

Fall 2026/Winter 2027 Season

Movement Research at the Judson Church

Monday, October 19, 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.

Emilio Wettlaufer

Cradle

Choreographed by: Emilio Wettlaufer

Performed by: Alexis Vinzons and Emilio Wettlaufer

Sound by: Sonora

Molly M. Whawell with Aniela Piasecka, and Kirstin Halliday

Funeral Flowers

Artist: Molly M. Whawell

Collaborating Performers: Kirstin Halliday and Aniela Piasecka

Sound by: Miko Szatko

Dramaturgy + Outside Eyes: Emma Lewis-Jones, Eve Stainton, and Zinzi Buchanan

The work grows from Molly M. Whawell's research into the global cut-flower trade: the vast commercial systems built to engineer, circulate and preserve flowers in a race against their death – exploring the impossible labour of holding things together as they disintegrate.

Kar'mel Antonio Wade Small

delarosa // vejigante: i

Choreographer and Performer: Kar'mel Antonio Wade Small

Costume by Kar'mel Antonio Wade Small (Assisted by Sadiya Ramos)

A ceremonial grievance to an ancestor. delarosa is a solo that celebrates the life of my great-grandmother who lived to 106 years of age. Tomorrow (October 20th) would have been her 109th birthday. I do this in commemoration of the island Borinquen/Puerto Rico and of my time spent there with my mother in July 2025.

Brendan Drake

Misericordia

Choreographed by: Brendan Drake (In collaboration with the Performers)

Performed by: Brendan Drake, August Henderson, Abigail Linnemeyer, Nikkie Samreth, and Darrin Wright

Sound by: Laurie Anderson, Mica Levi, Marvin Hamlisch; Sound Design by Brendan Drake

Artist Biographies

Emilio Wettlaufer is a Guatemalan-born dance artist currently based in New York City. He develops his own independent works that draw influence from dramaturgy, creative writing, and task-based movement. His work has been performed at the Schwere Reiter Theater in Munich, Abrons Arts Center, and most recently, with Movement Research at the Judson Church. He has been a choreographic resident at the Hier Jetzt Platform at Tanztendenz and a 2025 LiftOff Artist at New Dance Alliance. In 2023, Emilio performed at the 17th Venice Biennale Dance Festival as part of the College Danza program under the direction of Wayne McGregor. He has additionally been featured in campaigns for Bottega Veneta, Calvin Klein, and Microsoft. Emilio received his BFA in Dance from the California Institute of the Arts in 2022.

Kar'mel Antonio Wade Small is an interdisciplinary artist from The South Bronx, NY. His work heavily incorporates improvisation as jazz, utilizing the styles of ballet and modern techniques, contemporary, house, salsa, and dancesport ballroom as his instruments. Kar'mel's work has been presented at Judson Memorial Church, Battery Dance Festival, PepsiCo Theater, Triskelion Arts, Chez Bushwick, and Arts on Site. One of his most recent works, ROADMAPPIN', was presented in the Bronx Museum in collaboration with Anthony C. Wyche III/SOUNDWAV3, Kennedy Hill, and poet T.J. McGowan/The Everyday Bite. He also performed a collaborative work with Music Under New York handpan drum artist Anthony Bell at the Alianza Dominicana Cultural Center. In 2022, he was recognized as an Chez Bushwick Artist in Residency award recipient through the Jonah Bokaer Arts Foundation. In 2025, Kar'mel received the Bronx Recognizes Its Own (BRIO) Award, supported by the Bronx Council on the Arts, for Choreography in Performing Arts. Kar'mel curates work that converse the preciousness of memory, the adulation of surrealism, the internal rhythm, and the importance of culture by commemorating the wisdom imparted from mentors and ancestors alike.

Brendan Drake is a choreographer, educator, and researcher. Their work incorporates movement, text, and sound experimentation to interrogate notions of vanity, rage, faith, humiliation, pleasure, and sexual power dynamics. Critics have described their choreography as “a glorious exploration of the body at its extremes” (Brooklyn Rail) and “hilarious and sobering: a way to say the unutterable” (Culturebot). Brendan was a 2017-2018 Fresh Tracks Artist at New York Live Arts and, in Fall 2025, became the inaugural recipient of the DC Dance Network Choreographers Commission. They have been awarded grants and residencies from the Brooklyn Arts Fund, FCA, CUNY, BKSD, Monira Foundation, The Tank, and Chez Bushwick. Brendan’s recent work has been presented in NYC at Kestrels, Danspace Project, Judson Church, The Brick, La MaMa, PAGEANT, Joe’s Pub, and AUNTS, and at JrHigh and the Fowler Museum (LA), The Dance Complex (Boston), and Dance Place (DC). Brendan also choreographed campaigns for Adidas and Kate Spade and was the movement coordinator for editorial shoots at Vogue, Porter, V, and Elle Magazines. They have been on the faculty at UCLA and George Washington University and have recently guest-taught at Columbia University, UMass, Black Light Summit, Skewl, and Peridance. BFA – UMass Amherst MFA – UCLA

Molly M. Whawell (she/they) is an interdisciplinary artist working across performance, installation, sculpture and moving image, based in Glasgow, Scotland. Blending investigative research with material enquiry, their work attends to the frictions between unruly, intimate and absurd forms of life and architectures of control. Molly’s current research traces the global infrastructure of the cut-flower trade, anchored by the site of the World Flower Auction, through which 43 million cut flowers are sold and distributed each day. Molly received the 2026 Live Art Commission from Market Gallery, Glasgow, are a supported Outerspaces Studio-Resident and have undertaken recent residencies with Hospitalfield, Scottish Sculpture Workshop and The Work Room. **Kirstin Halliday** (they/them) is a dance artist from Glasgow, Scotland, who has choreographed, facilitated and performed in diverse contexts including; experimental performance work, visual arts, music videos, club nights & community dance workshops. Their movement practice is motivated by the co-generative relation between moving bodies, social space, & interpersonal relations & identities. Their current practice is orientated towards the creation of a three act absurdist dance-drama about lesbian lizards, set to premiere in 2027. Act 1 of Desert Grassland Whiptail Lizards has been presented as a short standalone work including with Outburst Queer Arts Festival, Belfast; The Place, London. **Aniela Piasecka** (they/she) is an artist based in Glasgow, Scotland. Working with performance and multidisciplinary modes of choreography, they have recently been developing research around the somatic experiencing and choreography of pain, the role of risk in performance and biopsychosocial research into the ‘functions’ of the body. Past works have been presented with Bergen Kunsthall, Norway; CAPC, Bordeaux; The Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin; Den Frie Centre of Contemporary Art and Dansehallerne, Copenhagen; Cubitt Gallery, London.

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 Ariana Speight, Tatyana Tenenbaum, Coco Villa, Devika Wickremesinghe

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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