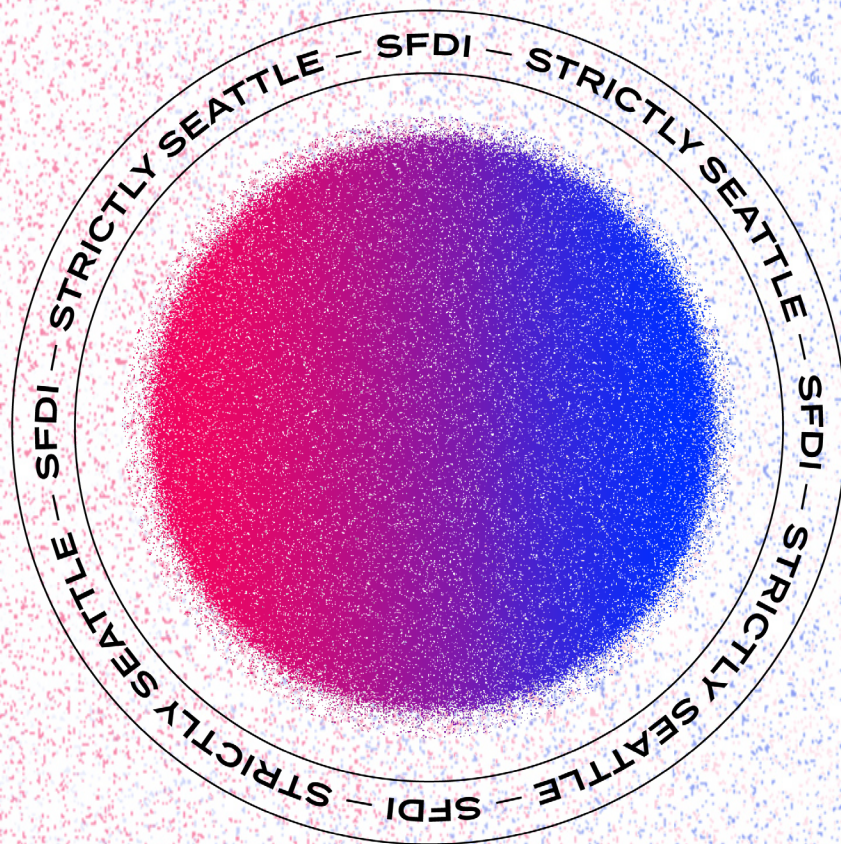


EVENTS PROGRAM



**SEATTLE FESTIVAL OF
DANCE + IMPROVISATION**

JUL 11 - AUG 8

WILL RAWLS: EVERLASTING STRANGER



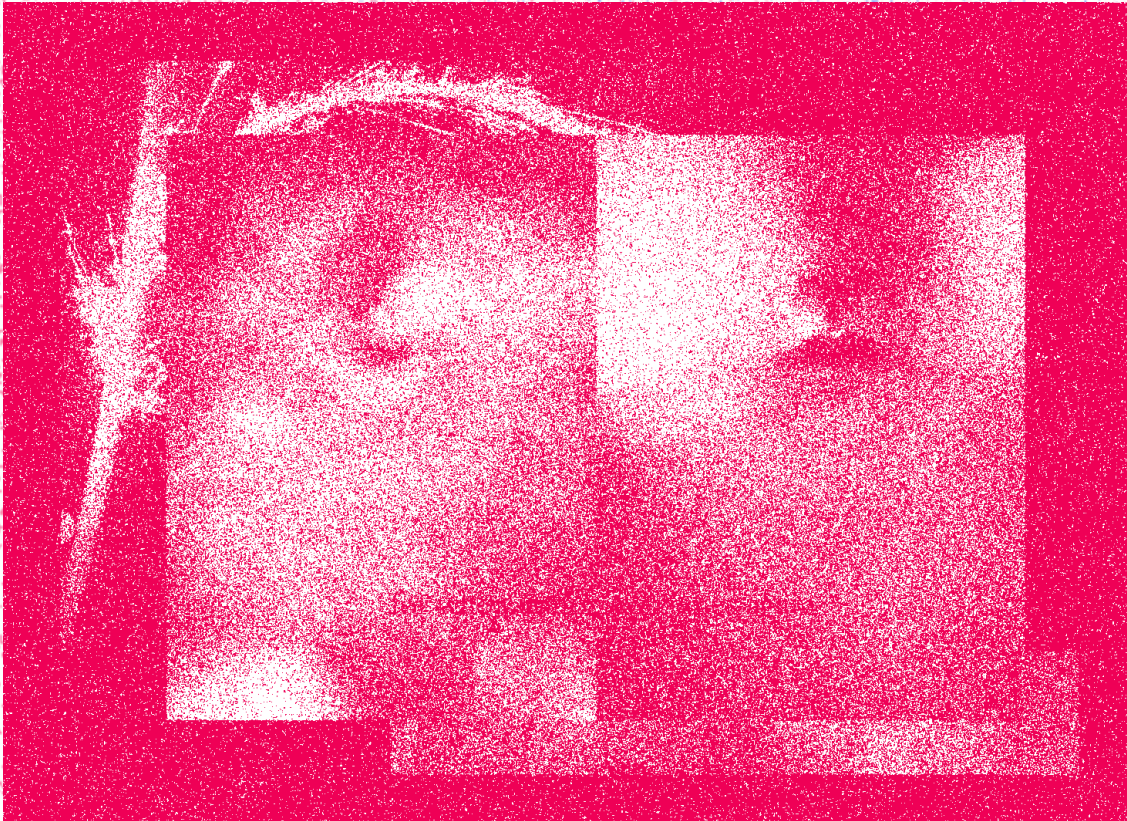
**SAT JUL 17 - AUG 15 + SUN JUL 18 | 12 - 3 PM
HENRY ART GALLERY**

In *Everlasting Stranger*, New York-based choreographer and writer Will Rawls (b. 1978, Boston, MA) activates relationships between language, dance, and image through the fragmentary medium of stop-motion animation. In his installation, time and movement slow as a live, automated camera photographs the frame-by-frame actions of four dancers. While the performers occupy the labor of becoming images, visual capture is staged as an obsessive process that is constant yet compromised by the movement it aims to fix. Here, as in previous works, Rawls develops strategies of evasion and engagement within systems that mediate, distort, and abstract the body.

Rawls's exhibition takes inspiration from the work of Guyanese writer Wilson Harris and his surrealist novel *The Infinite Rehearsal* (1987). In the book, the constrictive projections of the colonial gaze manifest as a child's fever dream where ghosts reinterpret time, genealogy, and identity as unstable matter. Harris's novel serves as a conduit through which Rawls addresses the misrepresentation that haunts all forms of capture, including photography and choreography. Within the temporal delirium that marks existence in quarantine, Rawls animates the life that appears between frames.

FREE ADMISSION

A DISTANCED DANCE PARTY FOR WHEN TOMORROW COMES AGAIN



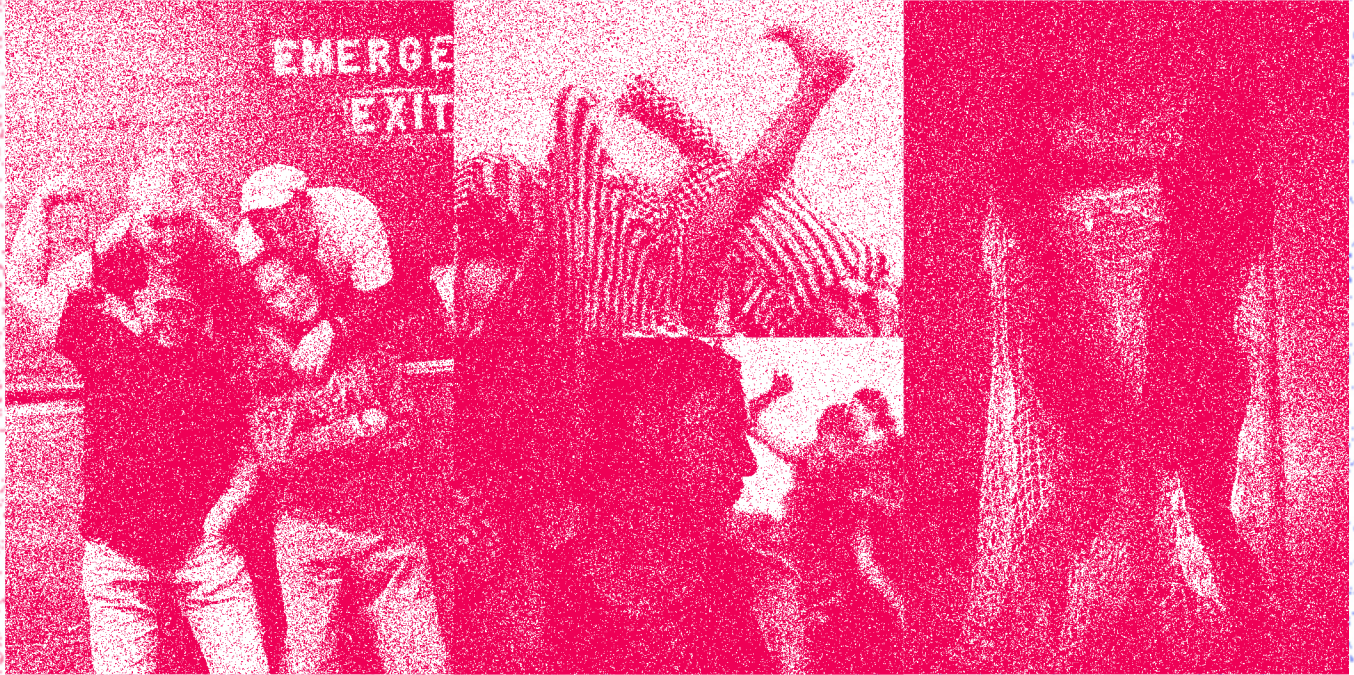
JUL 18 | 8 - 10 PM
VOLUNTEER PARK

I wanna dance (in the park at a distance) with somebody! will you join?!

You're invited to a socially distanced dance party facilitated by SFD+I faculty artists Alyza DelPan-Monley and Alice Gosti. Join us for this event that combines moving, music, and connecting with others.

FREE ADMISSION

NIGHTLIGHT: BUCK MOON



JUL 23 | 8 PM
FREMONT ABBEY

Finally, in person dancing! This special vaccinated edition of NIGHTLIGHT, Velocity Dance Center's monthly late-night full moon ritual and dance party, takes place at the Fremont Abbey. Artist instigators Fox Whitney and Moonyeka have invited Drama Tops, Gender Tender, Rachael's Children and DJ Nia to join them in creating an event that offers people a chance to indulge their desire to party, transmute, manifest, and dance hard. This event space requires that attendees be vaccinated.

Pricing: New Moon – \$10 | Half Moon – \$20 | Full Moon – \$30

JUPITER DIGITAL PERFORMANCE



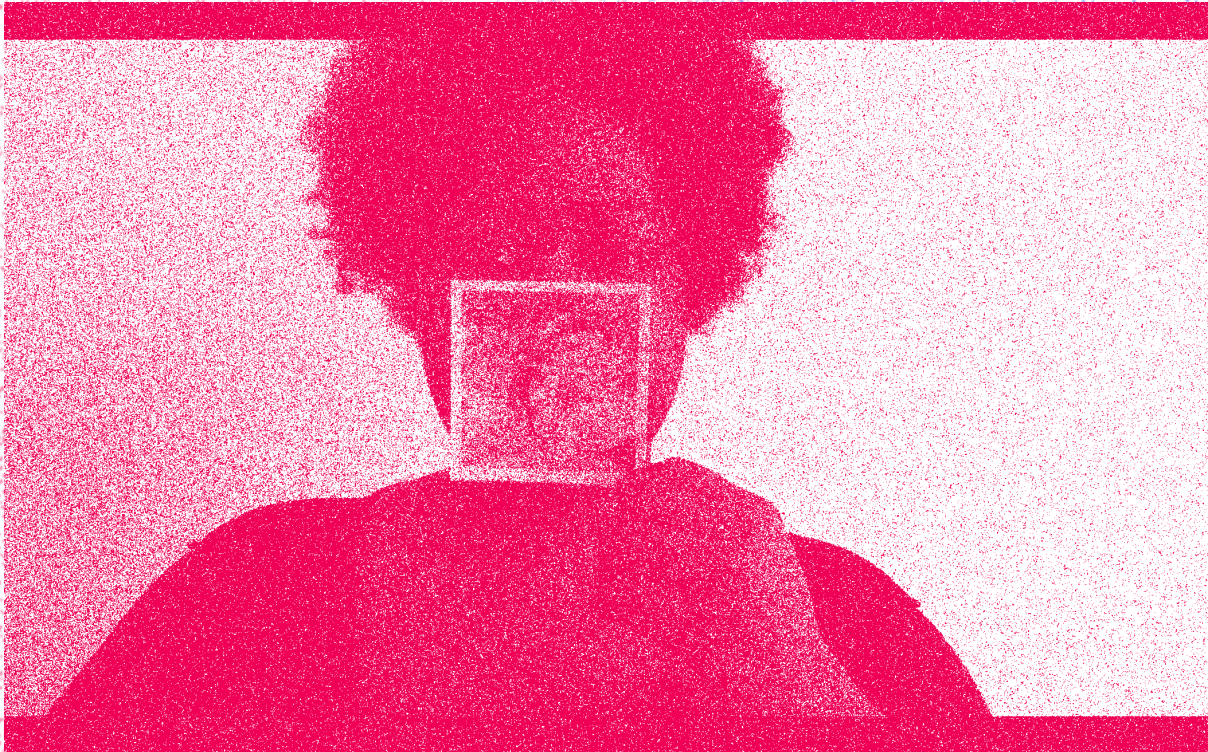
**JUL 30 | 8 PM
ZOOM**

Jupiter
(big feelings) (inner space) (shining skin)
the black woman performance artist enters the gleam
how to build a sequence of something?
revel in amplified time // out-of-this-world

In Jupiter, Gabrielle Civil transmits intimacy through virtual space, mining the possibilities of on-line performance. Premiered at the 2021 Salt Lake City Performance Art Festival, this live stream performance incorporates movement, black feminist bibliomancy and speculation along with close-ups, screen shares, and interactive chats. Get ready to get astral. All welcome.

**Digital Ticket Pricing: Solar System – \$10 | Milky Way – \$20 |
Universe – \$30
All proceeds are split 50/50 between the artists and Velocity**

JUPITER HAPPY HOUR + ARTIST TALK



**JUL 31 | 4 PM
VOLUNTEER PARK**

Watch Jupiter July 29-30 at 8 PM PDT and then enjoy a byo happy hour and talk with the artist Gabrielle Civil and Velocity's co-artistic director Fox Whitney on July 31.

FREE ADMISSION

A PATIENT PRACTICE



AUG 8 + 14 | 2 PM
OCCIDENTAL SQUARE

A Patient Practice is a map of multidisciplinary conversations practiced and performed around the country by artist Jasmine Hearn with Hearn's mentors and teachers. It celebrates their connections through the creation of what Hearn calls "choreographic and sonic maps". In Seattle, Hearn will work with Seattle-based artist Dani Tirrell as they reference the lessons and memories that they share together.

Jasmine Hearn: A Patient Practice is part of Bodies of Discovery, an expansive group exhibition taking place over the Summer/Fall of 2021 and featuring a series of performances, films, and installation. Set and performed in outdoor plazas and parks throughout downtown Seattle, this constellation of works explores the (re)activation of the physical body in our again-accessible public space, and will create sites of artistic discovery in unexpected places over the course of the exhibition. Bodies of Discovery is a collaborative exhibition organized by the Henry Art Gallery, On the Boards, and Velocity Dance Center, supported by the Metropolitan Improvement District.

FREE ADMISSION

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

WILL RAWLS earned a BA in Art History from Williams College. He is a recipient of a United States Artists Award, Creative Capital Award, a Guggenheim Fellowship, Foundation for Contemporary Arts grant, MacDowell Fellowship, Robert Rauschenberg Residency, Hodder Fellowship at Princeton University, a “Bessie” (New York Dance and Performance Award), and Herb Alpert Award in the Arts. Rawls’s choreographic work has appeared nationally and internationally at the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Chocolate Factory Theater, Queens; High Line Art, New York; ICA Boston; Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.; Portland Institute of Contemporary Art; and Tanzquartier Wien, Vienna, Austria, among others. His writing has been published by Artforum; Dancing While Black Journal; Hammer Museum, Los Angeles; and Museum of Modern Art, New York. Rawls has been a guest artist at Bard College, Barnard College, Harvard University/Carpenter Center, Wesleyan University, and Williams College, and a mentor for Colorado College’s Department of Theatre and Dance. He served as the 2020-2021 UC Regents’ Professor at the University of California, Los Angeles, Department of World Arts and Cultures/Dance.

ALICE GOSTI (she/her) is an Italian-American immigrant choreographer, hybrid performance artist, curator, DJ, and architect of experiences. She is based out of occupied Duwamish and Coast Salish land, now named

Seattle. Alice works simultaneously with film, installation, wearable art, sound, poetry, digital platforms, and audience interaction to create durational performances integral to their non-traditional sites, to create cultural moments for audiences from one to 15,000. <http://gostia.com> @gostiaa @malacarneco

ALYZA DEL-PAN MONLEY (they/she) believes in the expressive power accessed in the body through movement. They believe that goofiness and whimsy can crack open imaginative possibilities. Creating in the overlap between theater and dance, they are drawn to poetic abstraction and contextualized specificity. They strive to participate in processes where everyone can exist in their fullest selves by honoring every body’s unique form of expression. www.alyzadpm.com @zazaDPM

FOX WHITNEY is the artist behind Gender Tender, an interdisciplinary performance project that centers his queer black mixed transgender point of view. Fox is a 2021 artist in residence at On the Boards in Seattle Washington. He was selected as the 2018 artist in residence at Velocity Dance Center. His performance work has been commissioned and produced by On the Board’s NW New Works Festival and Solo Festival; Velocity’s Next Fest NW and Seattle Festival of Dance Improvisation; the Seattle International Dance Festival; Yellow Fish Epic Durational Performance Festival and

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES (cont.)

was selected for the inaugural season of Seattle's Gay City Arts. His short dance films have screened at CounterPulse in San Francisco, at Seattle's Twist Film Festival, Translations: Seattle's Transgender Film Festival and at Next Dance Cinema presented by Velocity and Northwest Film Forum. He has an MFA in Fiber and Material Studies from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and has exhibited his visual art nationally. He has performed in work by Morgan Thorson, Gabrielle Civil, Vladimir Kremenovič, Keyon Gaskin, Will Rawls and Malic Amalya. His most recent project MELTED RIOT, a queer meditation inspired by the Stonewall Riots of 1969 was presented by Velocity on the 50th anniversary of the riots in 2019.

MOONYEKA (my name/goddexx/they/them/she/her) is a sick/disabled Filipinx femme movement-based storyteller + pleasure practitioner who utilizes art creation, teaching, and organizing to realize a world that honors her communities' stories in a way that is healing, celebratory, and generative. Amongst many projects and collaboration Moonyeka continues to facilitate LIL BROWN GIRLS CLUB (a movement based mentorship program for young g*rls of color), organized (e)merge: a movement-based healing intensive for dance communities and beyond in September 2019; moves + creates work with Dani Tirrell and The Congregation, and is working on LOOB** — a multi-disciplinary biomythography/

memoir as part of their 2020 Northwest Film Forum x Velocity Dance Center Dance Film Residency.

DRAMA TOPS Seattle's hottest post-modern, nightlife performance rotational duo.

Drama Tops was born with the artistic partnership of Elby Brosch and Shane Donohue. They began making work together four years ago with the creation of a solo on two bodies. The dynamic between their trans body and cis body has created beautiful moments of frustration, competition, tenderness, and comedy. Jordan Macintosh-Hougham, a non-binary dancer, joined Drama Tops rounding out expression, perspective, and dynamism. The Drama Tops blends the worlds of nightlife and concert modern dance. You may have seen the Drama Tops perform in their self produced show, Drama Tops, this is for you, at Washington Hall, at On the Boards in Northwest New Works, at Velocity in Fall Kick Off, at Kremwerk in Family Meal and Catharsis, in Heels! At Cha Cha, and at a pop up party at Photon Factory.

GENDER TENDER is an interdisciplinary performance project created by artist Fox Whitney that centers his queer black mixed transgender point of view. He creates experiences that investigate the nature of queer relationships, trans histories and the surreal nature of transformation Gender Tender engages a team of artists trained in Fox's unique

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES (cont.)

methods modeled on cults, sitcoms and riots. This special pandemic edition of a Gender Tender meta band features artists new and veteran that Fox was in a covid pod with this past year: Will Courtney Moonyeka and Nat Barry.

RACHAELS CHILDREN are an experimental punk band from Seattle who's sound combines rhythmic looping guitars, driving beats and wailing vocals to create a crescendo of noise that is equal parts beautiful and terrifying. Imagine if Bikini Kill and Talking Heads had three babies and raised those babies on sugar, anger and rock n' roll. The group says their passion for creating sound "stems from a desire to reject compliance and provide a space for communal tantrums." This is a band that will look you in the eye, bark in your face, and send you home wanting more.

From cumbia to dancehall. **DJ NIA** has been hosting intentional, healing, political, sexy parties for years. When they are not DJing they are involved with the community, strategizing for the fall of empire, singing, being, and breaking free.

GABRIELLE CIVIL (she/ her) is a black feminist performance artist, originally from Detroit MI. She has premiered fifty performance art works around the world, most recently Vigil, an on-line durational work for the Northern Spark festival (2021) and Jupiter premiered at the Salt Lake City Performance Art Festival (2021). She danced with Gender

Tender for Melted Riot at the Henry Gallery (2020) and danced with Wild Beauty for MLK at Velocity Dance Center (2020). She has studied improvising while black with mayfield brooks, Yorcha technique with Ananya Dance Theatre, and performance strategies with La Pocha Nostra. Her performance memoirs include Swallow the Fish (2017), Experiments in Joy (2019), (ghost gestures) (2021) and the déjà vu (2022). Her writing has also appeared in Dancing While Black, Kitchen Table Translation, New Daughters of Africa, and Experiments in Joy: a Workbook. A 2019 Rema Hort Mann LA Emerging Artist, she teaches at the California Institute of the Arts. The aim of her work is to open up space.

JASMINE HEARN was born and raised on occupied lands now known as Houston, TX. They are an interdisciplinary artist, director, choreographer, organizer, teaching artist, and a 2017 Bessie award winning performer with Skeleton Architecture. Over the past decade, they have developed and shared solo and ensemble dance theater performances rooted in the facilitation of creative spaces for remembering, feeling, and imagining.