

# LA MAMA

EXPERIMENTAL THEATRE CLUB  
PRESENTS

## The La MaMa Moves! Dance Festival

Part of LaMaMa's Emerging Choreographers Program

Guest Curated by Martita Abril and Blaze Ferrer

Jessica Cook /

Alex Romania & Stacy Lynn Smith



The Club  
74a East 4th Street, NYC, 10003  
May 1-3, 2025

## Guest Curators Martita Abril and Blaze Ferrer

**Martita Abril (Pichu)** is an artist, curator, and producer from the border city of Tijuana, México. She has collaborated with dance artists and companies including Lux Boreal, Kim Brandt, Yanira Castro, Yoshiko Chuma, Milka Djordevich, Tess Dworman, Devynn Emory, Daria Fain and Robert Kocik, Lily Gold, Allyson Green, Abigail Levine, Mina Nishimura, Cori Olinghouse, Okwui Okpokwasili & Peter Born, Will Rawls, David Thompson, Larissa Velez-Jackson, and Cathy Weis. Martita was a performer in Simone Forti's Dance Constructions, the Handles exhibition by Haegue Yang and most recently the *Mirrors I & II* piece by Joan Jonas at the Museum of Modern Art. She is a Fresh Tracks Residency alumni, part of the Dance and Process (DAP) artist in residency program at The Kitchen, and she is currently in The Movement Research (MR) Artist-in-Residence Program, funded, in part, by Mertz Gilmore Foundation. She also continues to guide workshops in Bushwick gardens to Spanish speaking familias who recently arrived to NYC, through the iLAND (Interdisciplinary Laboratory for Art Nature and Dance) program by Jennifer Monson. Martita co-curates *In/Between*, the annual immigrant artist group exhibition at New York Live Arts in partnership with NYFA's Immigrant Artist Mentoring Program originally created in 2019 by Yanira Castro, Martita, and Poppy DeltaDawn. She is currently the Director of MR at the Judson Church Program, the Trisha Brown Dance Company's Tour Company Manager, and continues to mentor Immigrant artists as part of the NYFA Coaching program.

**Blaze Ferrer** is an interdisciplinary performer and choreographer interested in the mainstreaming of queerness within the American capitalist hegemony. Blaze makes experiences that express the vibrancy and limits of embodiment through post-Judson choreographic scores and the incorporation of consumerist cultural iconography. As a lead artist, Blaze has made work for Pioneers Go East, Pageant, The Collapsible Hole, Prelude Festival, The Brick Theater, The Exponential Festival, Movement Research@Judson Church, Sundays on Broadway, New Dance Alliance, AUNTS, danceh010, Brooklyn Arts Exchange (NEEDING IT), HERE, Dixon Place, and various DIY events. Blaze has performed for and helped generate pieces with Stacy Lynn Smith, Yanira Castro, Jeff Aaron Bryant, Nora Sorena Casey + Christopher Dennison, The Drunkard's Wife, Radiohole, Ursula Eagly, Londs Reuter, Ilan Bachrach & Robert M. Johanson, minor theater, Sophie Weisskoff, Ásta Bennie Hostetter, Ben Ferber, The Pack and Built For Collapse. Blaze has received funding through Brooklyn Arts Council, NYFA, and Foundation for Contemporary Arts.

# Shared Program: Jessica Cook

## Wedge

Choreography & Performance: Jesi Cook

Performing Thursday, May 1: Jesi Cook, Ayano Elson and Amelia Heintzelman

Performing Friday, May 2: Jesi Cook, Ayano Elson, and Mina Nishimura

Performing Saturday, May 3: Jesi Cook, Ayano Elson, and Mina Nishimura

**Jessica Cook** is a choreographer based in NYC since 2005. She has presented her work at Roulette Intermedium, LMCC's 2024 River to River Festival, TSA Gallery, Movement Research at Judson Memorial Church, Pieter Performance Space Los Angeles, and AUNTS. Artist-In-Residencies include The Chocolate Factory Theater, Movement Research, NY Live Arts Fresh Tracks, and MoMA PS1. She is a 2005 graduate of the SUNY Purchase Dance Conservatory.

Website: [jesicook.com](http://jesicook.com) Instagram: @jesicook

**Mina Nishimura** is a Tokyo-born experimental dance artist. Buddhism-influenced philosophies and butoh-based principles are reflected across her somatic, performance and choreographic practices. Nishimura is a 2019 recipient of Foundation of Contemporary Arts Grants to Artists award and was a 2021-22 Renewal Residency Artist at Danspace Project through which she developed, *Mapping a Forest* while Searching for an *Opposite Term of Exorcist*, which was premiered in 2023. The newest iteration, [Kuu 空 version] of the work was presented at Danspace in January 2024. Nishimura organizes the Whenever Wherever Festival in Tokyo while currently teaching part-time at Bennington College, VT.

**Ayano Elson** is an Okinawan-American dancer and choreographer based in New York City. Her performances have premiered at CPR – Center for Performance Research, The Chocolate Factory, Danspace Project, Gibney Dance, ISSUE Project Room, PAGEANT, and Roulette, among others. In 2025, she will be joining The Kitchen's Dance and Process artist in residence program as well as the Chocolate Factory's spring residency program. She currently is dancing for Kim Brandt, Jesi Cook, and Melinda Ring. [ayanoelson.com](http://ayanoelson.com)

**Amelia Heintzelman** is a dancer, choreographer, and teacher. Her work has been supported by residencies, commissions, and grants through Center for Performance Research, Draftwork at Danspace Project, Foundation for Contemporary Arts, Issue Project Room, Movement Research at the Judson Church, New York Foundation for the Arts, Pageant, and Snug Harbor, UCross Foundation, and University Settlement. Most recently, she's worked as a collaborating performer for Jesi Cook, Ayano Elson, Deborah Hay, Evan Ray Suzuki, and Alexa West. She is on teaching faculty at Movement Research and Pageant, and rarely/sometimes teaches Comedy Pilates. [www.ameliakh.com](http://www.ameliakh.com)

# ***Shared Program:*** ***Alex Romania and Stacy Lynn Smith*** **fame hOle**

Concept and Performance:  
Alex Romania and Stacy Lynn Smith

Sound: Ava Vex

**Psychic Wormhole (Alex Romania + Stacy Lynn Smith)** is a NYC duo making live interdisciplinary dance and experimental films. Works include *Face Eaters* (The Chocolate Factory Theater); an epic, live, multimedia performance processing global grief and *RECKONING*, a visceral abstract memoir of Smith's survivorship of childhood sexual abuse (CSA) and Complex-PTSD. Psychic Wormhole has held residencies with Djerassi, MacDowell, Rosekill Art Farm, Glasshouse Art. Life.Lab. and presented work through Snug Harbor Cultural Center, New Dance Alliance and Grace Exhibition Space. Psychic Wormhole were recent recipients of the inaugural Artists Supporting Artists Program (ASAP) grant from Sweat Variant (Okwui Okpokwasili + Peter Born) and were shortlisted for '25 Creative Capital in Film / Video. Romania was a 2018-2020 Movement Research AIR and 2024-2025 Franklin Furnace Awardee. Smith was a 2022-2024 Movement Research AIR and a 2025 Dance and Process (DAP) AIR. They began dancing and working together in Kathy Westwater's Bessie nominated *Rambler* (NYLA, '19).

Website: [youwillconsumeus.com/reckoning](http://youwillconsumeus.com/reckoning)  
Instagram: [@uwillconsumeus](https://www.instagram.com/uwillconsumeus) [@fro\\_babes](https://www.instagram.com/fro_babes)

Ava Vex (Sound) is a queer musician, fiction author and visual artist whose work explores themes of identity and reality breakdown. They have been making art since they were a child and continue to explore the fractured nature of the modern world through aesthetic engagement at the nexus of psyche and machine.

Listen to their music at: [hegemonix.bandcamp.com](http://hegemonix.bandcamp.com)

## **La MaMa Moves! Dance Festival Team**

Nicky Paraiso: Curator

Gloria Gomez: Production Manager

Janet Stapleton: Press Rep

### **Stage Managers:**

Berit Johnson

Aubrey Mann

Buffy

Cameron Barnett

Amanda Reynoso

**Light Design** for (Daniel/Pat) + (Jessie/Jordan) - Cameron Barnett

### **Electrics Crew:**

Bryce Harnick (Master Electrician Ellen Stewart Theater)

Aaron Conover (Master Electrician The Downstairs Theater)

Kevin Malloy (Lighting Supervisor Community Art Space)

Sebastian Fazio, Kevin Malloy, Masa, Rook Shaw, Sawyer Smith, Camille Cooper,

Henry Cruz, Hesler Garcia, Tony Mulanix, Melissa Ore, Kevin Malloy,

Sebastian Fazio, Corey Kreisel.

### **Sound Crew:**

Diego Las Heras (Sound Supervisor)

Sophie Yuqing Nie

### **Video Crew:**

Perase Redmond (Technician/Video Supervisor)

### **Scenic Crew:**

Mark Tambella, Tech Director

Jack Reynolds, Asst. Tech Director

Piotr Gawełko

Niels Blumel

Rocco Candela Michelus

### **Roundabout Fellow Tech Crew:**

Musa VP, Leo Zhang, Xavier Vassallo, Mac Catarata,

Ren Ali, Tyler McIntyre, Alan Wong



## April 10-13, 2025 John Jasperse Projects

*Tides*

Composed by Hahn Rowe  
Performing Collaborators: Vicky Shick, Jodi Melnick, Cynthia Koppe, Maria Fleischman, and Jace Weyant

John Jasperse Projects will premiere a new evening-length work that is built around a collection of real-life, intergenerational mentor/protege relationships that exist within the team of collaborators. This celebration of the arc of life in dance and the generosity of the act of transmission is at the heart of the work.



## April 10-13, 2025 Keith A. Thompson & danceTactics performance group

*Love Alone Anthology Project*  
Inspired by the writings of Paul Monette  
Original Music by Albert Mathias, Dalal Bruchmann, and Mesa Pullman

Galvanized by his powerful 1988 volume of poetry *Love Alone: 18 Elegies for Rog*, written while his gay lover was dying from HIV, this multidisciplinary performance interprets and embodies these stream-of-conscious monologues into a suite of powerful episodes performed by men of multiple generations, backgrounds, and sexual identities. Performed by Clarence Brooks, Shawn Brush, Aidan Feldman, and Brendan McCall.



## April 18-20, 2025 Pat Catterson

*Tremor (2023) and Then (2025)*

Representing Catterson's 116th and 118th works, respectively. Dancers: Brandon Collives, Milti Epley, Louisa Pancoast, Maia Ramnath, Sarah Slifer Swift and Timothy Ward.

## Daniel Gwirtzman Dance Company e-Motion

A dance-theater collaboration between choreographer Daniel Gwirtzman and playwright Saviana Stănescu explores AI, neuroscience and what it means to be human in a digital age. Dancers: Daniel Gwirtzman, Sarah Hillmon.



## April 18-20, 2025 Hunter College MFA Dance

Francesca Dominguez  
*The Nearly, Barely, Just*  
Maria Angela Talavera-Tejeda  
*Por Debajo de la Rodilla*

## Interdisciplinary Research at New York University MFA Dance

marion spencer  
SYMPHONY  
Xin Ying  
*Paper Dragon: Five Elements Matrix*

### Community Arts Space



## April 24-25, 2025 bluemouth inc.

*Lucy AI*  
bluemouth inc. is Mariel Marshall, Lisa Humber, Stephen O'Connell, Lucy Simic  
Video Design by L Wilson-Spiro  
Composed by Richard Windeyer  
Created in collaboration with Rēmachine AI  
David Usher - concept and AI development

In 2018, at the age of 49, Lucy was diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer. David was deeply impacted by the news and began wondering how his company Rēmachine AI, might be able to use its technology to create a poetic, visual archive of his friend's life and career as an artist. This exhibition is the story of Lucy's life told through a collage of film, music, and movement powered by artificial intelligence.

### The Downstairs / Shared Program



## April 25-27, 2025 Jesse Zaritt and Pamela Pietro

*dance for no ending*

This duet is an experiment in accumulation and dissolution. Through persistent dancing, we attempt to exhaustively examine, negotiate, dissect, inflate and undermine the movement vocabularies and patterns of effort that produce what we think of as ourselves.

## Jordan Demetrius Lloyd Mooney

Performer is both the magician and the veil, fostering spaces of encounter with its audiences. Lloyd works from formal foundations focusing on exactitude of shape, energetics, and tone, which becomes one layer of poetics that emerges from the work.

### The Club / Shared Program



## April 25-27, 2025 Alexis Chartrand and Nic Gareiss

*Movement and sound by Alexis Chartrand and Nic Gareiss*

Melding unparalleled virtuosity with an introspective sensibility, Alexis and Nic explore, the sharing of sounds and gestures, blurring the lines between music and dance, melody and movement.

## Megumi Eda Please Cry

*Please Cry* is a deeply personal solo performance, blending dance, live video, and music to explore intergenerational trauma, resilience, and the lingering impact of war. Inspired by the silence surrounding her grandmother's past.

### Community Arts Space



## April 26-27, 2025 Amalia Suryani

*Ta'na Nirau*  
Dancer/Asst. Choreographer: Maria Curry  
Composed by Anusirwan  
Dancers: Putri Kumalaratri, Nella Zaini  
Artistic Adviser: Supriyadi Arshad

Rooted in the dance, music, and storytelling traditions of the Dayak tribes of Borneo, Indonesia, who are grappling with multiple existential challenges. These tribes are struggling with environmental destruction, land theft, illegal logging and palm oil plantations. Forests are destroyed by unchecked greed, with no regard for the suffering of earth's creatures. This performance gives voice to the Indigenous resistance striving to restore denuded forests against all odds.

### Community Art Space / Shared Program



## May 1-4, 2025 New York Arab Festival

Curated by Adham Hafez

New York Arab Festival, and pioneers from the Arab and Arab American dance, performance and theatre scenes including Marjia Alfajr, Sarah Ibrahim, Marlène Roussoglou, Ohoudé Khadr, Ali Andre Ali, among others.

## May 1-4, 2025 Emerging Choreographers

Program Curated by Martita Abril and Blaze Ferrer

**Martita Abril (Pichu)** is an artist, curator, and producer from the border city of Tijuana, Mexico.

**Blaze Ferrer** is an interdisciplinary performer and choreographer interested in the mainstreaming of queerness within the American capitalist hegemony.

### Funders

The 20th season of the *La MaMa Moves! Dance Festival* (Spring 2025) is made possible by the National Endowment for the Arts, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature, the Mertz Gilmore Foundation, the Harkness Foundation for Dance, the Howard Gilman Foundation, the Jerome Robbins Foundation, and The Shubert Foundation. Québec, Government Office in New York. The opening night reception sponsored by Sobaya.

La MaMa Moves! Press Rep  
Janet Stapleton

## FOR TICKETS

Visit [lamama.org](http://lamama.org)

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646-430-5374  
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April 10 - May 4, 2025

# La MaMa Moves! Dance Festival

20th Anniversary Season

We gather together to celebrate our festival's 20th anniversary season during a fraught, turbulent time of crisis and challenges to our basic freedoms and democracy. Resistance as a way of life has become essential to us as art makers and culture workers. In an embattled world consumed with continuing strife and war, we choose to resist by making and building dance, movement and performance as a means of reflection and activism in order to understand humanity's need for transcendence and positive transformation.

We thank the many choreographers, performers, musicians, and visual artists who have created and contributed amazing innovative new work for the last 20 years!

Welcome once again, dear audience.

Much love,  
**Nicky Paraiso**

*Curator of La MaMa Moves! Dance Festival*

## WEEK 1

### THUR, APRIL 10

7pm | *Tides*  
8pm | *Love Alone Anthology Project*

### FRI, APRIL 11

7pm | *Tides*  
8:30pm | *Love Alone Anthology Project*

### SAT, APRIL 12

2pm | *Tides*  
5:30pm | *Love Alone Anthology Project*

### SUN, APRIL 13

2pm | *Tides*  
4pm | *Love Alone Anthology Project*

## WEEK 2

### FRI, APRIL 18

7:30pm | Shared: Pat Catterson/Daniel Gwartzman with Saviana Stănescu  
8pm | Shared: Hunter/NYU

### SAT, APRIL 19

5pm | Shared: Pat Catterson/Daniel Gwartzman with Saviana Stănescu  
7:30pm | Shared: Hunter/NYU

### SUN, APRIL 20

3pm | Shared: Pat Catterson/Daniel Gwartzman with Saviana Stănescu  
5pm | Shared: Hunter/NYU

## WEEK 3

### THUR, APRIL 24

6:30pm | *Lucy AI*

### FRI, APRIL 25

6:30pm | *Lucy AI*  
7:30pm | Shared: Alexis Chartrand and Nic Gareiss/Megumi Eda  
8pm | Shared: Jesse Zaritt and Pamela Pietro/Jordan Demetrius Lloyd

### SAT, APRIL 26

6pm | Shared: Jesse Zaritt and Pamela Pietro/Jordan Demetrius Lloyd  
7:30pm | Shared: Alexis Chartrand and Nic Gareiss/Megumi Eda  
8pm | *Ta'na Nirau*

### SUN, APRIL 27

3pm | Shared: Alexis Chartrand and Nic Gareiss/Megumi Eda  
4pm | Shared: Jesse Zaritt and Pamela Pietro/Jordan Demetrius Lloyd  
5pm | *Ta'na Nirau*

## WEEK 4

### THUR, MAY 1

7:30pm | Shared: Emerging Choreographers Program: Martita Abril/Blaze Ferrer  
8pm | *New York Arab Festival*

### FRI, MAY 2

7:30pm | Shared: Emerging Choreographers Program: Martita Abril/Blaze Ferrer  
8pm | *New York Arab Festival*

### SAT, MAY 3

6pm | Shared: Emerging Choreographers Program: Martita Abril/Blaze Ferrer  
8pm | *New York Arab Festival*

### SUN MAY 4

3pm | Shared: Emerging Choreographers Program: Martita Abril/Blaze Ferrer  
5pm | *New York Arab Festival*

**A full program with information on this  
production can be found on the**

*Jessica Cook /*

*Alex Romania + Stacy Lynn Smith*

**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



Rendering: 74 East 4th St.

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



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LA MAMA EXPERIMENTAL THEATRE CLUB



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## NOW PLAYING

**Class Dismissed**  
April 18- May 4, 2025  
Ellen Stewart Theatre

**New York Arab Festival**  
**La MaMa Moves! Dance Festival**  
May 1-4, 2025  
Community Arts Space

**Shared Program: Jessica Cook / Alex**  
**Romania + Stacy Lynn Smith**  
**La MaMa Moves! Dance Festival**  
May 1-3, 2025  
The Club

**Shared Program: El Club MEG**  
**La MaMa Moves! Dance Festival**  
May 4, 2025  
The Club

**EXAM**  
May 8-11, 2025  
Ellen Stewart Theatre

**Those Who Remained**  
May 8-18, 2025  
The Club

## COMING SOON

**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

**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