



## NEW ORIGINAL WORKS FESTIVAL 2022

JOE DIEBES, JAY CARLON WITH MICAELA TOBIN,  
STEPHANIE ZALETEL | SZALT

AUGUST 25 - 27, 2022

8:30pm

presented by

REDCAT

Roy and Edna Disney/CalArts Theater

California Institute of the Arts

CaLARTS

*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.*

# NEW ORIGINAL WORKS FESTIVAL 2022

## JOE DIEBES: *ENG*

Music, Words (except for news stories) and Video by Joe Diebes

Performed by Christina Campanella, John Rose

Lighting Design by Chu-Hsuan Chang

*Mixing sound, visual media, and voice in multifarious ways, ENG is a broken-word opera structured around a newscast format. ENG critically explores the American media's 'voice of authority' in relation to the Middle East. The familiar rhythms and rhetoric of newscaster-speak are musicalized and mangled, redirected and held accountable for its role in sanctifying ongoing U.S. imperialism and military aggression towards the Arab world.*

**Joe Diebes** is a composer and multi-disciplinary artist, recently relocated to LA from NYC, whose work centers on the irrational and colonial forces embedded in human-technical systems. Previous projects include the lecture-opera OYSTER, the algorithmic opera WOW (with David Levine and Christian Hawkey), the broken-word opera BOTCH, the sound-theatre work I/O (with Phil Soltanoff), and the gallery opera MY TROCADERO, all featuring Christina Campanella and John Rose. These and other projects have appeared at Robert Wilson's Watermill Center, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Théâtre Garonne (Toulouse), Tramway (Glasgow), HERE, BRIC Media Arts, Judson Church, as well as the Fusebox, PuSh, COIL, and LAX Festivals. His installations and films have been exhibited at the Whitney Museum of American Art, Marlborough Gallery, Grand Central Art Center, Paul Rodgers/9W (New York), Ars Electronica (Austria), The Hammer Museum, the Winter Olympics, Yuanfen Gallery (Beijing), and the Liverpool Biennial.

**Christina Campanella** is a NY-based composer, vocalist, and sound artist. She has worked in theater, film and opera since 1997 (Richard Foreman, Phil Soltanoff, Theodora Skipitares and others), has sung works by Philip Glass, Kitty Brazelton, The Red Clay Ramblers, Nick Brooke, and regularly performs the operas of Joe Diebes. Three NYSCA Individual Artist Commissions, Opera America's Discovery Grant for Female Composers, commissioning from the Swedish Cultural Council, NY State Music Fund.

**John Rose** has been collaborating on original musical and theatrical works with Joe Diebes and Christina Campanella for approximately two decades, most recently in the role of 20th-century folk music collector Alan Lomax in Diebes's spoken-word opera OYSTER. Prior Diebes projects include WOW, BOTCH, Hypatia, i/o, and Strange Birds, in venues ranging from Robert Wilson's Watermill Center to the Tramway in Glasgow. Rose is also a classical singer and freelance writer, editor and indexer.

— B R I E F P A U S E —

## JAY CARLON WITH MICAELA TOBIN: *NOVENA*

Directed and Performed by Jay Carlon

Composed and Performed by Micaela Tobin

Scenic Design by Carlo Maghirang

Lighting Design by Chu-Hsuan Chang

Producer: Brian Sea

Rehearsal Assistant: Gabriel Jiménez

*Novena is derived from Bisaya rituals for grieving and healing. It wrestles to confront and transmute suffering into vulnerability, joy, and acceptance. Novena is an excerpt from WAKE, Carlon's full-length work premiering in 2023. Carlon and Tobin hold a shared mission to unearth and reimagine the Filipinx experience through performance and collaborate to strengthen, connect, and reinvoke the delicate and intimate web of Filipinx pre colonial expressions.*

Jay Carlon and Brian Sea participate in **deft**, a fellowship nurturing a generation of arts executives working side by side with artistic partners. **deft** fellows come from communities often denied equal access and promotion to executive positions. **deft** fellows work with BIPOC artists and artistic or organizational directors. To learn more, please visit [farconnector.com/deft](http://farconnector.com/deft).

**Jay Carlon** is a queer Filipinx American dance artist and community organizer based between LA and NYC. He is committed to connecting his art practice to sustainability and his personal and collective journey of decolonization. He is co-manager and educator of homeLA's inSITE program, where he is responsible for developing the education curriculum and teaching students site-specific considerations for live performance and film. Carlon was named Dance Magazine's 25 to Watch in 2020, and his work has been featured throughout the United States, Mexico, Australia, Thailand, and the Philippines. Jay is associate director of Australian spectacle performance company, SWAY — where he has performed at the 2014 Olympics and the 2018 Super Bowl. Carlon has also performed with the Metropolitan Opera, Bill T. Jones, jumata tu m. poe, The Industry Opera, Oguri, Solange Knowles, Rodrigo y Gabriela; and choreographed works for Kanye West and Mndsgn. | [jaycarlon.com](http://jaycarlon.com)

**Micaela Tobin** is a soprano, sound artist, and teacher based in Los Angeles, CA who specializes in experimental voice and contemporary opera. As a sound artist with a background in opera, Micaela integrates voice and electronics within the genres of noise and drone music. Her work incorporates ritualized gesture and amplified object-symbolism and explores her diasporic identity as a first-generation Filipina-American. Micaela's vocal practice is based in building connections between the physical voice as a means of empowering one's 'inner' voice and challenging colonial stories and systems. | [michaelatobin.com](http://michaelatobin.com)

**Carlo Maghirang** (he/they) is an installation artist and scenic designer from Los Angeles, CA. He specializes in sculptural and kinetic spaces, bridging the gap between art object and environment, with a particular emphasis on new works. Previous credits include 'Sweet Land' (The Industry), 'Terra' (LA Contemporary Dance Company), and 'Vibration Group' by Anna Luisa Petrisko (LACE). | [carlomaghirang.com](http://carlomaghirang.com)

**Brian Sea** is a creative producer and consultant based in Southern California. From grassroots to rooftops, they specialize in performance for non-traditional spaces and festival production. Brian has previously worked with The Industry, homeLA, Los Angeles Performance Practice - LAX Festival, Pacific Opera Project, LA Dance Project, Automata Arts, BODYART, and The Wilderness.

— INTERMISSION —

## **STEPHANIE ZALETEL | SZALT: 5 BASIC MOVEMENTS (VAGUS EXCERPT)**

Performed by Cory Feder, Rosanna Tavarez, Tom Tsai, Stephanie Zaletel

Original Song by Cory Feder ("The Sunset Song")

Wardrobe Design by Clarisse Hazel Lopez

Lighting Design by Chu-Hsuan Chang

Special Thanks to Odeya Nini, Jonathan Snipes, Loghaven Artist Residency and REDCAT. Thank you to everyone who donated funds, studio space, housed me on the road, shared meals and presence in the development of this work so far

*Choreographer and dance artist Stephanie Zaletel's 5 basic movements (vagus excerpt) engages with the foundational sensorimotor actions - reach, grab, push, pull, yield - as the basis for performers to investigate intuitive choreography, body language, and the non-verbal relational dynamics of our nervous systems. Inspired by lectures and interviews of Jungian Psychoanalyst and dream-tender Marion Woodman, as well as the integration of singing, sounding, bells, and harp, 5 basic movements (vagus excerpt) is a poetic, non-linear, and symbolic dance work imagining feminine consciousness and matriarchal logic as an option for how our bodies can move forward and through uncertainty.*

**Stephanie Zaletel** is a choreographer, dance artist, movement facilitator, dream-tender, environmentalist, plant-based eater and cook, and mental health advocate currently residing on the West Coast of the US. Stephanie's early career was threaded together with prolific creative practices inspired by her quest to access and create dance experiences in trauma-informed, consciously-feminist led spaces - and in 2015 she founded szalt to deepen this learning. As a freelance artist Stephanie performs and creates works for musicians, short films, dance, opera, and theater companies nationally and internationally. Stephanie holds a BFA in Dance Performance and Choreography from California Institute of the Arts and a CE Certificate in Somatic Psychotherapy and Practices from Antioch University. Born and raised in Las Vegas, NV Stephanie's known oral history indicates that she is a 5th generation immigrant of the US of former Yugoslavian and Polish refugees of WW1 and beloved Irish kin who adopted her mother.

**Rosanna Tavarez** has worked across the realms of television, music and dance. She is certified in Countertechnique and has shared the practice nationally and internationally. Her dance works have been presented by The Broad Museum, REDCAT, ODC Theatre, American Dance Festival, Dance on Camera West, LA Department of Cultural Affairs' LA Dance Platform and received support from CSLA's Research, Scholarship and Creativity Awards, ARC grant from the Center for Cultural Innovation, UCLA Hothouse Residency and Show Box LA.

**Tom Tsai** is a descendant of survivors and victims from Taiwan's martial law era, and a lifelong student of B-boy/B-girl culture. He has performed his solo works throughout the USA, and internationally in London, Mexico, the Netherlands, Portugal, Sweden, and Singapore. He has danced with LA choreographers Suchi Branfman, Victoria Marks, John Pennington, and is also a collaborator with Dancing Through Prison Walls, a project giving visibility to those impacted by the carceral system.

**Cory Feder** is a Korean-American illustrator, animator, musician, dancer and sculptor. Raised in Denver, Colorado, Cory's work explores identity through community and - inversely - community through identity. Her work explores human tenderness through nature, folklore, and the divine. Through her re-interpretations of Korean and Jewish mythology, woven with her own interactions with the natural world, Cory builds a bridge between the past and the present; present and the future.

**Clarisse Hazel Lopez** is a first-generation Filipina-American multidisciplinary artist, with a primary focus on material and durational-driven processes in sculpture. Utilizing conceptual and physical abstractions from everyday happenings, nature, disco, the thrift store, and home(s), she molds objects and apparel as the materials slowly reveal their artistic form. Clarisse was born in Oakland, CA, raised in Las Vegas, NV, and currently lives and works in Los Angeles, CA, occasionally under the moniker Desert Jasper.

#### REDCAT TECHNICAL STAFF

**Technical Director:** Bill Ballou

**Assoc. TD, Sound and Video:** Pete Pace

**Assoc. TD, Lighting Director:** Chu-Hsuan Chang

**Audio Engineers:** Sean Lennon, Olivia Popejoy

**QLab:** Scott Garner

**Stage Manager:** Christa Trusther

**Lighting Programmer:** Alejandro Melendez

**Deck:** Jerrel Milan, T Kosek

**Camera Operator:** Jean-Paul Jones