



GRAMMAR OF THE IMAGINATION

CLAIRE BARRERA (PDX)

MAR 17 - 19 12TH AVENUE ARTS

69 ASL Interpretation Friday, MAR 17TH

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VELOCITYDANCECENTER.ORG

EVENT DESCRIPTION

Grammar of the Imagination is an evening-length dance performance conceived and directed by claire barrera. It features an intergenerational cast of performers: youth Jordyn Kubernick, Nila Kwa and Paloma Barrera Rodriguez and adults Linda Austin, Allie Hankins, and Hannah Krafcik. The work uses traditional children's games as a platform to explore how play can be a site of imagining radically new social relations, or of disciplining and re-enforcing social norms. This project will be a deep inquiry into the ways power, discipline, care, and transformation arise in interpersonal dynamics, which is a subject matter that has motivated barrera's work for years.

As an activist and social worker who spends a lot of time with kids and parenting a child of my own, it has become clear to me how important play is to social movements, to healing, to creativity, and how play could serve us when we're asking ourselves, how do we create something new in the world?

—director claire barrera

Choreography and direction:

claire barrera

Sound design:

John Niekrasz

Language:

Stephanie Adams-Santos and claire barrera

Lighting design:

Dora Gaskill

ARTIST BIOS

claire barrera

is an artist, activist and educator based in Portland, Oregon. They are the author of the new zine *el lenguaje nos gusta y nos confunde* and the coeditor of *When Language Runs Dry*. Upcoming collaborations include work with Allie Hankins and Maya Dalinsky.

Hannah Krafcik

is an interdisciplinary neuroqueer artist currently based in so-called Portland, Oregon. Their works span dance, writing, digital media, and sound design.

Allie Hankins

is a dancer, performer, and maker who recently performed in a dream wherein she announced "Today I am Truit" before jumping into a pool. The next day in waking life she learned that 'truit' is a word used by the lucid dreaming community to mean 'trout'. When she's not working on performances, she is doing step aerobics and learning American Sign Language. Her website is alliehankins.com.

Jordyn Kubernick

is 11 years old and loves cooking. They are in 6th grade and in band. They play the clarinet. They are also a Virgo! Their favorite colors are crimson and violet, they like to read, and when they get older they want to be a chef or graphic designer.

Paloma Barrera Rodriguez

is 12 years old. Moving their body helps me cope with their focusing problems. They use they/them pronouns and are a Cancer.

Nila Kwa

is 12 years old and their favorite hobby is drawing. Their favorite color is sage green and pronouns are she/they. They want to be an actor when they are older.

ARTIST BIOS

Linda Austin

often dreams she is in a spaceship hurtling through outer space, which she suspects is simply the Performance Works NW studio theater in disguise. Since she and Jeff Forbes opened this space in 2000, it has been the site for the creation of hundreds of performances by Linda and many other artists. Linda continues to work on her durational solo 3 miles of possible as well as dreaming up other projects. pwnw-pdx.org

Stephanie Adams-Santos

is a Guatemalan-American writer whose work spans poetry, prose, screenwriting, and other swampy, hybrid forms — with a penchant for the queer and uncanny. She is the author of *Dream of Xibalba* (forthcoming 2021, winner of the Orison Books Poetry Prize), *Swarm Queen's Crown* (finalist for the Lambda Literary Awards), *Total Memory*, and *The Sundering* (selected for a New York Chapbook Fellowship by Poetry Society of America). Stephanie's poems and prose have appeared in a variety of publications, including *Orion Magazine*, *The Boston Review*, *Guernica*, and the anthology "Speculative Fiction for Dreamers" by Ohio State Press. In the realm of television, Stephanie has written multiple episodes over several seasons of *Two Sentence Horror Stories* (CW/Netflix). She is currently developing an original fantasy pilot as part of the 2022 Ojala Ignition Fellowship, and making headway on a Major Arcana tarot deck inspired by occult animism. www.obscurobeach.com

John Niekrasz:

I am an American artist working with sound, language, and performance. Trained in poetry and percussion, I compose sound art for *Methods Body*, *IXNAY*, and *Orchestra Becomes Radicalized*. I also create music for dance and film. My writing is published widely, and I am currently finishing my second novel. @JohnNiekrasz www.JohnNiekrasz.com

VELOCITY DANCE CENTER is an artist-led nonprofit in Seattle, WA that is dedicated to providing Seattle dance-makers with the resources, advocacy, and collaborative support they need to blossom their ideas into impactful art and community actions.



@velocity_seattle



/VelocityDanceCenter



velocitydancecenter.org

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