prioritize the safety of the physical and virtual spaces in which we gather.

For immediate assistance in physical space:

Please locate the house manager, a staff member, or box office manager.

ACCESSIBILITY

This event is located in Danspace Project's main sanctuary space.

The 10th Street entrance is wheelchair accessible via a permanent ramp.

A same-level, one stall restroom is available near Danspace Project's main performance space in the church Sanctuary. The doorway of that bathroom is 33 inches wide.

If our space or a particular event is not accessible to you for any reason, if you have accessibility questions or accessibility needs that haven't been addressed, please email seta@danspaceproject.org.

FALL 2022 AT DANSPACE PROJECT

Oct. 22 [Sat] 3PM

Draftwork: Tess Dworman / Stacy Matthew Spence

Nov. 3-5 [Thu-Sat] 7:30PM

Mina Nishimura: *Mapping a Forest While Searching for an Opposite Term of Exorcist*

Nov. 17-19 [Thu-Sat] 7:30PM

Christopher "Unpezverde" Núñez: *The Circle or Prophetic Dream*

Dec. 7-17 [Wed-Sat] 7:30PM

Tere O'Connor: *Rivulets* @ Baryshnikov Arts Center
co-commissioned by Danspace Project & Baryshnikov Arts Center

Dec. 8-10 [Thu-Sat] 7:30PM

Stephen Petronio Company: *Bloodlines*/
Bloodlines(future): work by Davalois Fearon, Johnnie Cruise Mercer, Tendayi Kuumba & Greg Purnell (UFly Mothership), Steve Paxton, and Stephen Petronio

Dec. 17 [Sat] 3PM

DraftWork: Nora Alami / DonChristian Jones

STAY TUNED FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS ON WINTER/SPRING 2023 PERFORMANCES!

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