

**LA MAMA**  
EXPERIMENTAL THEATRE CLUB  
PRESENTS

# EXAM

**Buffy, creator and director  
MTHR TRSA, director and choreographer**



**Ellen Stewart Theatre  
66 East 4th Street, NYC, 10003  
May 8-11, 2025**

# EXAM

**Buffy, creator and director**  
**MTHR TRSA, director and choreographer**  
**ARCHANGEL, musician**  
**Aeon Wade Andreas, featured performer**  
**CASSILS, featured performer**  
**Kebra-Seyoung Charles, musician**  
**Mars Hobrecker, dancer**  
**Maxi Hawkeye Canion, dancer**  
**STEFA\*, musician**  
**Sterling Tull, make-up artist**  
**Troizel, featured performer**

EXAM is a performance art pop concert as anatomical theatre, stripping the tendons of America's transsex-obsessed musculature and exposing its bones for sensory examination under the harsh glow of neon lights.

EXAM features an ensemble of pathbreaking trans and non-binary artists and designers, including ARCHANGEL, Aeon Andreas, CASSILS, Kebra-Seyoung Charles, Mars Hobrecker, Maxi Hawkeye Canion, STEFA\*, Sterling Tull, troizel xx, and more.

EXAM is co-directed by MTHR TRSA who, with Buffy, is the team behind the bombastic queer performance art series HOLE PICS.

EXAM is a crescendo to several years of work coagulated into a week-long residency in La MaMa's Ellen Stewart Theatre.

EXAM: Antemortem with troizel xx - Thursday, May 8

EXAM: Perimortem with Aeon Andreas - Friday, May 9

EXAM: Postmortem with CASSILS - Saturday, May 10

EXAM: Electroanalysis - Sunday, May 11

\*\*All performances use haze and strobe.

Composed as a suite of performances, three evenings and one afternoon of distinct productions can be attended as individual events or in sequence. Each performance of EXAM will feature an ensemble of collaborators working across new media and methods.

The evening concerts—EXAM: Antemortem, EXAM: Perimortem, and EXAM: Postmortem—will feature a different guest collaborator each night while Sunday's performance of EXAM: Electroanalysis will function as an epilogue to the previous nights.

**Buffy** is an artist, musician, and writer producing work about living horrors and dying beauties.

**ARCHANGEL**, **BODY HACK** and Lot Radio resident, Archangel, metes out pure ferocity to congregated dancers in a form as divine as her namesake. You'll find "Boss Battle Music" in her SoundCloud bio, and hovering your cursor over one of her many pinned mixes will help you understand why. She'll have you feeling like you just toppled the Elite Four on your DS back in 2007 and are about to come face to face with Cynthia (if you forgot that theme, go look it up). That anticipation; tension and release that you'd feel on the precipice of a boss room makes complete sense for an Archangel set. Her ears have been trained by a childhood in the throes of the Limewire era. Her sets can conjure up the ethereal, beckoning you to float around, suspended for just the right amount of time before coaxing you back down to earth so you can stomp around to some well-oiled kicks and snares. She can just as easily breathe new life into classic records you've rinsed twenty times as she can transform new tracks fresh off a WeTransfer link into something familiar and timeless. But like most extraordinary things in this life, especially those divine moments, they're at their most awe-inspiring when you encounter them in the flesh. For EXAM- she will be scoring the first act with thirty minutes of her own compositions, collaborations with Buffy, reconstructions, & personal renditions of some of her favorite selections in her crate. Inspirations for her work on this piece include Octavia Butler, Rich Vreeland, Yoko Shimomura, Jason Graves, Perturbator, Akira Yamaoka, Bell Hooks, Harry Manfredini, her recent life events, and her journal.

**Aeon Wade Andreas** is a gay, transsexual, transdisciplinary director, choreographer, writer, and performer working across the continuum of underground queer nightlife and highly institutional performance forms. Both in and out of drag, Aeon creates atmospheric landscapes about trans joy through the collision of dance, theater, cinema, and drag/burlesque. They have performed across the world as a dance artist and drag performer in iconic places such as Lincoln Center, The Chelsea Hotel, Bonnaroo, Detroit's Masonic Temple, and Bushwig Drag festival. Aeon is based in Brooklyn, NY, and creates solo-performance as an award winning drag/performance artist named God Complex. In drag, Aeon directs, hosts, and produces maximalist drag spectacles that merge installation art, environmental theater, and extraordinary performance. He has worked alongside countless drag icons such as Sasha Velour and Murray Hill. He is a member of the sideshow/theater company The No Ring Circus and of the dance theater company Witness Relocation. Aeon taught contact improv, composition, and drag practicums at NYU Tisch's Playwrights Horizons Theater School for eight years and has guest taught at MIT and NYU Abu Dhabi. In 2024, Aeon/God Complex was a subject in Revry TV's docuseries, *Queens of Kings*. Aeon has directed and developed multiple evening length works including GODSPAWN, which premiered at TV Eye in 2023. He has creative-directed and choreographed music videos for musicians like Ladyhawke and Softee. They have been featured in publications like Dance Magazine, Document Journal, Them, Paper Mag, The New York Times, and Colecta Mag. Culturebot has called Aeon "always rapturous." Friends have called them "hot and difficult."

**CASSILS** (Los Angeles, NY) is a Canadian transgender artist who makes their own body the material and protagonist of their performances. Cassils' art contemplates the history(s) of LGBTQI+ violence, representation, struggle, and empowerment. For Cassils, performance is a form of social sculpture: Drawing from the idea that bodies are formed in relation to forces of power and social expectations, Cassils' work investigates historical contexts to examine the present moment.

**Kebra-Seyoun Charles** is a distinguished double bass soloist and composer lauded for their counter-classical musical language and their ability to aptly communicate complex ideas and emotions to audiences. After winning first prize in the 2022 Sphinx Competition, Kebra rapidly gained recognition in the classical music world, and in 2024, they were named a recipient of the American Composers Orchestra's Van Lier Fellowship. Kebra has performed with orchestras including the New World Symphony, Indianapolis Symphony, and Wilmington Symphony, and was the featured soloist on a national tour with the Sphinx Virtuosi. Originally from Miami, Florida, Kebra received their Bachelor's degree from the New England Conservatory of Music. In 2022, they graduated from the Juilliard School with a Master's degree supported by the Jerome L. Greene fellowship. In recognition of their talents, Kebra received Juilliard's Benzaquen Career Grant.

**Mars Hobrecker** is a performance and tattoo artist, focused on rituals of harm and healing. His work has been featured in Interview Magazine, Allure, Teen Vogue, i-D, Out magazine, among others, as well as several books on artists across the globe defining contemporary tattooing, including Phaidon's recent TATTOO YOU. He currently co-produces and curates THIRST, a bi-monthly queer strip night showcasing talent from performers across sex worker communities.

**Maxi Hawkeye Canion** (they/she) is a Brooklyn based Performance Artist. Through their lens as a Black Queer artist, they distill their life experiences through performance, sculpture, sound, and garment. Their work illustrates the nuances of intimacy, failure, the grotesque, and ephemerality, centering on non-linear, autobiographical narratives that focus on intricate personas that serve as metaphorical embodiments of their socio-political stances. As a creator, they are currently a 2024/2025 Fresh Tracks artist, and have held residences at Chocolate Factory Theater, Art OMI, BOFFO Performance Festival 2022, Otion Front Studio, the Galim Moving Artist Residency 2023, to name a few. Their work has recently been presented for the 2024 Les Urbaines Festival in Lausanne, Switzerland, Black Aesthetics at Judson Memorial Church and SFX Festival 2024. As a performer, Maxi has collaborated with notable artists such as Ella W-S, Akira Uchida, Theo Triantafyllidis, Eve Tagny, Alexandra Waierstall, Ryan Ponder McNamara, Miles Greenberg, Sigrid Lauren, J. Bouey, slowdanger, Shikeith, Monica Mirabile, Richard Kennedy, Young Boy Dancing Group, and Sidra Bell, among others.

**MTHR TRSA** IS A PERFORMANCE ARTIST, PHOTOGRAPHER, CHOREOGRAPHER, STYLIST, DIRECTOR, CLOTHING COMPANY, MODEL, DJ, LAWYER, DOCTOR, SECURITY GUARD, THERAPIST, FREELANCER, ACCOUNTANT, & PROFESSIONAL COMPLAINER. SHE IS THE FOUNDER & CO PRODUCER OF HOLE PICS ALONGSIDE BUFFY. @MTHRTRSA MTHRTRSA.COM

**STEFA\*** aka **stefa marin alarcon** is a genderless, genreless vocalist, composer and multi-media performance artist born and raised in Queens, NY. Using an amalgamation of punk, experimental rage pop, and classical minimalism with queer maximalist aesthetics, stefa builds sonic and visual worlds that offer a somatic decolonial respite for the misfits, the displaced, and future generations of brown and Indigenous radical artists of the diaspora. Their ritual opera performance film *Born With An Extra Rib* won the 2022 Queer|Art Recent Work Prize, a 2023 TRANSlations Seattle Film Festival Jury Award and 2025 Best Experimental Short at QueerCine International Film Festival. Their debut EP *Sepalina* (“gorgeous and hypnotic” - NPR) was released on Figure & Ground Records followed by their full length album *Born With An Extra Rib* in 2024. @stefalives stefalives.com

**Sterling Tull** is a Brooklyn-based makeup artist and club kid known for her extravagant and avant-garde looks. Sterling’s goal with makeup is to create provocative and unique queer-focused artwork. Sterling has been a makeup artist for the last 6 years with a background in theater, fashion, editorial, TV, and film.

**troizel** holds a Bachelor of Art, summa cum laude, in Theater Studies and Women’s, Gender, & Sexuality Studies from Emory University and a Master of Art and Master of Philosophy in Performance Studies from New York University. She received her PhD in Performance Studies with a dissertation entitled *black performance studies: queer/trans experiments*, which brings the study methods of Black queer and trans artists and theorists to bear on Black Studies, Performance Studies, and their intermingling called *black performance studies*. She does this as a way to provide models for how we can perform together to turn out and transform our social assumptions. troizel was formerly a studio resident at Gallery Aferro in Newark, NJ, teaching artist fellow at New Museum of Contemporary Art in New York City, inaugural Museum Institute Scholar at Studio Museum in Harlem, alumna of the Hemispheric Institute for Performance & Politics’ New York Emerging Performers Program (EMERGENYC), and managing editor of *Women & Performance: a journal of feminist theory*. she currently serves as Visiting Assistant Professor in Visual Studies at Haverford College in Ardmore, PA and co-president of NYU’s Black Alumni Network.

EXAM is supported in part by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature; Dance/ NYC’s Dance Advancement Fund, made possible by the Howard Gilman Foundation and the Ford Foundation; the Franklin Furnace FUND 2023-24, supported by the Jerome Foundation and the members and friends of Franklin Furnace Archive; and the Jerome Foundation.

This production was developed out of a residency made possible in part by the Jerome Foundation and New York State Council on the Arts.



A full program with information on this production can be found on the *EXAM* page of the La MaMa website.

In addition you can scan the QR code Poster located in the theatre lobby for access to the digital program.



# LA MAMA



## RESTORE A BUILDING REMAKE A WORLD



La MaMa's historic, landmark building at 74 East 4th Street underwent an urgently needed complete renovation and restoration to preserve the historic façade, create building-wide ADA accessibility, and provide much needed performance, exhibition and community space for decades to come.

La MaMa, founded by Ellen Stewart in 1961, has been on east 4th Street since 1967. La MaMa embraces every person in its community and is legendary as the place where new artists of all nations, cultures, races, and identities are given opportunities. It is the place where art begins.

To learn more about the renovation, or to make a donation please visit [www.lamama.org/remakeaworld](http://www.lamama.org/remakeaworld)

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We thank our supporters who are indispensable to La MaMa as we continue to expand and strengthen our artistic community. You help make space for artists to create and share new stories, present diverse perspectives, and keep us all connected in our 63rd Season!

## 63rd Season General Operating Support:

Doris Duke Foundation, Howard Gilman Foundation, Mellon Foundation, Radio Drama Network, and The Shubert Foundation



## Public support provided by:

National Endowment for the Arts, New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Governor, and the New York State Legislature, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council.



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### EXAM

May 8-11, 2025  
Ellen Stewart Theatre

### Those Who Remained

May 8-18, 2025  
The Club

### Seagull: True Story

May 16-June 1, 2025  
Ellen Stewart Theatre

### La MaMa Kids: Tales from Piloncillo and Tejocote

May 17-18, 2025  
Community Arts Space

## COMING SOON

### Lucky FM

May 22-June 1, 2025  
The Club

### The Moby Dick Blues

June 5-22, 2025  
Ellen Stewart Theatre

### La MaMa's Squirts

June 6-8, 2025  
The Club

### Medea of the Laundromat

June 12-22, 2025  
The Club