

Spring 2025 Season

Movement Research at the Judson Church

Monday, June 2, 2025 7pm

Movement Research at the Judson Church is a free forum for experimentation, emerging ideas & work-in-process.

Note that this performance is not open to review.

Katherine Paola De La Cruz

Dirty Laundry: Crashing no Cruising (An Excerpt)

Choreographer/Director: Katherine Paola De La Cruz

Dancers: Katherine Paola De La Cruz, Esther Nozea, Nia Sadler

Music: Kelly Quigley

Text and Costumes: Katherine Paola De La Cruz

Katherine Paola De La Cruz is an Open Call artist at The Shed (2025-2026) and "Dirty Laundry" will premiere in the summer of 2026.

Alexa West

Choreographed by Alexa West

Performed by Cayleen Del Rosario, Benin Gardner, Amelia Heintzelman, Molly Ross, Isa Spector

Alexa West is a 2024 AIR supported in part by the Jerome Foundation.

Marielys Burgos Meléndez

Exposed Process: On Desiring (Flexible Workers)

Researcher/Creator/Performer: Marielys Burgos Meléndez

Music: Lucid Girl by The Sacred Souls, Be my own boyfriend by Olivia Den

Are you flexible? Are you (a) flexible (worker)? On Desiring is an artistic research exploring the materiality of desire, (self)eroticism, dance labor & BADASSERY. Through her approach of practice/performance-as-research, *Exposed Process*, Marielys asks questions about dance & artistic economies, precariousness, financial inequality, work flexibility, and displacement while experimenting with movement techniques and artistic practices archived in her body (*erotic dance*, performance art, Afro-Caribbean rhythms, eastern and western somatics, contemporary dance forms, and weightlifting, among others). Exposing embodied artistic inquiries and unfinished work Marielys makes (non)sense of all the dance ecosystems and geographies she transits and the relations she nurtures along the way. *On Desiring* is a parallel creative and artistic dialogue with her dissertation project.

Artist Biographies

Katherine Paola De La Cruz is a Dominican dancer and choreographer based in Queens, NY. She is a member of the Great Jones Repertory Theater Company at the La MaMa Experimental Theater Club and a 2025-26 Open Call artist at The Shed. Katherine has performed in works by Monica Bill Barnes & Company, The Soul Dance Company, maura nguyễn donohue, Valentina Baché Rodríguez, Catherine Galasso, Loco 7 Dance Puppet Theater Company, Zishan Ugurlu etc. She is a passionate choreographer, dancer and storyteller whose work center themes of social inequality, queerness, immigration and mental health. Her original choreographic works and movement improvisations have supported climate justice and immigrants' rights demonstrations in New York City. In her work, she interweaves narratives of nostalgia and hope that directly address sociopolitical issues and visibilize inner healing processes. Katherine aims to continue developing and deepening her own process while serving in any capacity towards the sharing of culture, memory and art.

Alexa West is a dance artist based in New York City. West holds a MFA from Bard College in Sculpture, and her work has been presented by SculptureCenter (2024) and the Performa Biennial (2023) among others. She was a Dance Research Fellow at the Jerome Robbins Dance Division of the New York Public Library. In addition, West is a co-founder of Pageant, an artist-run performance venue in Brooklyn.

Marielys Burgos Meléndez, MA (she/ella) is an dance/movement researcher, multidisciplinary artist, communicator, advocate, audio describer, and pole dance enthusiast in *vaivén* whose life thrives on social justice, decoloniality, and intersectional feminism. She is currently pursuing a PhD in Critical Dance Studies at UCR. Her research focuses on erotic dance as it intersects labor, embodied spiritualities, experimentation, mobility/displacement, and placemaking in the Turtle Island and her native Boriké. She has served as arts/dance administrator for over 15 years, is a 2023 Bessie's Award nominee for Outstanding Performance (Ensemble), and a 2023 Health Humanities and Disability Justice Fellow at UCR.

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MR@Judson Selection Committee Fall 2024/Winter 2025 - Spring 2025:

Fana Fraser, Dominica Greene, Carolyn Hall, Johnnie Cruise Mercer,
 Barkha Patel, Annie Wang, Jo Warren

Movement Research at the Judson Church artists are selected through an application process reviewed by a rotating committee of peer artists, each season the Artists of Color Council (AoCC) invites a member of the community to curate three artists to participate. These artists are joined by Movement Research Artists-in-Residence and GPS/MRX exchange artists. To apply, visit movementresearch.org

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