



Photo by Lauren Victor

The Institute of Contemporary Art presents

Urban Bush Women 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: *This is Risk* 

March 21-23, 2025

# Welcome

Welcome to the ICA's Barbara Lee Family Foundation Theater.

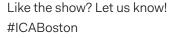
Each year, the ICA welcomes visionary performing artists whose creativity, inventiveness, and imagination inspire us to rethink and reframe our relationship to one another and our world. Their restless, inventive artistic explorations not only showcase their extraordinary talents, but also invite us to gather together and share in the pleasures of live performance.

This spring we are thrilled to present a season of extraordinary choreographers, composers, filmmakers, and musicians celebrated for their original and inimitable visions. Sound Icon presents the music of iconoclastic composer Pierre Boulez in honor of his birthday centennial. Roberto Lange, often known as Helado Negro, and Kristi Sword offer a stunning and immersive experience with *Star Scores*, featuring live music, film, and an installation of weather balloons. Jazz giants Henry Threadgill, Vijay Iyer, and Dafnis Prieto bring their remarkable talents together

for a thrilling one-night-only concert event not to be missed. The spirited and uplifting Urban Bush Women celebrate their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary with *This is Risk*, an evening of new works celebrating the dance company's storied and lasting legacy. Oscarnominated Short Films return to our screen honoring the creative visions of animation, live-action, and documentary filmmakers. Our longtime collaboration with the Wicked Queer film festival continues with a premiere screening of urgency and warmth. We hope you'll join us often this spring and be inspired and uplifted.

## John Andress

BILL T. JONES DIRECTOR/CURATOR OF PERFORMING ARTS







## Urban Bush Women's 40th Anniversary: This is Risk

Visible (2010)

Music: Performed by Lucianna Padmore

Blues Medicine... (2025)

Blues Medicine (2006)

Performed by: Grace Galu Kalambay with the Company "From Here to Yonder" by Langston Hughes Music: Josh White, Waring Cuney; Stinson Records

Hard Time Blues (1945)

Choreography: Pearl Primus (1945); re-staged by Kim Bears-Bailey Performed by Keola Jones and Symara Sarai Music: Josh White, Waring Cuney; Stinson Records

Hard Time Blues was performed as part of the evening-length work Walking with Pearl...Southern Diaries (2006).

Blues Melody (2025)

Performed by: Grace Galu Kalambay Original Lighting: John D. Alexander; adapted by Evan Spigelman

## Batty Moves (Excerpt, 1995)

"Batty" is a word used in the Caribbean meaning buttocks. This dance was created to honor a woman named Sarah Baartman, also known as the Hottentot Venus. Baartman was taken from her home in South Africa in the early 1800s to be exhibited nude as a sideshow attraction in Europe because she was thought by some Europeans to have an unusually large behind. She was only 21 years old. Batty Moves is ultimately a celebration about seeing beauty in all the different shapes, sizes and shades we come in.

Choreography: Jawole Willa Jo Zollar
Composed by: Junior "Gabu" Wedderburn and Jawole Willa Jo Zollar
Music: Performed by Lucianna Padmore
Costume Concept: Jawole Willa Jo Zollar
Original Lighting: Kristabelle Munson; Susan Hamburger

### - INTERMISSION -

## Shelter (1989)

Choreography and musical concept: Jawole Willa Jo Zollar Re-staged by: Courtney J. Cook, Bennalldra Williams, and Jawole Willa Jo Zollar Text: On The Move Again & I Sing to the Voices of Resistance

by Jawole Willa Jo Zollar

Text: Elmina Blues by Carl Hancock Rux Text: Belongo by Laurie Carlos Original Lighting: Susan Hamburger Costume Concept: Jawole Willa Jo Zollar Costume Coordinator: Ramona Ponce Music: Performed by Lucianna Padmore

Shelter is an adaptation of Heat, an evening-length work that received its world premiere at Montpellier Danse '88, France, and its U.S. premiere at The Kitchen in New York City, September 1988. Heat was created in collaboration with Thought Music (Laurie Carlos, Jessica Hagedorn and Robbie McCauley) and composer Craig Harris and was co-directed by Laurie Carlos.

#### **Urban Bush Women**

#### Founder

Jawole Willa Jo Zollar

## Directed by

Chanon Judson and Mame Diarra Speis, Co-Artistic Directors

#### Producer

Jonathan D. Secor

#### **Associate Producer**

Michelle Coe

## **Associate Artistic Director**

Courtney J. Cook

## The Company

Amanda Castro, Kentoria Earle, Roobi Starla Gaskins, Keola Jones, Dymon Smith, Symara Sarai, and Mikaila Ware

## Musician/Performer

Grace Galu Kalambay

#### **Percussionist**

Lucianna Padmore

## **Production Manager**

Neelam Vaswani

## **Lighting Supervisor**

Evan Spigelman

## **Company Manager**

Gabe Friend-Jones

## Costume Coordinator & Wardrobe Supervisor

Ramona Ponce

## **Production Assistant**

Andrew Gordon

#### **ICA Production Crew**

**Audio Engineer** 

Kevin Corzett

**Master Carpenter** 

Squier

Master Electrician

Shelby Marsh

Wardrobe Mistress

Nancy Flessas

Crew

Carmen Alfaro, Violet Gayzagian, Wynn Graves, Jenna Ives,

Hannah Jope, Alex Kennedy, Em McGrory, Eliezer Meraz,

Adrian Monaghan, Isaac Roussak, Cidalia Santos, Julian Spielman,

Run Crew

Interns

Jakob Mall

**House Managers** 

Cidalia Santos, Maddy Gooltz

Lala Cooks-Beeks, Adriana Arias

Michelle Walker, Oakley Walker,

## **About Urban Bush Women**

Urban Bush Women (UBW) burst onto the dance scene in 1984 with bold, innovative, demanding, and exciting works that brought under-told stories to life under the artistic direction of Co-Artistic Directors Chanon Judson and Mame Diarra Speis. Originally founded by Jawole Willa Jo Zollar, the company continues to weave contemporary dance, music, and text with the history, culture, and spiritual traditions of the African Diaspora.

UBW performs regularly in New York City and tours nationally and internationally. The company has been commissioned by presenters nationwide and includes among its honors a New York Dance and Performance Award ("Bessie"); the Capezio Award for Outstanding Achievement in Dance; a Black Theater Alliance Award; and two Doris Duke Awards for New Work from the American Dance Festival; it was also named one of America's Cultural Treasures by the Ford Foundation. Zollar is a recipient of the 2021 Dance Teacher Award of Distinction, the 2021 Martha Hill Dance Fund Lifetime Achievement Award, and was named a 2021 MacArthur Fellow. Speis is the recipient of the 2017 Bessie Award for Outstanding Performer with the ensemble skeleton architecture. Judson received the APAP Leadership Fellowship and the Director's Lab Chicago Fellowship in 2018.

Off the concert stage, UBW has developed an extensive community engagement program called BOLD (Builders, Organizers, and Leaders through Dance). UBW's largest community engagement project is its Summer Leadership Institute (SLI), established in 1997. This ten-day intensive training program serves as the foundation for all of the company's community engagement activities. Ultimately the SLI program connects dance professionals and community-based artists/activists in a learning experience to leverage the arts as a vehicle for civic engagement. UBW launched the Urban Bush Women Choreographic Center Initiative Producing Program (CCI 2.0) in March 2022. The CCI 2.0 fellowships support the development of women choreographers and producers of color and other underheard voices.

## The Company

Chanon Judson (Co-Artistic Director) has been growing with the acclaimed Urban Bush Women, as performer and now Co-Artistic Director, since 2001. She's a director's fellow with New Perspective Theatre Women's Work Lab, Chicago Director's Lab, and APAP's Leadership Fellowship Program. Choreographic credits include "Times Up!" (commissioned by Flea Theatre), The Hang (Taylor Mac, Here Arts), Cannabis: A Viper Vaudeville (Collaborator/Performer - Baba Israel/Grace Galu/Talvin Wilks), Orlando (Barnard College), Chronicle X (Nia Witherspoon), Prometheus Bound (Tank Theatre), The Invention of Tragedy (Flea Theatre), and Nurturing the Nurturer, her original performance-ritual/gathering for mothers. Chanon has worked with Mickie Davidson, Talvin Wilks, Kwame Ross, Barak adé Soleil, Sita Frederick, Sandra Burton, and Allyne Gartrell. Her commercial credits include Victoria's Secret Live, L'Oreal Live, The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon, Apple Watch, and the Michael Jackson 30th Anniversary Concert. Performance credits include A 24-Decade History of Popular Music, God's Trombone (Craig Harris), Cotton Club Parade, and the Tony Award-winning musical Fela!

Chanon is an avid arts educator and has served as faculty with AileyCamp (Site Director), Alvin Ailey Arts in Education, Brooklyn Academy of Music, and Earl Mosley's Institute of the Arts. Chanon is the founder of Cumbe Center for Diasporic Arts' Dance Drum and Imagination Camp for Children and co-founder of Family Arts (FAM) offering spaces for families to learn, explore,

and create. Chanon is a Visiting Associate Professor at the University at Buffalo, where she is investigating jazz embodiment, organizing aesthetics, and education through curriculum designed to reflect the rich contributions of Black American Traditions and the African Diaspora.

Mame Diarra Speis (Co-Artistic Director) is a mother and movement improviser intrigued with play, risk, rigor, and experimentation. She is currently a performer and the Co-Artistic Director of the critically acclaimed Urban Bush Women. Speis has had the pleasure of working with Gesel Mason, The Dance Exchange, jumatatu poe, Deborah Hay (as part of Some Sweet Day, curated by Ralph Lemon at the Museum of Modern Art), Baba Israel, Marjani Forte-Saunders, and Liz Lerman. She recently performed as a guest artist with MBDance in the Motherboard Suite with artist Saul Williams, under the direction of Bill T. Jones. Speis was the recipient of the Alvin Ailey New Directions Choreography Lab and was awarded a Bessie for Outstanding Performer in 2017. Her work has been featured at the Kennedy Center, Long Island University, the Joyce SoHo, Hollins University, Bronx Academy of Arts and Dance, Danspace Project, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Dixon Place, BRIC, Dance Place, and the Kelly Strayhorn Theater. Speis has developed a movement and teaching practice that explores pelvic mobility as the root of powerful locomotion and as a point of connection to the stories, experiences and lineages that reside in each of us. She has been a guest artist and teacher throughout the United States, South America, Senegal, and Europe. Speis has also taught at Princeton University as a lecturer in dance. She has been fortunate to continue building a strong relationship with her alma mater, Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), in various capacities and was the commencement speaker for the VCUarts graduating class of 2020-2021. Her recent projects include Walking with Trane, co-choreographed with Jawole Willa Jo Zollar, and her collaboration with Chanon Judson-Johnson on Hair and Other Stories and Haint Blu.

Jawole Willa Jo Zollar (Founder) After earning her B.A. in dance from the University of Missouri at Kansas City, Zollar received her M.F.A. in dance from Florida State University. In 1984 Zollar founded Urban Bush Women (UBW) as a performance ensemble dedicated to exploring the use of cultural expression as a catalyst for social change. Zollar developed a unique approach to enable artists to strengthen effective involvement in cultural organizing and civic engagement, which evolved into UBW's

acclaimed Summer Leadership Institute. She serves as director of the Institute, founding artistic director, and visioning partner of UBW, and currently holds the position of the Nancy Smith Fichter Professor of Dance and Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor at Florida State University.

Awards include the 2008 United States Artists Wynn fellowship, 2009 fellowship from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial, 2013 Arthur L. Johnson Memorial award by Sphinx Organization, 2013 Doris Duke Performing Artist Award, 2014 Meadows Prize from Southern Methodist University, 2015 Dance Magazine Award, 2016 Dance/USA Honor Award, 2016 Black Theater Alliance Award, 2017 Bessie Award for Lifetime Achievement in Dance, 2018 American Conference on Diversity Performing Arts Humanitarian Award, 2021 fellowship from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, 2021 Dance Teacher Award of Distinction, the 2021 Martha Hill Dance Fund Lifetime Achievement Award, and the 2022 Dorothy and Lilian Gish Prize.

Amanda Castro (Performer) Currently associate choreographer for *Gypsy* on Broadway and most recently seen in *Jelly's Last Jam* at New York City Center, Castro is a Bessie Award–winning Puerto Rican–American multidisciplinary artist rooted in rhythm. Featured in *Dance Magazine's* "25 to Watch," Amanda is constantly on the search to be a part of stories that help elevate our collective humanity. (a) acastrodance

Courtney J. Cook (Associate Artistic Director) is a Virginia native now residing in Brooklyn, NY. She is a graduate of the Virginia Governor's School of the Arts and holds a B.F.A in Dance and Choreography from Virginia Commonwealth University. She is now Associate Artistic Director, BOLD facilitator, and performing company member with Urban Bush Women and was a company member with MBDance (Maria Bauman) and a featured artist with Marguerite Hemmings (we free). She is honored to be a recipient of the 2018 Bessie Award for Outstanding Performance for her work with all three of these organizations. As a creator, she has had the privilege of performing her solo work, *PoolPITT*, as a featured artist in ModArts Dance Collective's Collective Thread '17; the Estrogenious Festival '17, curated by Maura Donohue; and BDAC's Creative Emancipation Collaboration, curated by Ebony Noelle Golden. She also has been able to create in collaboration with interdisciplinary artists Tendayi Kuumba and Greg Purnell (FLUXX), presented by BRICLab and Harlem Stage (2019). In 2022,

Cook was involved as performer/choreographic collaborator and vocalist in *Cannabis! A Viper Vaudeville*, created by Baba Israel and Grace Galu Kalambay (Soul Inscribed).

Kentoria Earle (Performer) was raised in Winter Haven, Florida and is the proud daughter of Kent Earle and Victoria Wilson. She recently graduated from the Florida State University where she obtained her Master of Arts in Dance and Studio Related Studies. Since graduating she has had the opportunity to work with choreographers/artists such as Renegade Performance Group, Abigail Levine, and Urban Bush Women as an apprentice. Kentoria has spent her first few years post-grad entering the field as a Brooklyn-based performing artist and collaborator. She is working to build an artistic process that looks at solo and improvisational practices as a way to tap into ancestry and lineage-based movement exploration. Kentoria believes these practices support and open up spaces where artists can be fully present for what often results in holistic and sustainable approaches to our healing, individually and collectively.

Roobi Starla Gaskins (Performer) is a NYC-based artist who specializes in dance, choreography, and wearable art. Although she has always had a passion for dance, she owes her movement genesis, ability, and training to fourteen years of competitive figure skating, where she competed internationally as a member of the Puerto Rican national team. She began her formal dance training at Bard College, where she received a B.A. in Dance and Africana Studies. Roobi has been an active touring company member with Urban Bush Women since 2021. In addition to performing, Roobi also coaches figure skating and teaches house dance in the NYC area.

Keola Jones (Performer) is a movement artist based in Brooklyn, NY and a '22 graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University with a BFA in Dance and Choreography. During her undergraduate studies, she was awarded Outstanding Performer, Emerging Leader, and the African American Studies' Black History in the Making Award. Keola has worked with the Leah Glenn Dance Theatre, Johnnie Cruise Mercer (TheREDprojectNYC), Dr. E. Gaynell Sherrod, and Trebien Pollard, among others. She served as adjunct professor at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA. Keola concluded an apprenticeship with Urban Bush Women in '24 and became a BOLD facilitator and company member.

Symara Sarai (Performer), a Portland, Oregon, native currently residing in Brooklyn, has immersed herself in interdisciplinary and choreographic studies globally. Her work varies due to the different influences she has embraced throughout her life. A 2023 Bessie Winner for Breakout Choreographer, Symara is also a recipient of the Dai Ailian Foundation Scholarship based in Trinidad and Tobago. The scholarship led her to Beijing, China, where she spent two years gaining an associate degree in modern choreography at the renowned Beijing Dance Academy. Symara is a graduate of SUNY Purchase's Conservatory of Dance Program. She was a resident artist for Bearnstow, Gibney 6.2 Work Up, Gallim's 2022 Moving Artist's Residency, BAX's Fall 2022 Space Grant Program, and Center for Performance Research's 2022 AIR Program. She is a 2023 Women in Motion Commissioned Artist. Her work as a performer and maker has been reviewed and featured in the New York Times, Dance Enthusiast, and Fjord, as well as promoted through Forbes. She has had multiple film works commissioned by Berlin-based choreographer Christoph Winkler.

Mikaila Ware (Performer) (B.F.A. Florida State University) is a movement artist based in New York. She has worked in the mediums of dance and film with choreographers such as Davalois Fearon, Kayla Farrish, André Zachery, and Johnnie Cruise Mercer. Mikaila's performances have been featured in publications such as the New York Times, Dance Magazine, and Dance Enthusiast. Additionally, Mikaila completed the Accessibility Partnerships and Programs Fellowship at Lincoln Center and is an alumna of the Diversity in Arts Leadership program with the Arts and Business Council of New York.

Grace Galu Kalambay (Musician/Performer) is a vocalist, actor, guitarist, and composer. She combines the sounds of her Irish and Congolese heritage with her Lower East Side upbringing in a soulful and gritty twist. Kalambay was recently featured in Buskerball 2022, and recorded *Firelight* with Fearless Music. Her composition *Ordinary Sentiment* was featured in the Ed Burns film *Purple Violets*, which premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival. Grace devised The Mendelssohn Electric with Trusty Sidekick, and was cast as the lead in their production, The Gospel Electric, commissioned by the Park Avenue Armory. She is a core member of the band Soul Inscribed and has for the third time been selected as a cultural ambassador for the American Music Abroad program. Kalambay is also a recipient of the NEFA NTP grant. Soul Inscribed has recently been signed to the music label Tokyo Dawn and just released the EP *Tune UP*. Kalambay

is an artist in residence at HERE Arts Center and the composer for *Cannabis! A Viper Vaudeville*. Kalambay voiced Wisdom in Nia Witherspoon's production *The Dark Girl Chronicles* (2021 at The Shed). She is currently touring *Haint Blu* with Urban Bush Women.

Lucianna Padmore (Percussionist) A Bronx native, New York-based drummer Lucianna Padmore has been praised by Modern Drummer magazine for "Deep grooves and serious fusion chops." Lucianna's versatile drumming is featured with artists in the Jazz, Hip-Hop, Funk, Rock, Pop, and Fusion genres. An alumnus of LaGuardia High School for Music and the Performing Arts and the New School University, she has received awards from Jazz at Lincoln Center and BMI for her jazz improvisation. Lucianna's live and studio projects include residencies in and around the tri-state area with the John Smith Trio, a member of HotJazz Jumpers, drummer for singer-songwriter Alyson Murray, Bertha Hope's Nu Trio, and Quintet the Fiery String Sista. She also leads her own quartet and releases music as an independent artist, including the recent single, Life Long Love Affair featuring Saxophonist Gerald Albright. As an educator, she is active in drum instruction and jazz outreach in the New York Tri-state area. Lucianna is featured in the book Sticks and Skins, endorses Soul Tone cymbals, and plays Scorpion signature 3a Drum sticks.

Dymon Smith (Performer) is a process-driven artist, choreographer, and performer. Dymon is an alum of the New World School of the Arts, where she holds the Principal's Hall of Fame Award for her outstanding academic and arts performance. She is a full-ride Dean Scholar's graduate of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, holding a BFA in Dance with a minor in Sociology. Dymon is a former company member of A.I.M by Kyle Abraham and recently made her Lyric Opera debut in *Champion* and Met Opera debut in *El Niño*. Dymon Samara is now rediscovering her gift as a freelance artist.

### **UBW Production Team**

Gabe Friend-Jones (Company Manager) is an arts administrator, stage manager, and creative consultant. He was previously the Company Manager at Miami City Ballet and an Assistant Stage Manager at MCB and Atlanta Ballet. Gabe is the Lead Graphic Designer at Ballet Tucson and has also created work for Lexington Ballet and the nonprofit Buddy System MIA.

Andrew Gordon (Production Assistant) is approaching two years of collaboration with Urban Bush Women, working as a production assistant with them on Haint Blu at St. Mary's Episcopal Church and the Harlem Stage, Solo Meditations at the 92Y, and Legacy, Lineage, Liberation: An Examination of Urban Bush Women's Art-Making and Community Organizing Praxis at The Apollo. Andrew graduated from Muhlenberg College in 2023 with a degree in Theater; outside of his PA work, he spends his time acting and training Al models via RHLF.

Ramona Ponce (Costume Coordinator and Wardrobe Supervisor) is thrilled to be working with Urban Bush Women. Her career in theater began at the Ridiculous Theatrical Company. She now has longstanding relationships with numerous theater, dance, and opera companies in and around New York City, including Opera On Tap, Trinity Church Liturgical Dance, The Hotel Savant, TWEED Theaterworks, and Untitled Theater Company #61, as well as performance and cabaret artists. Her work has netted nominations for the Hewes Design and the Innovative Theater Awards. She has created specialty needlework for fashion designers like Chris March (*Project Runway*) and Thierry Mugler and assembles sewn elements for fine artists including Fiona Foley's *HHH* at the Brooklyn Museum. She designs special-occasion wear for both women and men and styles visual elements for a variety of applications, including making skeletons run, jump, and ride bicycles. She wrote a cookbook years ago and is working on a scandalous tell-all memoir to be published when she gets a little older.

Jonathan D. Secor (Producer) has worked in and around the arts for over three decades as a facilitator for creative artists and ideas. He is delighted to once again be working with Urban Bush Women. As a creative producer, Jonathan has been part of projects large and small, including as producer for the recent New York CityFree Festival on Little Island, as Artistic Director for the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center, Director of Performing Arts at MASS MoCA, Director of Programming at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, and Founder and Director of the Berkshire Cultural Resource Center in North Adams, MA. Jonathan was instrumental in the creation of the arts management major at the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (MCLA), and has taught at SUNY Purchase, Yale School of Drama, and MCLA. Jonathan was General Manager for 651, and started his career as a production manager and stage manager, working throughout the United States and Europe. Jonathan splits his time between Florida Mountain, MA,

and Harlem, NY, and is the proud father of Alegra Dora and Christina Gabriela.

Evan Spigelman (Lighting Supervisor) is an actor, cabaret artist, drag mess, DIY filmmaker, and theater technician based in Brooklyn, New York. Previously residing in New Orleans, they are a co-founder of New Orleans performance collective Skin Horse Theater and of LOUD, the New Orleans Queer Youth Theater. When not performing, they are continuing their journey to fulfill their lifelong aspiration: to become an agitprop surrealist anti-fascist clown. This title is exactly as pretentious as it sounds. Evan is a proud nonbinary performer, as they are no longer comprised of zeros and ones. In their capacity as theater technician, they have worked primarily at St. Ann's Warehouse, where they served as interim Lighting Supervisor. Recent Off Broadway and regional credits inlcude the upcoming HILMA (Wilma Theater), Ocean Filibuster (A.R.T/Pearl D'Amour), Taylor Mac's A 24 Decade History of Popular Music (Pomegranate Arts), The Faghag and Her Friends in the Summer of Love (Penny Arcade), And Tell Sad Stories of the Deaths of Queens (Southern Rep), The Lily's Revenge (Southern Rep), The Mutilated (Contemporary Arts Center), and Hedwig and the Angry Inch (Skin Horse Theater). Off-Off Broadway credits include Mouthbrain (Barnett Cohen) and Creep Cuts (self-produced) and television/film credits include Creep Cuts in Freeze Response (co-director, Mx. Asa Metric). They are also constantly stalking around in drag as Mx Asa Metric. @evspig

Neelam Vaswani (Production Manager) originally from Atlanta, GA, has lived in NYC for the past 25 years, working as a Director of Production, Production Manager, and Production Stage Manager in live events, theater, puppetry, dance, film festivals, and academia. She spent seven years at Sarah Lawrence College as the Director of Production and faculty in Stage Management and also taught Production at MMC. She is currently the Director of Production for Tribeca Film Festival and Event Manager for Brooklyn Botanic Garden's Lightscape. Neelam's work in the arts has taken her all over the U.S. and globe to places like France, Stockholm, Edinburgh, and Singapore.

#### **Urban Bush Women Staff**

Chanon Judson & Mame Diarra Speis, Co-Artistic Directors/BOLD Directors

Jawole Willa Jo Zollar, Founder

Michele Kumi Baer, Executive Director

Jonathan D. Secor, Producer & Creative Executive Producer, 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Lesley Hunter, Director of Operations

Michelle Coe, Director of Production, Booking & Touring

Makeda Smith, Marketing Manager

Camille Lawrence, Project Archivist

Ameeya Singh, Operations Assistant

Brooke Rucker, Development Associate

Elsie Neilson, Executive Assistant to the Co-Artistic Directors

Jaimé Yawa Dzandu, BOLD Artistic Coordinator

Advance NYC, Development Consultants

Bennalldra Williams, Movement Coach

Urban Bush Women 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary leadership funding provided by Bloomberg Philanthropies. Additional funding is provided by the Howard Gilman Foundation.

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Anonymous; Acton Family Giving; Bloomberg Philanthropies; David Rockefeller Fund; Doris Duke Foundation; Ford Foundation; Howard Gilman Foundation; The Institute of Museum and Library Services; International Association of Blacks in Dance; Mellon Foundation; National Endowment for the Arts (NEA); National Performance Network (NPN) Creation & Development Fund; New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project; The New York Community Trust Van Lier Fellowship Program; New York State Council on the Arts; New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; The Shubert Foundation; Solidaire Black Liberation Pooled Fund; Tiger Baron Foundation; Barnard College Center for Research on Women, Barnard College Office of Community Engagement & Inclusion; The O'Donnell-Green Music and Dance Foundation; The Harkness Foundation for Dance

### Connect with UBW

www.urbanbushwomen.org

Facebook: @urbanbushwomen Instagram: @ubwdance

## **Upcoming Programs**

## The Artist's Voice: Stanley Whitney with Narayan Khandekar Thu, Apr 17 | 7 PM

Stanley Whitney's captivating abstractions demonstrate his lifelong dedication to exploring the possibilities of color, structure, and form. Like improvisational jazz, Whitney's signature freeform grids employ structure and rhythm, each hue part of a call-and-response.

Narayan Khandekar brings a different perspective on painting, its surfaces, and the study of color pigments in his field as curator of the one-of-a-kind Forbes Pigment Collection at Harvard Art Museum, which includes more than 3,000 pigments from around the world, and director of the Strauss Center for Conservation and Technical Studies.

In this conversation moderated by Ruth Erickson, the ICA's Barbara Lee Chief Curator and Director of Curatorial Affairs, Whitney and Khandekar will come together to reflect on their lifetime work, including Whitney's five decades of painting represented in his retrospective, *Stanley Whitney: How High the Moon.* 

## Jazz Urbane Cafe at ICA presents Art Forward

Fri, Apr 18 | 7:30 PM

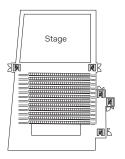
Jazz Urbane Cafe returns to the ICA for an evening of collaboration, connection, inspiration, and artistic exchange. The Imagine Orchestra directed by Dr. Bill Banfield shares the stage with an incredible array of dynamic artists and projects from across the Greater Boston area, including pianist Dr. John Paul McGee, movement and storyboard artist Wyatt Jackson, filmmaker Karina Choudhury, the voices of Boston Children's Chorus and Boston City Singers, students from the Longy School, and Boston Ujima Project. Featuring music, dance, and film, this one-of-a-kind concert experience is a meaningful ode to artistic inspiration and the liberating pleasure and joy of working within a collaborative and supportive community of artists.

# Membership gets you more!

Join today to begin a year of inspiration and discovery. ICA members enjoy special access to our exhibitions, performances, and events, while also providing vital support to the museum and the arts in Boston.

Learn more about ICA Membership opportunities at icaboston.org/membership or by emailing membership@icaboston.org.

Learn more about the ICA at icaboston.org.



Barbara Lee Family Foundation
Theater Fire Exits

The Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston 25 Harbor Shore Drive, Boston MA 02210 617-478-3100 info@icaboston.org

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