

Brenda Barrios, Cody Perkins / Algorythm.Code, SUUVI

- **New Original Works Festival 2026**

Dance, Theater, Music

November 12–14

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.

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.

Brenda Barrios: *Muñequita Muy Muy*

Drawing inspiration from her experience as a first-generation Mexican American, Brenda Barrios' *Muñequita Muy Muy* blends cultural symbolism, queerness, and disability into a celebration of healing and visibility. Barrios uses sculpture, dance, song, and storytelling to bring life-size replica dolls and a motorized truck onstage alongside live musicians and performers. Barrios composes and performs original music combining pop music and Mexican operatic vocal traditions with ranchera and rock en español, alongside extended vocal techniques including el grito mexicano. Her detailed, hyperrealistic sculptures transform familiar objects into milagritos—Mexican charms to meditate on how bodies hold histories of care, struggle, and evolution.

Brenda Barrios — Director, Artist & Performer
Linda Nuves — Green Doll Dancer
Marcelline Mandeng Nken — Yellow Doll & Narrator
Chu-Hsuan Chang — Lighting Designer
Lucio Maramba — Audio Designer
Music Written & Produced by Brenda Barrios & Alex Santos

Sponsors — Yale Club NYC, Inspiration Print, and Foundation for Contemporary Arts
Special thanks — Sam & Saul, Alma Barrios

—BRIEF PAUSE—

Cody Perkins / Algorythm.Code: *Motherboard*

Can machines support empathy, rather than extraction? Choreographer, composer, and director Cody Perkins / Algorythm. Code (Art and Technology MFA) takes up this question about technology and intimacy in *Motherboard*. In this dance and music piece, performer Gretchen Ackerman enters into an evolving relationship with the Motherboard shrine—an independent electronic device onstage that observes, responds to, and directs her body. Perkins draws a connection between women and machines, recognizing that both have historically been controlled and discarded within systems of power. Through movement, sound, ritual, and interaction with the Motherboard shrine, a shared history of exploitation evolves into a duet of care and exchange.

Cody Perkins / Algorythm.Code — Sound composition, Designer, Choreographer & Director
Gretchen Ackerman — Dancer & Chroeographer
Chu-Hsuan Chang — Lighting Designer

Special Thanks — Brockus Project Dance

—INTERMISSION—

SUUVI: *REGENESIS*

REGENESIS is a multidisciplinary work exploring the intertwined cycles of life, death, transformation, and renewal. Drawing connections between regenerating ecosystems and the continual processes of decay and emergence that shape the natural world, the work weaves SUUVI's personal experience of grief and loss into a broader meditation on the processes of dissolution and renewal through which living systems continually transform. Composed, directed, and performed by multidisciplinary artist SUUVI, the work brings together original music for cello and electronics, live dancers and choreography by Megan Paradowski, cinematic projections and lighting design by Matt Brown, and painted elements by Reed Gibson, creating an immersive work that considers endings as part of an ongoing process through which new forms, memories, and possibilities emerge. *REGENESIS* will be presented by Media Art Xploration November 20—21 in New York City.

SUUVI — Artist, Composer, Producer, Director & Performer
Megan Paradowski — Choreography & Co-Performance Director
Matt Brown — Projection & Lighting Design
Chloée Ohayon-Crosby — Costume Design
Reed Gibson — Painter & Illustrator
Noah Hubbell — Audio Engineer

Victoria Verba — Management
Dancers — Isabella Caso, Maddie Lacambra, Chloe Rauch, Hope Spears, Jacquelyn Tepper

Media Art Xploration — Presenting Partner
Foundation for Contemporary Arts — Funder

Special Thanks — Shane Myrbeck and ARUP, Parasol Music

Please note: Muñequita Muy Muy *contains flashing lights, loud sounds and mature content;* Motherboard *contains nudity and loud sounds;* REGENESIS *contains repeated flashing and pulsing lights throughout the performance.*

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Brenda Barrios is an interdisciplinary artist working across sculpture, performance, music, video, painting, and installation. Working from her experience as a first-generation Mexican American, Barrios creates tactile and performative environments that merge personal narrative with collective memory. Drawing from early training in dance and fashion, she approaches the body as choreography, archive, and instrument. Sculptures, sound, and installations function as stages where gestures, labor, and care unfold in real time. Through performance, Barrios explores the body as a site of negotiation between visibility and invisibility, ability and vulnerability, intimacy and public space. Barrios studied art, dance, and fashion at Pasadena City College before earning a BA in Art from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) in 2023 and an MFA from the Yale School of Art in 2025. Barrios has exhibited and performed at Univision, The Latinx Project NYU, Hammer Museum, Kiang Malingue Gallery, Haight Street Art Gallery, Boone Family Art Gallery, the Museum of Latin American Art (MOLAA), New Wight Gallery, and the Yale University Art Gallery.

Cody Perkins, also known as Algorythm.Code, is a Los Angeles-based composer, producer, performance artist, and interdisciplinary storyteller whose practice explores identity, queerness, healing, Black cultural memory, and the emotional residue of lived experience.

Trained in classical piano, voice, dance, and electronic music at Alexander Hamilton Music Academy, and in audio engineering at California State University, Dominguez Hills, Perkins is currently in the Art and Technology MFA program at CalArts. As the founder of Airdrome Affaire, Perkins creates work that uses sound, performance, film, installation, and emerging technology as tools for memory, embodiment, and world-building. Their practice has been featured in *Vogue*, *Vice*, and *Office Magazine*, and presented at Art Basel, Outfest, Sundance Film Festival's New Frontier, the Hammer Museum, and the Institute of Contemporary Art. They have also composed for dance and worked across live sound, installation, and interdisciplinary performance contexts. Through layered sonic worlds and embodied narrative, Perkins builds projects that honor personal history while opening imaginative space for collective reflection and transformation.

SUUVI is a Cuban-Chinese multidisciplinary artist, composer, producer, creative technologist, and cellist working at the intersection of electronic music, contemporary composition, immersive technology, and storytelling. Rooted in a foundation of classical cello performance, her practice has evolved into a genre-fluid sonic language that blends cello, electronics, voice, and visual worlds to create emotionally resonant, cinematic experiences. After entering Juilliard at age ten, she spent over fifteen years performing internationally as a soloist, appearing at Carnegie Hall, Fondation

Louis Vuitton, and the Berlin Philharmonie, and touring globally as the solo cellist in Hans Zimmer's live show. Her work explores mental health, identity, healing, and collective transformation through immersive audiovisual performanc.

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

UPCOMING AT REDCAT

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.

REDCAT CREW

Production Stage Manager: Christa Troester
Lighting Operator: Jerrel Milan
Audio Engineer: Shivani Desai
Audio Assistants: Matt Kamimura, Anthony Storniolo, Ed Carlo Arafiles
QLab: Anthony Storniolo, Ed Carlo Arafiles
Livestream/Documentation Support: Kensaku Shinohara
Deck: Andrew Child, Jasmine Leung, Jerrel Milan

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

REDCAT STAFF

João Ribas, Steven D. Lavine Executive Director of REDCAT & Vice President for Cultural Partnerships

Programming
Katy Dammers, Deputy Director and Chief Curator
Jheanelle Brown, Film Programming
Fina Zhou, Temporary Administrative Manager
Jessica Martin, Temporary Box Office and Visitor Services Manager

Finance & Operations
Alistair Keating, Deputy Director, Finance and Operations
Naomi Oppenheim, Front of House Manager

Production
Adam Matthew-McMillen, Director of Production & Technical Director
Chu-Hsuan Chang, Associate Technical Director, Lighting
Lucio Maramba, Associate Technical Director, Audio and Video
Jacques Boudreau, Facilities and Production Manager

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