

Alfonso Abraham Cervera and Irvin Manuel Gonzalez, Scottie Harvey, Jeonghyeon Joo

- **New Original Works Festival 2026**

Dance, Theater, Music

November 5–7

THU–SAT, 8 PM

CalArts

REDCAT

ROY AND EDNA DISNEY
CALARTS THEATER

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Roy and Edna Disney CalArts Theater (REDCAT) presents the 23rd annual New Original Works (NOW) festival, a celebration of innovative new work by Los Angeles artists.

REDCAT's NOW festival has served as a catalyst for experimentation and new work in dance, theater, music, and performance since its inaugural edition in 2004. Since then, NOW has presented the work of over 200 artists who continue to be seen on stages throughout the US and abroad.

NOW Festival artists are selected through an open call for applications. NOW Festival 2026 submissions were reviewed by Dimitri Chamblas, Jessica Emmanuel, and Jasmine Orpilla as part of a rigorous, multi-tiered process. NOW Festival 2026 is curated by Katy Dammers, Deputy Director and Chief Curator.

Jeonghyeon Joo: *how to bathe properly*

how to bathe properly is a solo work for haegeum, a two-string instrument, performed in a staged Korean sauna. The piece extends the gesture and sound of bowing an instrument to the repetitive, vigorous body scrubbing offered in a *jjimjilbang*, or Korean spa. As water flows onstage, Jeonghyeon Joo (Music DMA 2023) turns the private ritual of bathing into a public performance. Proposing that the labor of being spotless is an endless cycle of erasure, Joo asks what is left behind when we attempt to scrub away the history of our own skin.

Jeonghyeon Joo — Composer and Performer
Narae Rachel Kim — Scenic and Costume Designer
Anthony Storniolo — Video Designer
Chu-Hsuan Chang — Lighting Designer
Scarlett Kim — Dramaturg
Ethan Marks — Text Editor
Abigail Whitman — Voice-over Artist

—BRIEF PAUSE—

Scottie Harvey: *Hole Gazers*

Hole Gazers is a comedic satire about fantasy, surveillance, and life online. Wearing a Halloween muscle costume, Scottie Harvey plays the role of MAN—a gay porn star—who feels violated when he finds his likeness is being used in workplace accident prevention videos. Alone in his claustrophobic apartment, MAN begins messaging the anonymous animator, who has crafted his online avatar, and imagines an escape from his life through the chat box of their relationship. Combining humor, animation, and performance, this piece probes the absurdity and possibility of safety and connection in our slippery virtual world.

Scottie Harvey — Writer/Performer
Rose Beth Johnson-Brown — Director
Ko Takasugi-Czernowin — Sound Design & Composer
Caro Shannah Levy — Scenic and Prop Designer
Chu-Hsuan Chang — Lighting Design
Amanda Verwey — Creative Producer
Jibz Cameron — Creative Producer
Sasha Reid — Stage Manager
Pedro Bello — Graphic Designer
Chike Robinson — Animator
Matt Albani — Additional video design

Clancy Brown — Voice Over
Fiscal sponsorship: Live & In Color
Donors: AliceAnn Wilson, Lucy Dacus, Mary & Mike Burke, Alex Lyass

Special thanks to Erika Keck, Scott Harvey, Cindy Salmen, Erin Markey, Al Warren, Matt Camp, Joohee Park, Joe & Heather D'Augustine, Jacquelyn Landgraf, and Tam Sackman.

—INTERMISSION—

Alfonso Abraham Cervera and Irvin Manuel Gonzalez:
las cosas que enter(r)amos

Drawing on Latinx American social and folk dance, storytelling, and contemporary dance, Alfonso Abraham Cervera and Irvin Manuel Gonzalez explore the (im)materiality of belonging in this new dance duet. Partners in life and on dance floors, they use movement to tell stories that foreground cuir/queer Mexicanidades. *las cosas que enter(r)amos* centers rhythm, aesthetics, and the body as sites of memory, mourning, and resistance. Set in Latinx nightlife, the duet presents grooving and exchange as living altars that honor past and present cuir/queer lives and transborder movidas (moves that expand possibilities for worldmaking). Rooted in rascuachismo—a Chicanx working-class aesthetic of creative resourcefulness—the duo dances between remembering and re-membering.

Alfonso Cervera and Irvin Manuel Gonzalez — Directors, Choreographers, and Performers
Irvin Manuel Gonzalez — Dramaturgy
Alfonso Cervera — Sound Editing
Farai Malianga and Dan González “Chirimoyo” — Sound Designers
Chu-Hsuan Chang — Lighting Design
Irvin Manuel Gonzalez — Text Author, *semilas: a nightlife litany*

Special Thanks to OSU Department of Dance, Denise Donovan and Dance Gallery, Jonathan Frazier, ÓRALE: Organizing Rooted in Abolition, Liberation, and Empowerment, and to all migrants who teach us to cross borders.

Please note: las cosas que enter(r)amos *contains mature content and dried herbs;* how to bathe properly *contains mature content;* Hole Gazers *contains strobe lights and mature content.*

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Jeonghyeon Joo is a composer and haegeum performer based in Los Angeles. She explores the physical, social, cultural, and political relationship between the performer and instrument, frequently collaborating with filmmakers, visual artists, composers, and performance artists. She has presented her work at institutions across North America and Asia, including UCLA, UC Berkeley, CalArts, UC Riverside, Florida International University, San Francisco State University, Sejong Center, Seoul National University, Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, Jakarta Institute of Arts, and experimental music venues in Los Angeles such as 2220 Arts + Archives, Oracle Egg, Human Resources, and Coaxial. Joo has received the Emerging Artist Award from the National Academy of Arts of the Republic of Korea (2024) and the Presidential Award of Korea (2012), and her recent projects have been supported by Arts Council Korea, Sejong Center, Seoul Foundation for Arts and Culture, and California Institute of the Arts, among others. She received a Doctor of Musical Arts from the California Institute of the Arts in 2023 and earned a Master of Arts and Bachelor of Music from Seoul National University.

Scottie Harvey is a writer, performer, and animator from Los Angeles. She received her BFA (Film & Television) & MFA (Dramatic Writing) from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, where she found animation's

unlikely twin in theater. Her work brings cartoon logic into alternative mediums—translating gravity-defying gags for the theater stage or writing emotionally grounded character studies into otherwise absurd contexts. Most recently, Scottie's dramatic work has been featured at Dynasty Handbag's *Weirdo Night* and her fiction writing has been published in Michelle Tea's *CLOWNS Anthology* (DOPAMINE, 2026). Her play *A Live-Action Adaptation of an Episode of Tom & Jerry* ran at Pageant (Brooklyn, 2023) and had a reading at Theatre Rhinoceros (San Francisco, 2024). Her musical *Something's in the Water at Abortion Beach!* premiered at Ars Nova's ANTFEST (2022). She is the recipient of the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival's Paula Vogel Award in Playwriting (2020). Her animated work has been featured by artists such as Julien Baker and TORRES, and appeared in festivals such as Rhode Island Film Festival, Palm Springs Animation Festival, Berlin Filmhaus, and FLAnimation.

Alfonso Abraham Cervera and **Irvin Manuel Gonzalez** have been duetting in life and on dance floors since 2010. They are cuir, Mexican American artivists, community organizers, educators, and scholars. Cervera and Gonzalez's artistic collaboration exists at the intersections of cuirness, Latinidad, ritual, and activism, using dance as a medium to tell stories that foreground queer Mexicanidades. Their work explores the crafting, grooving, sweat, and possibilities that emerge from these lived experiences and the messy, cuir life

sources that are generated in nightlife and transborder mobilizations. They engage Latin American social dance forms as tools for queering futurity, challenging conventional understandings of the body and the materials with which they work. Through their art, they incorporate spices, iconography, projections, and movement to create immersive ecologies that reimagine cultural traditions while fostering care, awareness, and social change. Cervera and Gonzalez have presented work at venues including HIGHWAYS, REDCAT (Los Angeles), El Teatro Campesino (San Jose), Judson Memorial Church (New York City), The Kennedy Center (Washington, DC), Dance Place (Washington, DC), the Latinx/e Contemporary Movement Festival (Chicago), and Dance Mission Theater (San Francisco). They are two of the four co-founders of Primera Generación Dance Collective, a Latinx arts collective.

Photo Credit: Courtesy of Roy and Edna Disney CalArts Theater (REDCAT). Photo by Angel Origgi.

UPCOMING AT REDCAT

Brenda Barrios, Cody Perkins / Algorythm.Code, SUUVI

November 12 - 14

The festival continues with a program of works by Brenda Barrios, Cody Perkins / Algorythm.Code, and SUUVI. Brenda Barrios brings life-sized dolls and a motorized truck onstage, drawing inspiration from her experience as a first-generation Mexican American. Cody Perkins / Algorythm.Code (Art and Technology MFA) delves into the relationship between machines and humans in a dance and music piece. SUUVI's interdisciplinary work *REGENESIS* explores cycles of life, death, and transformation through original music, dance, and cinematic projections.

Chica Barbosa, Friidom, Tarren Johnson

November 19 - 21

The festival concludes with a program of works by Chica Barbosa, Friidom, and Tarren Johnson. Chica Barbosa revisits the myth of Marilyn Monroe through a Latin American lens. Tarren Johnson (Dance and Choreography BFA 2013)'s dance theater piece reflects on the physical and economic tensions of Los Angeles. In a deep dive into the ethos of street dance, Friidom (Dance and Choreography MFA 2026) celebrates the tethers of community in these dance traditions.

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Audio Assistants: Ed Carlo Arafiles, Anthony Storniolo
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REDCAT would like to extend a special thank you to our devoted team of Volunteer Ushers.

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