



Adrienne Kennedy and Monty Cole

- Etta and Ella on the Upper West Side

Theater

FEBRUARY 23 - 25, 2023

8:30 PM

CO-PRESENTED BY

REDCAT

Roy and Edna Disney CalArts Theater



CalArts Center for New Performance

CALARTS

California Institute of the Arts

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.

Adrienne Kennedy and Monty Cole

• Etta and Ella on the Upper West Side

WORLD PREMIERE

Produced by CalArts Center for New Performance

Cast

Ella: TORI DANNER

Etta: SARAHJEEN FRANÇOIS

Troupe: WESLEY T. JONES*

Music: MALEKE CLEMMONS

**Appearing through an Agreement between CalArts Center for New Performance and Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.*

Creative Team

Writer: ADRIENNE KENNEDY

Director: MONTY COLE

Scenic Designer: YUKI SHIYU DING

Lighting Designer: CLAIRE CHRZAN

Sound Designer: CLARE MARIE NEMANICH

Video Designer: HSUAN-KUANG HSIEH

Cinematographer: AKINA VAN DE VELDE

Costume Designer: LOREN WELDON

Fight Choreographer: EDWARD MONAGHAN

Choreographer: MECCA ANDREWS

Producer: RUI M. XU

Production Manager: CHRIS SWETCKY

Stage Manager: MARIA V. OLIVEIRA

Associate Producer: RACHEL SCANDLING

Assistant Lighting Designer: ELLA FORNOF

Lighting Programmer: VIOLET SMITH

Assistant Sound Designer: ELIOT BURK

Assistant Video Designer: WEI-FANG CHANG

Assistant Costume Designer: BAILEY JOHNSON

Assistant Production Manager: KATHERINE PAEZ FROEHLICH

Assistant Stage Manager: WINKY KIM

Assistant Stage Manager, Fight Captain: REBECCA K. HSIA

Percussionist: MENG-HANG SHIH

Costume Shop Director: VICTOR SANDOVAL-TORRES

Master Electrician: KATE DEWALL

Props Master: PATRICK SMITH

Head of Sound and Video: JENICA ANDERSON

CalArts Prop Run Crew: ARMAN MEMARZADEH

CalArts Prop Run Crew: DANIELLE POPE

CalArts Lights Run Crew: PORTER JACOB LAWRENCE

CalArts Sound Run Crew: MILO WAKEFIELD

Understudy (Etta): DIONNE M. ROBINSON

Understudy (Ella): CHISOM DIANA DIMIRI

Understudy (Troupe): E. E. WILLIAMS

Additional Film Team

Assistant Director: JINGCHEN ZHAO

Videographer: ZOE LAPPIN

Assistant Production Designer: XIAOKE ZHANG

Assistant Production Designer: QI LIU

Assistant Costume Designer: KAREN AYALA

Makeup Artist: ANGELINE GUTIERREZ

Extras: FREDDIE CARODINE, CHRISTOPHER MARTIN, SHYTEEK MCLEOD, DANIELLE POPE,
MARIE SADD

CalArts Center for New Performance Staff

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RACHEL SCANDLING, Producing Director

AMANDA SHANK, Associate Artistic Director

MARISSA CHIBÁS, Director of Duende CalArts | Producing Artist

DANIEL ALEXANDER JONES, Producing Artist

PAUL TURBIAK, Director of Communications

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JENNY KRUSOE, Executive Director, Altasea

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MICHAEL SKLOFF, Composer

JUDY YIN SHIH, PhD



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Etta and Ella on the Upper West Side is supported in part with generous funding from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Co-Presented with REDCAT. Produced by CalArts Center for New Performance.

Runtime: Approx. 60 minutes, no intermission

ABOUT THE WORK

One of the American theater's seminal writers, Adrienne Kennedy captures the Black experience in America in the 20th century with a trademark embrace of symbolism, lyricism, and mythic figures. In this world premiere production, *Etta and Ella* Harrison are talented academics on the Upper West Side – as well as sisters and rivals. After a lifetime of competition, they are on the verge of destroying each other. Next-generation director Monty Cole employs a cinematic approach to this intricate blend of monologue, dialogue, voiceover, and prose in a work that is part experimental play, part narrative thriller.

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Adrienne Kennedy is a masterful writer who creates beautiful puzzles, mysteries, nightmares, personal exorcisms that exist within their own understanding of time. Her plays have a dreamy cinematic quality to them—they fade in and out of realities. The more I learn about Kennedy, the more I understand her love of the golden age of Hollywood, Fred Astaire, Film Noir, what you'd find on the Turner Classic Movies channel. Though *Etta and Ella on the Upper West Side* is a play written in the late 2010s, adapted from a short story Kennedy wrote in the 1990s, these black and white films from the 1940s seem to be a direct influence for her writing. In *Etta and Ella*, she's written a psychological thriller in which a woman is haunted by her sister, haunted by her self.

For this world premiere production of *Etta and Ella on the Upper West Side*, the creative team was interested in how we could build an experience that honored Adrienne Kennedy's unique storytelling in a way that hasn't been done before. Oscillating between live and pre-recorded footage, the production is both deeply cinematic and theatrical at the same time – just like Kennedy's work. We're creating a production in which the characters and their psychological horror literally leap off the screen – pitching Kennedy as a theatrical Hitchcock. Her work is so deeply layered and haunted, and coupled with a cinematic language, it resonates in an excitingly emotional way. We've also accompanied the play with a live pianist who scores the experience – honoring Kennedy's rhythmic language and calling back to the original movie houses. We're looking to create something truly iconic that lifts up the work of this seminal living playwright. Kennedy's words were built for visceral liveness and the emotional stoicism of the close up, and that's what *Etta and Ella on the Upper West Side* offers.

— Monty Cole

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Monty Cole (Director) is an award-winning theater and film writer-director based in Chicago, IL. He has directed for The Goodman Theatre, Steppenwolf, Center Theatre Group, The Playwrights Center, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Victory Gardens Theater, CalArts Center for New Performance, Cape Cod Theatre Project, Alley Theatre, American Blues Theater, and others. His re-interpretations of classics from Eugene O'Neill's *The Hairy Ape* to *Hamlet* have received awards and critical praise in Chicago. His play *American Teenager* is a commission from the Goodman Theatre's Playwrights Unit. He is currently an Artist in Residence at CalArts Center for New Performance, a fellow at Hermitage Artist Retreat, and a Research Scholar of the Bridge to Faculty at UIC. In 2021, Cole directed three short films: *SIX FEET APART* by Isaac Gomez, *SONS OF TOLEDO*, written by Cole and Matt Foss, and his own short, *WHOLE*. Recently, Cole directed an episode of *The Cymbeline Project* for the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. Coming up, Cole will direct *Incendiary* by Dave Harris at the Woolly Mammoth Theatre in DC. Monty has a BA in Theatre Studies from Emerson College and an MFA Directing degree from the California Institute of the Arts. | monty-cole.com

Adrienne Kennedy (Writer) is an award-winning playwright, lecturer, and author. Her plays include *Funnyhouse of a Negro* (Obie Award), *June and Jean in Concert* (Obie Award), *Ohio State Murders*, *A Movie Star Has to Star in Black and White*, *A Rat's Mass*, *The Owl Answers*, *Motherhood 2000*, *Electra and Orestes*, *She Talks to Beethoven*, *An Evening with Dead Essex*, *A Lesson in a Dead Language*, and *The Lennon Play*. She is the recipient of an Obie Award for *Sleep Deprivation Chamber*, which she co-authored with her son Adam. Other awards include a Guggenheim Award, the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award for Lifetime Achievement, the Lila Wallace Reader's Digest Award, the American Academy of

Arts and Letters Award for Literature, the 1990 American Book Award, and induction into the Theater Hall of Fame. Her published works include *In One Act*, *Alexander Plays*, *Deadly Triplets*, *He Brought Her Heart Back in a Box and Other Plays*, and the memoir *People Who Led to My Plays*. She was also commissioned to write plays for Jerome Robbins, the Public Theater, Mark Taper Forum, Juilliard School, and the Royal Court in England. She has been a visiting lecturer at Yale University, New York University, Harvard University, and University of California at Berkeley, where she was Chancellor's Distinguished Lecturer in 1980 and 1986. In 2018, Kennedy was inducted into the Theater Hall of Fame for Lifetime Achievement in the American Theater.

Maleke Clemmons (Pianist) is a piano player based in LA, originally from Chicago. Maleke moved to Los Angeles to study at California Institute for the Arts. While living in Chicago, he performed at venues such as the Pritzker Pavilion, Ravinia, Room 43, and the Jazz Showcase. In Los Angeles he has played at the Blue Whale, The Mint, The Falls, and has recorded at Capitol Records. In 2017 he won his first California Music Video Award with the Artist Group Maryama for the song "Where the Mermaids Are." He has played with Legendary Musicians such as Bobby Watson, Antonio Hart, Bobby Broom, Gerald Clayton, Steve Lehman, Joel Ross, and Yo Yo Ma. While playing in LA, he teaches at California Institute for the Arts, Irvine School of Music, and Watts Towers.

Tori Danner (Ella) is an LA-based actor, voice artist, writer, and producer. She's a graduate of the MFA Acting program at CalArts. She was born in Nigeria and raised in Kuwait, where she spent 23 of her life. She focused her last few years there as a talk show host on a popular television program featuring artists throughout the Middle East. She also worked as a radio broadcaster. She's currently known for her ongoing role as Morenike in CBS's hit sitcom *Bob Hearts Abishola*. Some of her previous theater credits include: Ophelia in *Hamlet*, Mark Antony in *Julius Caesar*, and Desdemona in *Othello*. Through her talent and unique story, Tori hopes to encourage people to shirk the certainty of their comfort zone and pursue their passions. She would like to thank her family for their continuous encouragement and support.

Sarahjeen François (Etta) is a Haitian-American performer and playwright from Miami, FL. Her creative work is an exploration of the Afro-mythic, where through a folkloric lens, she highlights the complexities of Black femme personification. An MFA Acting alumni of CalArts, she is known for her roles in the Netflix Original Series *Pretty Smart* (2021), QCODE Media's suspense-thriller podcast *The Burned Photo* (2022), and films such as *Neckline* (2022 Golden State Film Festival, International Cosmopolitan Film Festival of Tokyo, Marina Del Rey Film Festival, California Women's Film Festival) and *The Graveyard Shift* (2012 Garden State Film Festival). Her artistic endeavors in theater have led her to work with CalArts Center for New Performance, Teatro Línea de Sombra, REDCAT, Horizon Theatre

Company, Peach State Opera, The Atlantic Center for the Arts, Castello San Basilio, Will Geer's Theatricum Botanicum, and others. | sarahjeenfrancois.com

Wesley T. Jones (Troupe) is a graduate of Carnegie Mellon University's BFA Acting program born and raised in Detroit, Michigan. He's been featured in shows like *Chicago PD*, *Bull*, *Blue Bloods*, and Ava DuVernay's *When They See Us*. Theatrically, Wesley has done a number of Off-Broadway and regional staged works. His most recent theater credits include Anna Deveare Smith's *Twilight: Los Angeles 1992*, done at New York's Signature Theatre, winner of the Lucille Lortel Award for Outstanding Revival (2022), which was remounted by Harvard's American Repertory Theatre last fall. Jones is honored to bring life to Kennedy's work here at REDCAT. Gratitude.

Yuki Shiyu Ding (Scenic Designer) is a scene designer, who has a solid background in visual art with specialties in painting and printmaking. Transforming from a 2D world to a 3D space, Yuki is good at creating a stylistic and immersive dream world. She enjoys listening to others' stories and teamwork. „Life is real; art is a construct.“ Feel free to connect with me, and let's make your imaginary world real in reality. | IG: yuki.shiyu_ding

Claire Chrzan (Lighting Designer) is a Los Angeles based lighting designer originally from Chicago. Her approach to design is rooted in the belief that the lighting should be in conversation with performers. Her work has been seen at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, The Public Theatre in NYC at the Under The Radar Festival, in Los Angeles with LA Contemporary Dance, and in Chicago at The Goodman, Steppenwolf, Court Theatre, Manual Cinema, Writers Theatre, Northlight, A Red Orchid, The Joffrey Ballet's Joffrey Academy, and more. CalArts MFA '23. | claiechrzandesgns.com

Clare Marie Nemanich (Sound Designer) has worked with The National WWII Museum, Southern Rep Theatre, and The NOLA Project. Their sound designs in New Orleans have won two Big Easy Entertainment Awards. After leaving a long career in radio, they are currently pursuing an MFA at CalArts. Recent designer credits include *The Water Station* and *The Sea Gull* at CalArts and *Augustine Machine* with CalArts Center for New Performance in Paris. | planetclareproductions.com

Loren Weldon (Costume Designer) is a costume designer based in Los Angeles, CA. She takes inspiration from visual, tactile, and auditory art mediums to create her designs. Some of her main inspiration comes from her favorite artists, which are Jean-Michel Basquiat, Jeff Koons, and Yayoi Kusama, because all three make immersive art that forces their audience to think about their pieces. Her recent works include CalArts School of Theater's production of *Bacchae*, *Pelleas and Melisande*, *Beyond the Veil*, as well as *Because You're Worth It*.

Hsuan-Kuang Hsieh (Video Designer) is a Taiwanese multimedia artist and filmmaker who currently lives and works in Los Angeles. Her practices include experimental film, projection art, photography, and video installation. Her projection work has been shown worldwide. Some collaborators and venues include New York Performa Biennial, The Ford Foundation, Shanghai Oriental Art Center, East West Players, LA Contemporary Dance Company, and Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra. | hsuankuang.com

Akina Van de Velde (Cinematographer) is a freelance cinematographer based in Los Angeles and New York City. For the last 10 years, she has worked in film and video production creating content for nonprofits and commercial clients including Adidas, Fitbit, BuzzFeed, NYLON, VICE, Hulu, and Condé Nast. She received her MFA from UCLA's Theater, Film & Television program and now focuses on narrative and emotionally resonating storytelling. Her work was screened at Sundance, Outfest, and various other film festivals. Akina is a recipient of the MPAA Award, the Federico De Laurentiis Memorial Award, the Peregrine Collective Grant, Fred Thorpe Fellowship, Lynn Weston Fellowship, and is currently a Film Independent Project Involve Fellow. When not on set, she is at the mercy of her Labrador Retriever, Rothko.

Edward Monaghan (Fight Choreographer) is a professor who has been involved in the health/fitness and martial arts fields as a professional for over 35 years. He holds multiple degrees from the University of Kentucky and UCLA specializing in movement, theater, and eastern philosophy. Ed has worked as a professional fight choreographer for 30 years for film and theater. He has trained a number of celebrities for film projects, including Val Kilmer, Chris O'Donnell, Randy Quaid, John Malkovitch, Alicia Silverstone, Julianne Moore, Mira Sorvino, Matt Sorum of Guns and Roses, John Rzeznik of The Goo Goo Dolls, Dule Hill, and Rachel Hunter, among others. Professor Monaghan has served on the faculty at UCLA's School of Theater, Film, and Television for over 28 years where he teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in applied movement, exercise science, eastern philosophy, and combat for stage and film. He began teaching combat at CalArts in 2021.

Mecca Vazie Andrews (Choreographer) works in a variety of contexts within the arts and education. In 2007, she established mecca v.a & The MOVEMENT movement in an effort to explore experimental dance, sound, and theater techniques revolving around social practice, utilizing progressive movements as a universal tool for arts integration that merges with daily lifestyle. Mecca has taught at various educational institutions, including Edge Performing Arts Center, Loyola Marymount University, Broadway Dance Center, Joffrey Ballet School, The Gabriella Foundation, and Los Feliz Charter School For the Arts. She has also developed works of experimental movement theater that have been presented at The Beta Main Museum, These Days, The Whitney Museum, 356 S. Mission Road, REDCAT, Santa Monica Museum of Art, Central Market w/ Active Cultures, The Broad, MOCA, and The Getty Museum.

Ella Fornof (Assistant Lighting Designer) is a Washington-based designer pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Experience Design and Production at CalArts. She is currently working on designing lights for CalArts 50th Graduation Ceremony. Her past CalArts productions include CNP's *The Carolyn Bryant Project*, *The Water Station*, *The Great Gatsby*, and the dance show *AIKI: Pathways to Light*. Special thanks to her dad, mom, and Athena for always supporting her; as well as Claire Chrzan for including her on this wonderful journey a year ago.

Violet Smith (Lighting Programmer) is an MFA 3 Lighting Designer at CalArts. She believes lighting design is watercolor painting in a 3D space, and is interested in mixed media art and her next cup of coffee.

Eliot Burk (Assistant Sound Designer) is a composer, performer, and music educator of experimental and contemporary classical music. His music explores the political structure of concert situations, novel intonational systems, and extremes of non-traditional instrumental technique. Eliot's compositions have been performed nationally and internationally by performers including Robert Black, Hypercube Ensemble, the Bergamot Quartet, the UCSB Symphony Orchestra, New Century Voices, himself, and others. Eliot is an alumni of the California Institute of the Arts, where he received an MFA in the Music Performer-Composer program.

Wei-Fang Chang (Assistant Video Designer) is a multimedia artist and motion graphics designer raised in Taiwan, based in the universe/Los Angeles. She focuses on video design and interactive art installation within live experience. The visual language in her works are based on organic flow and rhythms from nature. She retranslates the natural fluid forms into digital geometric motion graphics, such as distorted linear patterns, rhythmic waves, and atmospheric digital gradients which evoke the fluid and perpetual transitions of nature. | IG: @w._.mp4

Dionne M. Robinson (Understudy, Etta) is thrilled to be returning to the REDCAT stage. She was last seen as Soraya in *Sister Braid My Hair* during the New Original Works Festival. Dionne is a current Master of Fine Arts Acting student at CalArts. Born and raised in Mississippi, Dionne is following her dreams of becoming an actor, teaching artist, and playwright after teaching special education for over five years. She is grateful for her family, friends, and all those involved in making *Etta and Ella on the Upper West Side* such a beautiful experience.

E. E. Williams (Understudy, Troupe) is a Los Angeles based artist most recently appearing in *Waiting (4,380,000 Hours and Counting)* at the Inkwel Theatre. E is a proud graduate of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro where he obtained his BFA in Acting with a double minor in dance and musical theater. Since graduating, E has become a member of

two different companies, and has continued to develop work with them both as a performer and a writer. Credits Include: *Echo Immersion* (B. Dunn Movement/CNP Residency), *Sister Braid My Hair* (NOW Festival/REDCAT), *How We Got On* (Sacred Fools Theatre/Los Angeles Premiere), *Twelfth Night* (National Black Theatre Festival), *Dispatches from Gloria* (Die-Cast/Philly Theatre Week). E is an actor, choreographer, writer currently pursuing his MFA in Acting from the California Institute of the Arts, as well as a Certification from the Selver Awareness Leadership Training Institute. Upon his retrieval of these accolades, E will continue his practice as an artist set on healing the world in any and all work that he does.

Chisom Diana Dimiri (Understudy, Ella) is a Nigerian actor based in Los Angeles. Graduating from the CalArts MFA Acting program this spring, *Etta and Ella* is her REDCAT debut.

Rui Xu (Producer) is an LA-based producer and a PMP® (Project Management Professional), who is committed to supporting and raising daring voices for underrepresented groups through the facilitation of artmaking. Xu's theater works presented by the CalArts Center for New Performance are: *Nightwalk in the Chinese Garden*, *The Carolyn Bryant Project*, *Scene with Cranes*, and *Etta and Ella on the Upper West Side*. Xu's films premiered at major film festivals: *Hieu* won the Deuxième Prix at Cinéfondation at the 72nd Cannes Film Festival; *Finis Terrae* was selected for the critics' week at the 77th Venice International Film Festival and won the Special Mention FEDIC for Best Short Film; *Way Out Ahead of Us* was selected for competition at Festival International de Cinema de Marseille in 2022; and *Lucha Noir* won the Best Short at Spotlight Dorado 2022. Xu holds master's degrees in Producing from CalArts and Music Technology from NYU. She is a producing fellow in the Film Independent Project Involve 2022 and awarded the Participant Fellowship Grants. She was selected in the PGA (Producers Guild of America) CREATE program with her recent project 72, written by Marissa Chibás.

Christopher Swetcky (Production Manager) worked for Penn State School of Theatre as an associate professor, production manager, and technical director before moving to LA. Prior to Penn State, Chris worked at American Repertory Theater in Cambridge, Massachusetts as Associate Technical Director. While at A.R.T. Chris worked on numerous productions including a few Broadway hits, such as *Porgy and Bess*, *Pippin*, *All the Way*, *Finding Neverland*, and *Waitress*. Chris received his BS in Electrical Engineering from Fairfield University and then went on to earn his MFA in Technical Design and Production from Yale University's School of Drama. When not working in academia, Chris engages with various production companies including Beth Morrison Projects as the production manager for *Home* by Geoff Sobelle. Chris has toured shows all over the world across 4 continents.

Maria V. Oliveira (Stage Manager) is a freelance actor, stage manager, and certified energy healer. She is a graduate of the University of California, Irvine and Santa Barbara City

College where she studied theater, film, and acting. Over the last year, she has worked on *The Most Beautiful Home...Maybe* and CNP's *Scene with Cranes*, both running at REDCAT. *Etta and Ella on the Upper West Side* will be her second show with CalArts Center for New Performance.

Rachel Scandling (Associate Producer) is an arts leader working in interdisciplinary live performance in Los Angeles and currently serves as Producing Director of CalArts Center for New Performance and faculty in CalArts School of Theater. Additional local and national dance, theater, and new music producing credits include numerous projects with Los Angeles Performance Practice, LA Philharmonic, The Music Center/Grand Park, L.A. Contemporary Dance Company, The Wilderness, and The Industry, among others. She holds a Master's in Performance Curation from Wesleyan University and received her Bachelor's from the Dodge College of Film and Media Arts at Chapman University.

Katherine Paez Froehlich (Assistant Production Manager) is an LA-based multidisciplinary creative producer and production manager. She is fascinated by communication, building connections with others, and building a community through the arts. She is an advocate for diversity, equity, and inclusion in the stories she brings to life and in the makeup of her teams. She has previously worked with Universal Creative, Universal Studios Hollywood – Entertainment Production, Netflix, the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey, and City Theatre to name a few. Katherine would like to thank her partner and her ER Gang for their support. | [linkedin.com/in/katherine-paez-froehlich](https://www.linkedin.com/in/katherine-paez-froehlich)

Rebecca K. Hsia (Assistant Stage Manager/Fight Captain) is an LA and Seattle-based multi-hyphenate artist. Select SM credits include: Village Theatre (Annual New Works Festival of Musicals); The 5th Avenue Theatre (*Rock of Ages*, *West Side Story*, *First Draft*); Intiman Theatre (*Caught* and *IEAP 2018*); Annex Theatre (*Silhouette*, 2018 Gregory Award winner for Best New Play); Centerstage Theatre (*Pajama Game* and *Rapunzel: A Holiday Pantomime*); and Fantastic.Z Theatre (*Femme*). She also has worked in Seattle, LA, and Korea as a producer, production manager, and playwright. She would like to send love and thanks to her family and friends and MP, Dog Max, and Mila for their endless love and support.

Ga Eun (Winky) Kim (Assistant Stage Manager) is a stage manager from Hong Kong and South Korea currently located in LA. She is ecstatic to partake in the role of ASM for *Etta and Ella*. Her past CalArts School of Theater productions include *The Carolyn Bryant Project* (CNP), *The Great Gatsby*, and *The Sea Gull*. She is truly grateful for everyone on this production who succeeded her growth as a stage manager. Special and endless thanks to mom, dad, and Ariana for always having her back in life and helping her to pursue her career of stage management.

REDCAT TECHNICAL STAFF

Technical Director: BILL BALLOU
Associate TD, Sound and Video: PETE PACE
Associate TD, Lighting: CHU-HSUAN CHANG
Audio Engineer: OLIVIA POPEJOY
Audio Assistant/Video Operator: JOSUE CLARK
QLab Operator: SCOTT GARNER
Lighting Board Operator: CHRISTA TROESTER
Deck: JERREL MILAN
Wardrobe: ALEJANDRA ALEMAN GARCIA
Livestream Camera Operator: JOSHUA HILL

UPCOMING AT REDCAT

Lemi Ponifasio

Amor a la muerte (Love to Death)

April 7 - 9

Amor a la muerte (Love to Death) is a traditional yet radical work conceived and directed by internationally renowned Samoan artist Lemi Ponifasio, a champion of both the avant-garde and Indigenous people. This new work brings together Mapuche artist, singer, and composer Elisa Avendaño Curaqueo and Chilean contemporary flamenco dancer Natalia Garcia-Huidobro. The work was sparked by events detonated after the Chilean police murdered Camilo Catrillanca, a Mapuche former student, activist, and farmer. Catrillanca worked on the movement of reclamation of Mapuche lands. Voices and bodies weave together in a ceremony revealing their own stories: two lives that reflect both Chile's history and the search for its future. Touching on questions of identity, destiny, and nature, the work transcends conventional ideas of theater, dance, and activism.



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