



NOW Festival 2023: Week Three

- Mark Golamco, Huntrezz Janos and Antigoni Tsagkaropoulou, Erica Bitton

Dance, Music, Theater

AUGUST 31 - SEPTEMBER 2, 2023

8:30 PM

PRESENTED BY

REDCAT

Roy and Edna Disney

CalArts Theater

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, Fernandefio, and Venturefio; 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.

NOW Festival 2023: Week Three

The 20th Annual New Original Works Festival concludes with a program of works by Mark Golamco, Huntrezz Janos (CalArts BFA '18) and Antigoni Tsagkaropoulou, and Erica Bitton (CalArts BFA '10). With a sharp interest in rituals, fantasies and memories, these works use history and technology to formulate diverse, other-worldly futures that provide a counterpart to our reality while allowing us to examine the injustices around us.

New Original Works Festival 2023 is organized by Edgar Miramontes and Rolando Rodriguez with Sola Bamis (CalArts MFA '11), Dami Spain, and Rosanna Tavarez.

Runtime: Approx. 100 minutes, with intermission

MARK GOLAMCO: *THE GHOST OF TED DRAGON*

The Ghost of Ted Dragon is a comedic, cabaret-style performance with original music by multi-instrumentalist and vocalist Mark Golamco, who embodies ballet dancer Ted Dragon and his lover, the painter Alfonso Ossorio—a New York City love story that spanned decades. Written from Golamco's perspective as a queer Filipino artist, Golamco sings and plays viola, electric guitar and harp, while accompanied by an ensemble of dancers. The diaristic performance evokes traditional folk-music storytelling, classic ballad-love songs, and rock and roll to create a living gay history, demonstrating the importance and bittersweet longing of connecting with our long-departed queer ancestors.

Written, Directed and Performed by MARK GOLAMCO

Electric Guitar, Acoustic Guitar, Harmonica, Vox: ALLEN BLEYLE

Piano, Saxophone, Vox: MICHAEL G. BAUER

Bass: AEON LUX

Dancers: KAYLA AGUILA, AEON LUX

Choreographed by CRAIG BIESECKER

Costume Design by WILL GOMEZ

Photographer: ARGEL ROJO

Humor Consultant: CHUCK MORRIS III

Artwork: MARK GOLAMCO

The set includes a Chandelier Lamp reminiscent of an ornate Ghostlight (Golamco's previous band name); a Silver Chair from a friend who now lives in Dublin, Ireland; four Nesting Tables that belonged to Golamco's Dad; several art objects inspired by the work of Alfonso Ossorio; and an Oriental Rug "borrowed" from a neighbor. The projected time-lapse drawings and paintings are by Golamco and they are based on historical photographs. The still images of Alfonso Ossorio's artwork were provided by the Michael Rosenfeld Gallery.

Featured Songs: "Ted Dragon", "Some By Sleep, Some By Music", "Good As Gone", "Alfonso Ossorio", "Love Over Time".

Special thanks to choreographer, Craig Biesecker, and costume designer, Will Gomez, as well as to The Ghost of Ted Dragon Band and Dancers, who not only provided exceptional talent but also added brilliant insights to the show. Thank you also to the Michael Rosenfeld Gallery, for generously sharing images of Alfonso Ossorio's artwork. Further details of Ted Dragon's adventures can be found in the book, Philistines at the Hedgerow by Steven Gaines, and in The East Hampton Star.

Mark Golamco is a Filipino-American artist and multi-instrumental musician. He makes music, dance, drawing, painting, video, and performance. His work tells stories that bridge his experiences with those of past queer ancestors. A classically trained Viola player, Golamco studied orchestra and chamber music in the San Francisco Bay Area and later received a BA in Art from UCLA and an MFA in Painting from RISD. He has performed at the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Judson Memorial Church, Human Resources Los Angeles, PAM Residencies, the Palm Springs Art Museum, REDCAT, MOCA, and was the Artist in Residence at Cafe Dancer, NYC. Golamco is still developing this work, *The Ghost of Ted Dragon*, as well as researching and composing music for another piece about the unique experience he had performing music regularly for the late playwright Edward Albee. | markgolamco.com / IG @markgolamco

Kayla Aguila is a Filipino-American dancer and choreographer. Kayla began her dance training in the Philippines and received her BFA in dance at California Institute of the Arts in 2019. Since then, she has worked with artists such as Azure Barton, Julie Bour, Dimitri Chamblas, Bret Easterling, Stephen Galloway, Jermaine Spivey, and Spenser Theberge. Kayla has performed and presented works at REDCAT, Hauser & Wirth, The Hammer Museum, The Hollywood Bowl, MOCA, Paris Opera and the Venice Biennale.

Aeon Lux (they/them) is an LA based musician, poet, and performer who has collaborated with various artists and musical groups, such as Josie Wreck, and Peter Kalisch.

Michael G. Bauer is a musician, artist, and therapist based in Los Angeles, CA. He has collaborated, performed and exhibited during the last two decades. | michaelgeraldbauer.com.

Allen Bleyle is a musician and art as in just do it why not person living in Los Angeles. He makes music under his name, and children's music as Apple Brains. He can bench 135lbs on a good day.

Will Gomez, an LA-raised designer, focuses on expanding the male and gender-less aesthetic one stitch at a time.

—INTERMISSION—

HUNTREZZ JANOS AND ANTIGONI TSAGKAROPOULOU: *DENTAXUVIA*

DENTAXUVIA is a multi-layered performance that fuses the unique artistic visions of Huntrezz Janos (CalArts BFA '18) and Antigoni Tsagkaropoulou by using technology, sculpture, and poetry to conjure a fragmented futuristic scene of ecocyberfeminist insurgents. In this sci-fi explosion of visuals, the tangible meets the intangible as Huntrezz and Antigoni perform in wearable sculptures and as avatars in their virtual world. The result is an act of queer resistance that transports audiences on a supernatural journey and ignites belief that anyone can shed old skins and reclaim agency in the face of oppressive regimes.

Created, Scored and Performed by HUNTREZZ JANOS and ANTIGONI TSAGKAROPOULOU

Special thanks to Alice Scope, Scoonie Gee, Kelani Nichole, Spectra Studio.

DENTAXUVIA is presented in English and Greek with English subtitles.

Huntrezz Janos, the Afro-Hungarian artificer and cultural alchemist, casts an enchanting spell as a young luminary from Los Angeles. Embracing off-grid sustainable infrastructures and harnessing the power of solar energy, Janos fearlessly fuses art and environmental consciousness. With a boundless array of creative tools at their disposal, from installation to augmented and virtual realities, painting, sculpture, performance, and poetry, Janos conjures immersive experiences that transcend boundaries and provoke introspection. Her groundbreaking blend of cutting-edge technology, evocative aesthetics, and daring craftsmanship sparks a symphony of ideas, pushing the boundaries of what is possible. As a catalyst of cultural transformation, Janos challenges conventions and kindles dialogue through her thought-provoking creations. Guided by a profound gratitude for the uplifting arts community that surrounds her, Janos radiates a genuine eagerness to embrace the transformative power of collaboration and celebrate the beauty of diverse perspectives. | IG @huntrezz / FB @huntrezzbenjaminjanos / X @hauntrezz

Antigoni Tsagkaropoulou is a visual artist from Athens, Greece based in Los Angeles. They hold a BA in sculpture from the Athens School of Fine Arts and are currently completing an MFA in Media Arts at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) under a Fulbright scholarship. In their multidisciplinary practice, they explore notions of intimacy, alienation, gender and affect in a rapidly advancing technological society. Manifesting in sculptural installations, experimental films and performances, their work is revisiting the neglected, "herstories," of the past, challenging normative power structures, and amplifying queer voices to reimagine radical futures. Their work has been exhibited at venues such as the Arnolfini Center of Contemporary Arts in Bristol, Stegi-Onassis Foundation, Athens Biennale OMONOIA, Honor Fraser Gallery in Los Angeles, and have showcased work in theaters such as Sophienshaale and Hebbel Am Ufer (HAU) in Germany as well as the National Opera of Greece. | antigonibunny.com / IG @antigonibunny / FB @antigonibunny

—BRIEF PAUSE—

ERICA BITTON: *VACUUM GIRL*

Vacuum Girl is a live presentation of a television pilot written and performed by Erica Bitton (CalArts BFA '10) that follows Jane, a 31-year old Jewish actor living through consistent, surreal dissociations in New York. What begins as a clear “tell me if you see what I see” tale, soon blurs the lines of theater and film, of writer and character, as Bitton speaks every line spoken by every character while behind a booth with LED lights and a mixing board. It is a fast and fluid, meticulously-timed story—and Bitton is in complete control of it.

Written, Directed and Peformed by ERICA BITTON

Please note: Vacuum Girl contains strobe lights and mature content.

Erica Bitton is an Actor and Writer currently living in Los Angeles. In 2010 she graduated from CalArts with her BFA in Acting. She began working on and performing *Vacuum Girl* in the fall of 2021 and is thrilled to take the REDCAT stage with its newest iteration. | IG @gurubf

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UPCOMING AT REDCAT

Natural Information Society

September 16

Natural Information Society is led by the acclaimed composer and multi-instrumentalist Joshua Abrams, alongside artist Lisa Alvarado, who returns to REDCAT following her recent exhibition, *Pulse Meridian Foliation*. Since first developing the Natural Information Society in 2010, Abrams has been gradually expanding the group's conceptual underpinnings, its musical references, and the sheer number of the group's members. Their music is, in a sense, an expansive form of minimalism, based in repeated and overlaid rhythmic patterns, ostinatos, and modalities. Their most recent album, *Since Time Is Gravity*, was released on Eremite Records in April. Natural Information Society will perform as a quartet with Joshua Abrams (guimbri, composition), Lisa Alvarado (harmonium, setting), Mikel Patrick Avery (drums), and Jason Stein (bass clarinet).

7NMS| Marjani Forté-Saunders + Everett Saunders

Prophet: The Order of the Lyricist

September 21 - 23

A four-year archival, research, and multi-genre storytelling project on the life journey of a lyricist, *Prophet: The Order of the Lyricist*, illuminates the distinctive practices, systems, philosophies, and political ideologies that have shaped hip-hop's emcee/lyricists. The Lyricist is an Order of craft, of prose, oration, and exposé. Through the coming-of-age story of Everett as "Mental," the emcee, audiences are invited to enter a world of courage, self-determination, and devotion. Using text, sound, film, and performance, *Prophet* is a critical and embodied offering to the scholarly, civic, and ancient bodies of radical Black expression.

Anna Luisa Petrisko

All Time Stop Now

September 29 - 30

Anna Luisa Petrisko's experimental opera, *All Time Stop Now*, is a contemplation on listening, impermanence, and kinship. A chosen family invokes a spell to stop time. In this suspended reality, they grapple with their existence in a time-based world as they search for ways to rest, heal, and feel joy. The stage morphs into a "spacetime playground." Hypersaturated video, projection mapping, sculpture, dance, and new original music from Petrisko's latest release on Practical Records transform the senses. Her signature prism of mutant pop yields spiritually infused anthems that encompass beauty, sorrow, and discovery.

UPCOMING AT REDCAT

Edgar Arceneaux

Boney Manilli

October 5 - 7

Written and directed by interdisciplinary artist Edgar Arceneaux (CalArts MFA 01), *Boney Manilli* is a dark musical comedy in the shape of a pop music video, a puppet show, and a burial ceremony. Actor Alex Barlas plays “Edgar,” a visual artist overwhelmed by feelings of inadequacy, frustration, and self-loathing, who is unable to complete his play on the infamous pop music duo, Milli Vanilli. His freeloading brother, Bro Bro, decides to adapt Disney’s *Song of the South* into his own play about Black liberation, while their mother, Momma, a failed pop singer, is slowly fading away with dementia. Their lives spin from pathetic to bizarre, becoming strangely intertwined as each one’s search for truth collides with the other’s.

Nacera Belaza

L'Onde (The Wave)

October 19 - 21

Internationally revered for her powerfully abstract work, Nacera Belaza draws a path between shadow and light, seeking to glimpse the infinite. In *L'Onde (The Wave)*, the French Algerian choreographer immerses herself in the spellbinding notions of Algerian ritualistic dances. With a hypnotic sound narrative and mesmerizing movement that blends tradition and modernity, the piece features four dancers who explore the body’s capacity for transformation through rigorous and elegantly minimalist choreography.



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