

Spring 2026 Season

Movement Research at the Judson Church

Monday, April 27, 2026 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.

Stephanie Hewett

Read to Connect (WIP)

Choreographed by: Stephanie Hewett and Star Mitchell

Performed by: Stephanie Hewett and Star Mitchell

Sound by: Stephanie Hewett

ill/egible

doykeit

Choreographed by: Rafi Ruffino Darrow, Elle Hong Performed by: Rafi Ruffino Darrow,

K. Henderson, Elle Hong

Sound by: K. Henderson

Ryuta Iwashita

April 27

Choreographed by: Ryuta Iwashita

Performed by: Ryuta Iwashita

Sound by: Kazumi Nikaido

Nicole Bindler

Sand in My Soda Pop, Part 2

Choreographed by: Nicole Bindler

Performed by: Nicole Bindler, Ella-Gabriel Mason, Katherine Desimine, and Kate Seethaler

Outside eyes: Skye Hughes and Chelsea Thaler

Music composed by: Dustin Slaughter

Sound design by: Bbob Rainey

Artist Biographies

Stephanie Hewett is a Bronx-based artist weaving queer Afro-Caribbean diasporic experiences and improvisation through performance. She works with movement to decode ancestral wisdom stored in the body and experiments with electronic music production to explore polyrhythmic potentialities for generational healing.

Rafi Ruffino Darrow, K. Henderson, and Elle Hong are antisciplinary, trans artists working in dance, music, installation and poetry. They completed a 2023 Access. Movement. Play. (A.M.P.) residency at Movement Research exploring illegibility, boundaries of nation/body, traditional mourning ritual, and living into the complexity/joy of atypical bodyminds. K.'s sensitive soundscapes incorporate found sound of Elle and Rafi's bodies/disability accoutrements with recorded text and music, all while Elle and Rafi's gender-saturation choreography and memory performance invokes their ancestors in trans grief and gratitude.

Rafi's work lives in the inter-marginalized care and intimacy necessitated/conjured by chronic illness. They've recently completed a fellowship at Hambidge Arts and through the Critical Design Lab. K. has composed scores for film, dance, and theatre; published writing, and designed sound for feature film; all rooted in their spiritual practice. Elle is a resident artist at RedLine Contemporary Art Center (Denver, CO), currently creating a new NPN-supported work, "Potemkin village," centering themes of perception management & falsity/authenticity.

Ryuta Iwashita (they/them) currently lives and improvises in Bulbancha (also colonially known as New Orleans) in the USA as a movement/performance/visual artist and educator after living in Japan for 25 years. Their artistic lexicons are rooted in dance improvisation, social justice, somatics, martial arts, child education, and ancestral work including 祖体 (SOTAI) of which Ryuta is its conceiver. Their work and teaching move and respond to mundane and mystical juxtapositions, — the one between their Japanese heritage and their westernized life in the Southern US, between a day of organic farming and a night of MSG-heavy instant noodles, between their beloved's indulge in watching TikTok and their grandfather's indulge in eating raw chicken gizzards, and between their internal organs and their ancestors moving and pausing as stars.

Nicole Bindler—dance-maker, Body-Mind Centering® practitioner, writer, and activist—has practiced contact improvisation since 1997. She is a registered Master Somatic Movement Therapist through The International Somatic Movement Education and Therapy Association. Her work has been supported by numerous grants and fellowships, and presented on four continents. Recent projects include curating an evening of Palestinian dance films; somatic research on the embryology of the genitalia from a non-binary perspective; a workshop on neuroqueering embodiment; co-producing the Consent Culture in Contact Improvisation Symposium at Earthdance; and a solo dance, The Case for Invagination, in which her scars speak candidly about trauma and desire. Notable performance projects have included touring as a choreographer with the Bethlehem-Based Palestinian company, Diyar Theatre; a Pew-funded performance residency in Japan including Butoh training with Yoshito Ohno; and performing Deborah Hay's I Think Not at Unidad De Vinculación Artística in Mexico City. In 2026 she will be showing her work in two projects at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. She is co-editing a book, Gathering Sparks: Jewish Arts and Somatics that will be published by punctum books.

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or give at movementresearch.org/support.

Tax-deductible donations can be sent to:
Movement Research, 150 First Avenue, New York, NY 10009
We appreciate your support!

MR@Judson Selection Committee Fall 2025/Winter 2026 - Spring 2026:

Biba Bell, Miguel Alejandro Castillo, Justin Faircloth, Imani Gaudin, Opal Ingle, Shayla-Vie Jenkins, Iris McCloughan, Antonio Ramos, Shawn Rawls, Fabio Tavares

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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MR AIR Artist Advisor: mayfield brooks (2025-26)

2026 Van Lier Emerging Artist of Color Fellows: evan ray suzuki, Dahlia Qumhiyeh

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