

ROCHA DANCE THEATER

Presents



CAUTION: HOT!

World Premiere

October 5th-7th, 2023

SubletSeries@HERE: Co-op

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www.jennyrocha.com



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Welcome!

Thank you for coming to the production of *CAUTION: HOT!* a SubletSeries presentation. This program provides artists with discounted space and equipment, as well as technical support.

HERE also supports the work of artists at all stages in their careers through our HERE Artist Residency Program (HARP), which develops and produces the work of our 10 resident artists, as well as Visiting Artist presentations for adult and family audiences. Please check out our other performances and events at HERE.org.

Like all the work at HERE, this SubletSeries presentation was curated based on the strength and uniqueness of the artist's vision.

We hope to see you HERE again soon.

Best,

Kristin

KRISTIN MARTING

Founding Artistic Director

HERE SUPPORT

HERE is extremely grateful for the support and encouragement of an important group of Foundations, Corporations, Government Agencies, Elected Officials, and dedicated individuals. We would not be HERE without them.

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

HERE's programming is made possible with Public Funds from: National Endowment for the Arts; New York State Council on the Arts, with the support of Governor Kathleen Hochul and the New York State Legislature; New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council; the Offices of Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine, New York City Council Speaker Adrienne Eadie Adams, and New York State Assemblymember Deborah J. Glick. We are grateful for the support and advocacy of all of our dedicated elected officials: Senator Charles E. Schumer, Senator Kirsten R. Gillibrand, Representative Carolyn Maloney, Governor Kathleen Hochul, Mayor Eric Adams, Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine, Council Member Christopher Marte and the Cultural Affairs Committee of the City Council, and State Senator Brad M. Hoylman.

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Part 1

Running time: 30 minutes

Intermission: 10 minutes

Part 2

Running time: 35 minutes

Director, Choreographer, Costume Designer, Performer: Jenny Rocha

Composer/Technical Director: Joseph Rivas

Performers: Alexandra Bittner, Dervla Carey Jones, Nicole Ervice,
Jamie Graham, Nicole Lemelin, Corinne Shearer

Lighting Designer: Connor Sale

Videos 1 & 2: Joseph Rivas & Jenny Rocha

Videos 3 & 4: Occurrent Arts

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About the artists

Jenny Rocha is an inter-disciplinary artist with a focus on dance and costume design. She is the artistic director of Rocha Dance Theater, a Brooklyn-based dance company. She is also a nightlife producer and director of The Painted Ladies, a cabaret group that was admitted into the Burlesque Hall of Fame in Las Vegas. A first generation Portuguese-American from New Bedford, Massachusetts, Rocha attended Roger Williams University for Dance and Performance, where she graduated with the Outstanding Achievement in Dance Award. Rocha's choreography has been presented by esteemed venues such as The Philadelphia Museum of Art, The Boston Center for the Arts, Danspace Project, La MaMa ETC, The Gerald W. Lynch Theater, Teatro Ribieragrandense and more. Rocha has received awards and residencies including The Puffin Foundation grant, Galapagos Art Space Residency, MANA Contemporary Residency and CUNY Dance Initiative in 2015, 2019 and 2023. The US Embassy in Lisbon awarded Jenny with two consecutive Innovation Grants for artist residencies in Sao Miguel Azores in 2018 and 2022. Jenny has created hundreds of original costumes for her own work as well as having designed for various dance companies and multiple seasons for Rutgers University and Lehman College. As a teaching artist, she has taught residencies at Roger Williams University, Connecticut College, Rhode Island College and West Virginia University. She is also in her 12th year as a teaching artist at the Brooklyn Academy of Music.

Rocha Dance Theater presents a hybrid of dance theater and costume design. The company's performances utilize movement and visual storytelling to address women's issues and social structures, challenging attitudes towards the feminine by presenting an alternate reality that is at once dream-like and relatable. RDT's mission is to create art that contributes in dismantling the patriarchy, gender norms and stereotypes.

Joseph Rivas (composer) is an award winning film mixer, sound designer, composer, mix/mastering engineer and voice actor. He works on feature films, documentaries, shorts, trailers, live events and commercials in his Brooklyn 5.1 mix studio. As the music supervisor and composer for Rocha Dance Theater, Joe has composed various scores for full length productions and projects. He also works with The Painted Ladies where he regularly produces tracks and remixes. Joe has also been a guest artist at Brooklyn Academy of Music for the last 10 years. beatinstinct.com

Alexandra Bittner (dancer) was raised in Brooklyn, New York, where she began dancing with the Mark Morris Student Company. She attended LaGuardia High School for the Performing Arts, and continued on to graduate from the Dance Conservatory at SUNY Purchase. In addition to Rocha Dance Theater, Alex is currently dancing with The Painted Ladies and Michiyaya Dance, as well as making her own work for film.

Dervla Carey-Jones (dancer) is from San Francisco, California, and has a BFA in dance from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. Most recently, Dervla has performed works by Gwen Gussman, Jordan Lloyd, Cherylyn Lavagnino, and Jenny Rocha. Dervla is excited to work with Jenny and the rest of the cast on a piece that tackles a number of the issues women deal with that so seldom find the stage.

Nikki Ervice (dancer) began her dance training in her hometown of Homer, Alaska. She graduated from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities with a BFA in dance in 2014. Since moving to New York she has worked with Emotions Physical Theatre, Jennifer Archibald's Arch Dance Company, Ayalis in Motion, Althea Dance Company and Safety Third Productions, among others, and has been part of Rocha Dance Theater since 2017.

Jamie Graham (dancer) is a dancer, improviser and physical comedienne based in Brooklyn, NY. She is honored to have performed with Jenny Rocha's Painted Ladies and Rocha Dance Theater for over ten years. Other current projects include dance comedy improv duo The Raving Jaynes and Virginia Scott's company Some Clowns. Past work includes Third Rail Project's Then She Fell and project-based work with Barbara Mahler. Jamie is also an independent Pilates instructor and is currently pursuing a master's degree in Applied Physiology at Teachers College. She holds a BFA in Dance and BA in English Literature from Webster University, St Louis.

Nicole Lemelin (dancer) grew up in Connecticut and began her dance training at Starship Dance. She went on to attend SUNY Purchase College and graduated Magna Cum Laude with a BFA in Dance Performance. While in school she had the opportunity to perform works by Adam Barruch, John Hegginbothum, Doug Varone, Rosalind Newman, Stefanie Nelson to name a few. Professionally, Nicole has danced with Shawn Bible Dance Co, Kathleen Helm and Dancers, Sea Legs Dance, and Hyperspace Dance. She currently serves as the assistant dance captain for The RIDE NYC, performs with Rocha Dance Theater, Time Lapse Dance and award winning burlesque troupe, The Painted Ladies.

Corinne Shearer (dancer) is an artist and graduate student based in New York City. Having received a BFA in Dance Performance with a concentration in Dance Composition from SUNY Purchase in 2016, she works as a performer, choreographer, and teaching artist in New York City and the surrounding area. Shearer is also currently finishing her MA in English Literature at The City College of New York where she teaches English Composition as an Adjunct Lecturer.

Connor Sale (lighting designer) is a New York based lighting designer. Recent work include This is How We Remember (Triskelion Arts; Philly Fringe), Julia Antinozzi's double bill (Pageant), the body || dust (Gibney Dance), The Boof Quadrille (Triskelion Arts), Earth Temple (in collaboration with Nocturnal Medicine at SMUSH Gallery), and Sea Change (Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago). Additionally, he tours with the production of Pina Bausch's The Rite of Spring that Sadler's Wells is producing. He's interested in using the temporary nature of light to make people more active in space. More of his work can be found at connorsale.com

Occurrent Arts (video artists) is an experiential arts team in Brooklyn, NY. Kiril Shevyakov and Brian McGaw have been crafting different kinds of visual and interactive works for forward-thinking clients and the public since 2011. Along the way, Occurrent Arts has developed a diverse portfolio of pieces; from digital sound sculptures for Google, to augmented reality experiences for the U.S. Air Force. All their creations attempt to draw upon viscerally engaging techniques (narrative, immersion, music, interactivity) to educate, entertain, and inspire. Occurrent Arts is always looking for opportunities to explore the dimensions of idea with new partners and clients. Check out the website: www.occurentarts.com for other examples of their work, and reach out if you need a hand.

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Joseph Rivas, Jamie Graham, Nicole Lemelin, Alex Bittner, Nikki Ervice, Dervla Carey-Jones, Corinne Shearer, the women who shared their stories, Fatima Rocha, Jose Rocha, Sandra Rocha, Ben Kasulis, Jes Rivas, Erin Rivas, Jen Rivas, Irene Rivas, Molly Blank, Kiril Shevyakov, Brian McGaw, Jahdiel Rodriguez, Connor Sale, Elise Andaya, Tanya Ohly, Mark Shelby Perry, Eleanor Smith, Amy Larimer, Simona Berman, LaShonna Holloway-Johnson, Kimani Fowlin, Adena Blenman, Chris Pearson, Jane High, Sean Curran, Heidi Latsky, Lynn Pyfer, Douglas Post, Kathryn Voskuil, Sabahat Chaudhary, Gary Shore, Jillian Hollis, Weston Morgan, Maria Misilo, Elizabeth Ervice, Anita Durst, Leslie Kaplan, Stephanie Varnon-Hughes, Kristin Lusic, Greta Kvittem, Alyssa Alpine and CUNY Dance Initiative, Remi Harris and the staff at HERE Arts Center for their support of this project.

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Rocha Dance Theater is still raising money to pay the artists you see here tonight. If you are able, please make a donation below. We need your support. Donations are tax-deductible through Fractured Atlas.

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[Menopause via Hysterectomy by Amy Larimer](#)

[Infertility and IVF](#)

Did you like the show?

Email jenny@jennyrocha.com to give us some feedback,
ask questions, discuss opportunities
or just to say hello!