

Maylee Todd, Jacob Wolff, Diana Wyenn and Ammunition Theatre Company

New Original Works Festival 2025

Dance, Music, Theater
November 6 - 8
8 PM

REDCAT

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We gratefully acknowledge that REDCAT operates on the land known as Yaanga, a place that for millenia has been under the care and stewardship of the Tongva, Tataviam, and Chumash peoples including the Gabrieleño, Fernandeño, and Ventureño 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 their vital presence through the generations as first peoples of this land.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

REDCAT presents the 22nd annual New Original Works
Festival, a celebration of innovative performing arts by Los
Angeles artists. Featuring nine new original works presented
over three weeks from November 6-22, these timely and
risk-taking performances attend to urgent issues—from
immigration to mental health—through movement, opera,
clowning, poetry, storytelling, satire, and more. NOW 2025 is
curated by Katy Dammers, Deputy Director and Chief Curator,
Performing Arts through an open application process reviewed
by NOW alumni Milka Djordjevich (NOW '18), DaEun Jung
(NOW '21), and Alexandro Segade (NOW '04 & '10 & '19).

Runtime: Approx. 90 minutes, with intermission

Maylee Todd: MOUTH

Part surreal cabaret, part psychological spiral, *MOUTH* is a journey through the chaos of identity and mental health. This boundary-blurring performance fuses music, raw humor, video projections, and inflatable set design to create an unsettling yet ecstatic experience. Highlighting songs from her forthcoming LP, Maylee Todd shapeshifts as she tells stories of attraction, self-doubt, and endurance in a sonic and visual fever dream.

Performed and Composed by Maylee Todd

Tech by Gavin Cloud

Choreographed by fly lady di and Anthony Martinez

Lighting Designed by Chu-Hsuan Chang

MOUTH contains mature content and loud sounds.

Maylee Todd acknowledges the support of the Canada Council for the Arts.



-BRIEF PAUSE-

Jacob Wolff: BEG

In this experimental opera, Jacob Wolff (Music BFA 23) takes up the rodeo clown—a figure who endures physical danger and humiliation for the audience's entertainment—to consider the tension between performance, risk, and self-deprecation. Incorporating live and pre-recorded electronic music, dance, theater, and improvisation, *BEG* seeks to dissolve the boundaries between performers, audience, and performance space. Ordinary materials like ladders and wood transform into dynamic elements of set design, as movements and tasks set up physical challenges in an exploration of spectacle, sacrifice, and labor.

Performed by sam wentz, Kensaku Shinohara,

Jessica Hemingway, Mason Moy, Brody Scott, Kayla Dobbs,

Redfield Clipper, and Billy Kernkamp

Lighting Designed by Chu-Hsuan Chang

BEG contains nudity, mature content, flashing lights, and loud sounds.

-INTERMISSION-

<u>Diana Wyenn and Ammunition Theatre Company</u>: *I Am an American (via Los Angeles)*

What is it to be living in the United States of America today? What are the challenges of participating in a democracy that was built without many of us in mind? Performed by an ensemble whose identities and perspectives reflect the diversity of Los Angeles, this production illuminates the lives of a cross section of Angelenos today. Weaving together autobiographical accounts, song, and spectacle, *I Am an American (via Los Angeles)* is an intimate, honest, and searing look at being in relationship with ideas of America, conceived and directed by Diana Wyenn, and devised with LA-based Ammunition Theatre Company.

Conceived and Directed by Diana Wyenn

Devised with Ammunition Theatre Company**

Curated and Written by Carla Ching, Joy Gregory,

Tiana Randall-Quant, and Diana Wyenn

Developed, Written, and Performed by Derya Derman,

Brandon English, Oscar Emmanuel Fabela, Chloe Glassel,

Joy Gregory, Edward Hong, Tina Huang, Sammy June,

Rachna Khatau, Katharine Means, Jorge-Luis Pallo, and

Courtney Sauls

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Scenic Design by Amanda Knehans
Costume Design by Derya Derman
Sound Design by Mischa Stanton
Projection Design by Carl(os) Roa
Lighting Design by Chu-Hsuan Chang
Associate Direction by Tiana Randall-Quant
Dramaturgy by David Davila
Stage Managed by Chloe Glassel

**The full devising ensemble of artists and writers include: Oscar Avila, Carla Ching, Derya Derman, David Davila, Brandon English, Oscar Emmanuel Fabela, Chris Gardner, Chloe Glassel, Joy Gregory, Edward Hong, Tina Huang, Sammy June, Rachna Khatau, Amanda Knehans, Christopher Larkin, Nelson Lee, Katharine Means, Roxana Ortega, Nicole Pacent, Jorge-Luis Pallo, Lina Patel, Tiana Randall-Quant, Carl(os) Roa, Teddy Alexis Rodriguez PhD, Courtney Sauls, Karen Sours Albisua, and Diana Wyenn

I Am an American (via Los Angeles) contains mature content and flashing lights.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Maylee Todd is a Los Angeles-based interdisciplinary artist, performer, and musician known for blending science fiction, music, and technology into emotionally raw and often absurd multimedia experiences. Her work spans experimental pop, brainwave-driven sound design, motion capture, and character-based performance exploring themes of mental health, identity, gender, and cultural programming. With releases on Stones Throw Records and performances across North America, Europe, and Asia, Todd has created immersive shows like Virtual Womb, Musical Planetarium, and MALOO, a sci-fi album and avatar series. Todd's work resonates with feminist, queer, and diasporic audiences, often pushing the boundaries of live performance through humor, spectacle, and vulnerability. Whether through inflatable stage sets or avatar doubles, she creates intimate, surreal worlds that invite audiences into psychological terrain. | IG @mayleetodd / linktr.ee/mayleetodd

Jacob Wolff is an artist, performer, composer, and director from Long Beach, CA, currently based in Los Angeles. His work centers on deconstructing the operatic form through solo and ensemble performances, often incorporating improvisation and blending various disciplines including dance and theater. Past pieces including *Ribs* (2023) and *My Blue Raspberry* (2024) aimed to explore and dismantle the dynamics between audience and performer, as well as the relationships with the spaces they inhabit. A CalArts graduate (Music BFA 23), Wolff has shown work at Stomping Ground LA, Highways Performance Space, and other DIY and gallery spaces in Los Angeles. | *IG* @*jacobxolff*

Diana Wyenn is a director, choreographer, and creative producer committed to social justice and artistic innovation. Her work spans theater, opera, and film, exploring themes of trauma, healing, equity, disability, and environmental justice. She has directed and choreographed for prominent organizations in the US and abroad, including Center Theatre Group, LA Phil, Roundabout Theatre Company, Detroit Opera, Malmö Opera, ASU Gammage, and the World Health Organization. Her award-winning autobiographical solo performance Blood/Sugar and co-devised production Kristina Wong for Public Office are testaments to her ability to transform personal experiences into powerful, socially conscious art. A cofounder of Plain Wood Productions and Co-Artistic Director of Ammunition Theatre Company, Wyenn

holds a BFA with Honors from NYU. | IG @dianawyenn / dianawyenn.com

Founded in 2014, Ammunition Theatre Company (AMMO) was born of a desire to explore the meaning of identity in an ever-changing America, accelerate representation in the arts, and shift mainstream storytelling toward diverse perspectives. To achieve this, AMMO has been producing plays and readings for over a decade, receiving critical praise and nominations for Ovation, Stage Raw, and LA Drama Critics Awards. Diverse by design from the beginning, AMMO is a collective of artists and activists who not only create theater but also partner with philanthropic organizations to share it to under-served communities. AMMO's focus is on developing new works by underrepresented artists—sparking culturally relevant conversations and actions to support and foster healthier relationships and communities. Visit ammunitiontheatre.com/ america for artist bios. I IG @ammotheatre

UPCOMING AT REDCAT

New Original Works Festival / November 13 - 15

The festival continues with a program of works by Gabriela Burdsall; Orin Calcagne and Jenson Titus; and Divya Victor, Carolyn Chen, AMOC*. Gabriela Burdsall presents the body as a fluid canvas for identity, resistance, and celebration in the solo dance performance *MENEO*. *Mommy* is a comedy-horror play by Orin Calcagne and Jenson Titus about a family plagued by their mother's mental illness. In *Thresholds*, composer Carolyn Chen presents a musical adaptation of poems from Divya Victor's books *KITH* and *CURB*, which explore immigrant experiences of everyday life amidst racist violence in the United States.

New Original Works Festival / November 20 - 22

The festival concludes with a program of works by Lu Coy, jeremy de'jon guyton, and Luna Izpisua Rodriguez. Lu Coy (Music Performer Composer MFA 18) crafts an opera that illuminates the Florentine Codex's account of Tecciztecatl—a gender-expansive Mexica moon deity—in *Becoming the Moon.* Blending lyrical text, fluid movement, and nostalgic audio-visual elements drawn from his own family archive,

jeremy de'jon guyton's poetic autofiction, *notes on building* a foundation, 1963, is a meditation on legacy, displacement, and the urgent desire for sanctuary. Directed by Luna Izpisua Rodriguez (Art and Theater Directing MFA 24), *Open House* is a meditation on erosion, both geological and psychic—on how losing land can feel like losing self.

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ASL Interpreters: Gabriel Gomez, Alexa Valdez

REDCAT would like to extend a special thank you to our devoted team of Volunteer Ushers.

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