



CASSILS: HUMAN MEASURE

OCT 13 - 15, 2022

8:30pm

presented by

REDCAT

Roy and Edna Disney CalArts Theater

California Institute of the Arts

CalArts

*We gratefully acknowledge that we operate on the traditional lands of the Tongva, Tataviam, and Chumash peoples—including the Gabrieleño, Fernandeño, and Ventureño; members of the Takic and Chumashan language families; and other Indigenous peoples who made their homes in and around the area we now call Los Angeles. We honor their ancestors past, present, and future, and recognize their continued existence and contributions to our society.*

# **CASSILS: HUMAN MEASURE**

Creator: Cassils

Choreographer: Jasmine Albuquerque

Music Composer: Kadet Kuhne

Production Designer: Cassils

Lighting Designer: Christopher Kuhl

Performers: Canyon Carballosa, Cassils, Kaydence De Mere, B Gosse, Jas Lin,  
Alucard Mendoza McHaney

Stage Manager: Gina Young

Producers: Diana Wyenn, Plain Wood Productions; Gina Young

## **Score**

Vocalists: Leslie Allison, Ben Barwick, Lucas Bouk, Caleb Craig, Noah D, Aron Dahl,  
C Han, Parker Heyford, Sof Kreidstein, Oliver Lyric, Valeria Radchenko, Lou Sheppard,  
Emma Tome, Tobaron Waxman, Vanessa Wheeler, Socks Whitmore, Sasha Wilde,  
Torii Wolf

## **Cyanotype**

Technical Director: Bonny Taylor

Cyanotype Figures: Nano Arenado, erika niko barrios, Caleb Craig, Carmina Escobar,  
Rocket de la Luna, Marsian De Lellis, Aidan Dick, Sakara Fjørn, Mud Howard,  
Vaughan Larsen, Christina Lujan, Julietta Magaña Pérez, Lio Mehiel, Elliot Musgrave,  
Sydney Rogers (Miss Barbie Q), Lex Ryan, Sassy, Alec Stoddard

## **Flash Wall**

Lead Advisor: Casey Cunneen

Assistant: Matthew Withers

With additional support from Christopher Kuhl and photographers Bonny Taylor,  
Manuel Vason, and Chris Mastro that inspired and informed the Flash Wall

Violence Advisor: Rachel Lee Flesher

We acknowledge the support of the Canada Council for the Arts.

*Human Measure* was further supported by The National Arts Centre's National Creation Fund.

*Human Measure* was first commissioned on the occasion of the solo exhibition, *Cassils: Human Measure, 2021*, HOME Manchester, UK, curated by Bren O'Callaghan.

*Human Measure* was developed with the support of the Paul D. Fleck Fellowship residency at Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, with support from Walter Phillips Gallery, Banff Centre, initiated by Carol A. Stakenas and Jacqueline Bell.

Additional thanks to the Villa Bellagio Residency through the Rockefeller Foundation, INMATT Foundation, Canadian Stage, and the Roy and Edna Disney CalArts Theater (REDCAT) for their continued support.



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**CanadianStage**

Additional Thanks and Support: Bill Ballou, The Box Gallery, Chu-Hsuan Chang, Linda Choi, Cathy Davies, Lauren Denitzio, Jennifer Doyle, Carmina Escobar, Luka Fisher, Amy Garrett, Brendan Healy, Charles Hickey, Kay J Jenkins, Michelle Johnson, Amelia Jones, Clover Leary, Rebecca Lichtenfeld (INMAAT Foundation), Chris Mastro, Elaine Mongeon, Paige Morris, Nat Nardecchia, Bren O'Callaghan, Pete Pace, Yunuen Rhi, Court Schwartz, Chlöe Schott, Benny Siam, Misti Schwartz, Mark Steger, Julia Steinmetz, Bonny Taylor, Kai Cheng Thom

We would like to also acknowledge with deep appreciation the entire team during the initial technical residency at REDCAT and at HOME, including the initial producer and composer Cristy Michel.

Runtime: 50 minutes, no intermission

*The performance contains nudity, strobe, flashing lights and is performed in low lighting.*

## FROM THE ARTIST

Against an unprecedented backdrop of anti-trans legislation in the United States, HUMAN MEASURE asks: how do we manifest empowerment, sensuality, and self-actualization in a society that actively tries to erase us? Insisting upon plurality and avoiding legibility, HUMAN MEASURE straddles dance and the history of photography. Purposefully designed to be difficult to see, the work is staged in the low levels of red light found in photographic darkrooms, punctuated by a massive flashing light box searing live 'afterimages' into the audience's retinas.

With movement rooted in kinesiology, martial arts, sports science, and personal safety protocols, HUMAN MEASURE reinterprets Yves Klein's Anthropometries paintings of the early 1960s. Whereas Klein used nude female models as passive "human paintbrushes," daubed in his trademark International Klein Blue, the performers in HUMAN MEASURE wield the double-edged sword of representation in a collective process of empowered labor.

Each performance of HUMAN MEASURE culminates in the active development of one of the world's largest cyanotypes. A cyanotype is a photographic printing process that produces brilliant blue images. They are made through solar exposure and developed in water. In the summer of 2022, twenty trans and non-binary artists in Los Angeles braved hours in the hot sun to lend their bodies to these exposures, creating an image which indexes the choreography. The dancers then develop these cyanotypes live on stage in real time.

Klein's Anthropometry performances were accompanied by a live orchestra playing his Monotone Symphony; a D-major chord played nonstop, deprived of its beginning and of its end. HUMAN MEASURE emulates this accompaniment with a score comprised of trans and nonbinary vocalists, each sustaining a single note aimed at creating a complementary nervous system response in the audience.

—Cassils

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

**Cassils** (Creator) is a 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, survival 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's work investigates historical contexts to examine the present moment.

Cassils has had recent solo exhibitions at HOME Manchester, Station Museum of Contemporary Art, Perth Institute for Contemporary Arts, Ronald Feldman Fine Arts, NYC; Institute for Contemporary Art, AU; Philadelphia Academy of Fine Arts; School of the Museum of Fine Arts Boston; Bemis Center, Omaha; MU Eindhoven, Netherlands.

They are the recipient of the National Creation Fund (2022), a 2020 Fleck Residency from the Banff Center for the Arts, a Princeton Lewis Artist Fellowship finalist (2020), a Villa Bellagio Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship (2019), a United States Artist Fellowship (2018), a Guggenheim Fellowship and a COLA Grant (2017) and a Creative Capital Award (2015). They have received the inaugural ANTI Festival International Prize for Live Art, California Community Foundation Grant, MOTHA (Museum of Transgender Hirstory) award, and numerous Visual Artist Fellowships from the Canada Council of the Arts. Their work has been featured in New York Times, Boston Globe, Artforum, Hyperallergic, Wired, The Guardian, TDR, Performance Research, Art Journal and was the subject of the monograph Cassils published by MU Eindhoven (2015) and their new catalog Solutions, is published by the Station Museum of Contemporary Art, TX (2020). Cassils work was recently acquired by the Victoria Albert Museum, London, Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto and the Leslie Lohman Museum.

Cassils is an Associate Professor in Sculpture and Integrated Practices at PRATT Institute.

**Jasmine Albuquerque** (Choreographer) (she/her) is a choreographer, dancer and teacher based in Los Angeles. She is co-founder of WIFE and has performed with companies such as Hysterica, Blue13 Bollywood, Collage Dance Theater and Ryan Heffington's Fingered. Other performances include Soft Sex, Istanbul Light Festival, TEDx SoCal, KTCHN, We Are The World, Frequency Festival UK, Jane's Addiction and Hecuba at venues including the Hammer Museum, Zebulon, the El Rey, the Wiltern, MOCA, The Ford, The Orpheum and LACMA. Jasmine has choreographed music videos for Katy Perry, St. Vincent, Sylvan Esso, Devendra Banhart, Ry X, Monica Dogra, done movement direction for Beyonce, Rihanna and JLO and danced in videos for Little Nas X, Miguel, The Weekend, Beck, Laura Marling, Rodrigo Amarante, Lawrence Rothman, Verve Records, Fitz and The Tantrums, MIKA and Morcheeba. She has a degree in History from UCLA and trained in contemporary dance at The Edge Performing Arts Center and in Budapest, Hungary. Her heart has been full working on the organism that has become "Human Measure" and she is so honored to be part of this magical team.

**Christopher Kuhl** (Lighting Designer) is an acclaimed theater, dance, opera, installation artist and designer. Kuhl has developed work which has been produced and presented at such venues as Santiago a Mil Chile, Queer Zagreb, Sydney Festival, Hebbel am Ufer, Centre Pompidou, Hong Kong Arts Festival, Edinburgh International Festival, On the Boards, Fusebox Festival, Walker Arts Center, Sundance Film Festival, and Santa

Fe Opera, among others. Recent work includes *Human Measure* (HOME Manchester), *The Carolyn Bryant Project* (REDCAT), *Voices from the Killing Jar* (Long Beach Opera, Los Angeles Philharmonic), *The Hunger* (Abbey Theatre, BAM), *The Object Lesson* (New York Theatre Workshop), *Home* (BAM), *The Institute of Memory* (Under the Radar), *Straight White Men* (Young Jean Lee's Theatre Company, The Public Theatre, Kaai Theater) and *The Elephant Room* (Kirk Douglas Theatre, St. Ann's Warehouse). His work has been recognized with two Bessie Awards, two Los Angeles Ovation Awards, and the Center Theatre Group's Sherwood Award. Kuhl is an Assistant Professor at UC San Diego in the Department of Theatre and Dance. He is a native of New Mexico and a graduate of California Institute of the Arts.

**Kadet Kuhne** (Music Composer) (they/them) is a media artist who engages community through interactive, immersive and performative works, using new technologies to innovate on conceptual frameworks. Through video, installation, sound, and AR/VR, Kadet explores the tension and resolve between our nervous system, our human possibility, and the network of ecosystems we live in. Kadet's works have been presented internationally at venues such as: Museum of Art Lucerne, Society for Art and Technology (Montreal), Sonar Festival (Barcelona), Mutek (Montreal), GIASO Network Music Festival (France), Villa Arson (France), Sound//Space Gallery (London), Antimatter Festival (Toronto), niu: espai artistic contemporani (Barcelona), Madame Claude (Berlin), and select national venues: Sundance, Hammer Museum, LACMA, REDCAT, Torrance Art Museum, LACE Gallery, Outfest, SFMOMA, YBCA, De Young Museum, SOMArts, Soundwave SF, Crossroads Film Festival, SFEMF, Fort Mason Center for the Arts, Shapeshifters Cinema, and Aggregate Space Gallery.

**Bonny Taylor** (Cyanotype Technical Director) (she/her) resides in Los Angeles, a graduate of the School of Visual Arts, NYC. The Cyanotype Technical Director for *Human Measure*. Director of the Print Studio (Burbank), a Fine Art Consultant assisting artists who use and print Photography & Mixed Media. Taylor is honored to work with Cassils for the last decade.

**Alucard Mendoza McHaney** (Performer) (it/its) is a trans, queer performance and dance artist currently committed to exploring cathartic experiences and bypassing filters of the conscious mind by reaching altered, mindless, or trance-like, gnostic states of being through durational practices such as movement. Based on unceded Tongva Land (Los Angeles), Alucard has studied under several LA-based choreographers and has performed in various parts of the world, most recently at the Hammer Museum.

**Kaydence De Mere** (Performer) (he/him) is a transmasculine multidisciplinary artist and performer based in Los Angeles. Kaydence has performed with a variety of artists and choreographers over the years, and has worked heavily throughout Europe.

**B Gosse** (Performer) (she/they) is a transfemme, nonbinary art director, designer, and movement artist based in Los Angeles. They examine the intersection between performance, technology, and filmmaking— generating new ideas and conversations around queer identity. Their work centers on fostering community and creating intentional space for expression and healing. They currently focus on creating experimental movement work, while developing and designing content for advertising and documentary projects.

**jas lin** 林思穎 (Performer) (they/them) stages exorcisms for purging choreographies of the learned body and shutting down internal and external surveillance cameras that suggest there is a Proper way to move through the world. their choreographies, films, workshops, and lectures have been shared around the world, including at Danshallerne Copenhagen, MOCA Los Angeles, and Mitski's Laurel Hell Tour. jas believes movement to be a manifestation and actualization of potentiality— that together, we can dance the possible into being.

**Canyon Carballosa** (Performer) is an autistic queer trans nonbinary professional dancer, movement maker, and advocate. They are an award-winning choreographer, competitive judge, and YPAD/DEEA educated teacher who trained in contemporary and hip hop at Broadway Dance Center's Professional Program in New York City. Credits including Dua Lipa, Facebook Meta, Sylvan Esso, Angel Olsen, Showtime, and Starz TV. Canyon sees dance as a radical act for LGBTQIA2S+ folks and creating safe spaces is at the forefront of Canyon's work in dance and in life.

**gina young** (Producer, Stage Manager) (she/they) is an award-winning writer, director, songwriter and producer who has worked nationally and internationally. their stage, screen, and curatorial work has been presented everywhere from The Hammer Museum and REDCAT to punk clubs and gay bars, and in university settings. gina's screenwriting debut ROOM TONE, starring Vida's Roberta Colindrez and directed by Whitney White, is currently making the film festival circuit. she is a winner of the Jane Chambers Award for Playwriting, a two-time finalist for Center Theatre Group's Sherwood Award for boundary-pushing artists, and a winner of the Humanitas/PLAY LA Prize. @ginagenius ginayoung.com

**Diana Wyenn** (Producer) (she/her) creates theater, opera, and film that rigorously explore trauma and healing, and advocates for equity and environmental and disability justice. She has directed and choreographed for Center Theatre Group, the LA Phil, Roundabout Theater Company, National Sawdust, Beth Morrison Projects, The Walt Disney Company, Skirball Cultural Center, SummerStage, Grand Performances, and more. Recent devised works include *Blood/Sugar*, which was presented by the World Health Organization in November 2022, and *Kristina Wong for Public Office*. Visit dianawyenn.com to learn more and experience her work.

## UPCOMING AT REDCAT

### Virginia Grise with Quetzal: *Riding the Currents of the Wilding Wind...* October 28

From sharp shooters to earthmovers, roaming dogs, helicopters in the sky, quarantines and men that fly, musical director Martha Gonzalez and writer Virginia Grise chronicle the process of adapting Helena María Viramontes' epic novel *Their Dogs Came with Them* in a medium security women's prison and the site-specific staging of the play under the I-19 Freeway with a community cast of scholars, organizers and actors. Directed by Kendra Ware, this performance lecture includes live music by members of the band Quetzal, giving audiences a sneak peek into their most recent project together, a concept album, *Riding the Currents of the Wilding Wind*.

### Christiane Jatahy: *Depois Do Silêncio (After the Silence)*

November 3 - 5

In the new and final part of her trilogy on colonial violence, acclaimed Brazilian theater maker Christiane Jatahy looks at how racism and capitalism are interwoven. From the slave trade to the contemporary politics of the likes of Brazilian president Jair Bolsonaro, little has changed. There are those who possess land, freedom, and their own identity, and those whose existence is of no value. In the award-winning novel *Torto Arado* by Itamar Vieira Júnior, the source material for the play, the female protagonists are engaged in a struggle against such a world order—and for an opportunity for change and new world making. In deep community collaboration, Jatahy and her actors, Gal Pereira, Juliana França, Lian Gaia and Tatiana Salem, delve deep into Brazil's history and, by extension, into that of European profiteers, too. To tell the story of the unresolved colonial violence that endures to this day, Jatahy blends a surprising mix of two art forms— theater and film—allowing reality and fiction to overlap. Within the discourse on structural racism and geopolitical realities, Jatahy has firmly established her place in the world's theater landscape. Her stories are those of resistance.

## REDCAT TECHNICAL STAFF

Technical Director: Bill Ballou  
Assoc. TD, Sound and Video: Pete Pace  
Assoc. TD, Lighting Director: Chu-Hsuan Chang  
Audio Engineer: Michael Back  
QLab: Scott Garner  
Lighting Board Operator: Jerrel Milan  
Deck: Josue Clark

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