



# CENTER FOR PERFORMANCE RESEARCH

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## **CPR – CENTER FOR PERFORMANCE RESEARCH ANNOUNCES 2022 SPRING SEASON**

Brooklyn, NY— CPR – Center for Performance Research, which supports the development and incubation of new work in dance and performance, and time-based forms, is thrilled to announce its **2022 Spring Season of public programs and residencies**.

The 2022 Spring Season will have both in-person and virtual events, and features new work by current CPR Artists-in-Residence, including live performance installations by **Star Mitchell** and **Doménica Garcia with Damariz Damken**, and a virtual lecture-demonstration and workshop with **Johnnie Cruise Mercer**; the continuation of Spring Movement, part of CPR's bi-annual festival of new work, guest curated by **Pioneers Go East Collective**; works-in-progress as part of Open Studios curated by **ryen heart** and **CPR Programs Manager Regine Pieters**; experiments and investigations in Performance Philosophy Reading Group, hosted by artists **Jessie Young** and **ryen heart and Amanda Monti**; the premiere of "THE YENTA SHOW! LIVE from BROOKLYN!", a live talk show created by 2020-21 CPR Artist-in-Residence **Stuart B Meyers**; and co-presentations with **ISSUE Project Room** and its 2022 Artist-in-Residence **Sydney Spann**, and **The Bushwick Starr's** annual Starr Reading Series.

Continuing its artistic residency programs, CPR welcomes ten artists as its **2022 Artists-in-Residence** for a year-long residency; and hosts a week-long **Technical Residency** with performer and artist **Stuart B Meyers**, which will culminate in the premiere of a new performance at CPR as part of the 2022 Spring Season.

"This spring at CPR, artists are revealing investigations from a time of isolation, and invite us as audiences, peers, and collaborators to engage with and contribute to their ongoing research," says **Alexandra Rosenberg, CPR's Executive Director**. "The season is anchored by artist-driven ideas and experiments, where CPR can create a space that is responsive and adaptive to various approaches to space, time, body, and material. There is a distinct playfulness in these artists' work, even as they grapple with complex subject matter such as memory, identity, trauma, healing, and our desire for love and connection. In this moment of uncertainty, confusion, and hope, the experience of gathering, witnessing, and exchanging these ideas feels entirely crucial."

**All of CPR's 2022 Spring Season programs are free or are 'pay-what-you-can' with a free option.** In addition to programs that are presented virtually, many in-person programs will also be made available online, providing multiple points of access for audiences to experience and engage with new work at CPR.

**CPR is committed to the health and safety of its community.** CPR requires all artists, visitors, and staff to be fully-vaccinated against Covid-19 to enter CPR, and will require vaccine boosters starting March 1, 2022. Masks must also be worn at all times.

CPR's 2022 Spring Season is organized by **Alexandra Rosenberg, Executive Director** and **Regine Pieters, Programs Manager**, with support from **Ben Demarest, Production and Facilities Manager**.

A full calendar of events at CPR as part of the 2022 Spring Season is available at [www.cprnyc.org/event-calendar](http://www.cprnyc.org/event-calendar).

## **PUBLIC PROGRAMS**

### **Sunday Salon | Star Mitchell: *Reclaiming the Home***

**Sunday, February 13, 2022, 6:30 P.M. doors open, 7:00 P.M. performance**

Tickets: \$0-\$25, pay what you can | [www.eventbrite.com/e/259606729717](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/259606729717)

CPR – Center for Performance Research, 361 Manhattan Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11211

*Reclaiming the Home* is a performance installation by 2022 CPR Artist-in-Residence Star Mitchell, bridging personal history with their multidisciplinary practice to bring attention to the relationship between sexual assault, hyper-sexuality, and BDSM culture. Implementing healing as a practice to reclaim ownership of the home that is our body, Mitchell stands firmly in their pleasure, as an Assault Survivor, without fear, or judgement. In *Reclaiming the Home*, Mitchell invites the audience's gaze into their practice, and their healing, using Sexual Spells, movement, poetry, film, and natural materials to explore the connection between one's personal boundaries after sexual assault, and the boundaries explored within BDSM practices. The performance installation will be followed by a discussion, inviting the audience's feedback to support Mitchell's ongoing research.

### **Performance Philosophy Reading Group with ryen heart and Amanda Monti**

**Tuesday, February 22, 2022, 6:00 P.M.**

Tickets: Free, RSVP required | [www.eventbrite.com/e/259548244787](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/259548244787)

Virtual

The philosopher Maurice Merleau-Ponty coined the term *the flesh of the world* – this charged space, a viscous tension between organisms in relation, space we commonly think of as empty. This workshop co-hosted by 2022 CPR Artist-in-Residence ryen heart with poet and performer Amanda Monti researches pop music, tunnels, and the digestive tract as instances of *the flesh of the world*. We will be moving flesh, swallowing the consonant, and letting it move us toward an *Ooooooh*. We will incorporate movement, imagination, and writing to channel that which makes us w/hole. Using pop music as source material we will play with the “viscous tension” between organisms, and allow consonants to transform hard matter into soft, honoring the temporary form of that which does not start or end in a body. From the vowels of pop to the bowels in our bodies, absorption is inevitable. Open to everyone, especially those interested in pop, w/holes, tunnels, digestion, and speculative movement practices.

### **Performance Philosophy Reading Group with Jessie Young**

**Tuesday, March 22, 2022, 6:00 P.M.**

Tickets: Free, RSVP required | [www.eventbrite.com/e/259551765317](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/259551765317)

Virtual

Hosted by CPR 2022 Artist-in-Residence Jessie Young, and continuing CPR's exploration of text and somatic research through its ongoing Performance Philosophy Reading Group series, Young will work with bell hooks' *all about love*, and will invite us to move together through different durations as part of the discussion. Jessie Young is a dancer and choreographer who explores the development of movement practices through self-directed durations of reading, writing, and talking.

### **Sunday Salon | Johnnie Cruise Mercer: *The Decade From Hell... (A Lecture-Demonstration and Workshop)***

**Sunday, March 27, 2022, 5:00 P.M.**

Tickets: \$0-\$25, pay what you can | [www.eventbrite.com/e/259555516537](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/259555516537)

Virtual

2022 CPR Artist-in-Residence Johnnie Cruise Mercer will present a Lecture-Demonstration and Workshop as an extension of his multi-part, six-year, multidisciplinary project *The Decade from Hell and The Decade that Followed Suite*. Created alongside team members from Mercer's company theREDprojectNYC (TRPNYC), the work is a

ten-chapter process-anthology inspired by the collective memories of the “millennial,” engaging a series of past/future retellings that chart and embody the years 2000-2020. In this virtual Sunday Salon program, Mercer will give an overview of TRPNYC’s past processes and show works in progress, offer an in-depth look into the company’s current educational philosophies, and engage participants in a facilitated activity tied to their forthcoming DocuEpicWork, the two-part culmination of the project which will premiere in 2023 (*The Decade from Hell...*) and 2025 (*and The Decade that Followed Suite*).

**Starr Reading Series: Ro Reddick, Nkenna Akunna, Amara Brady, and Ife Olujobi**

**Co-Presented with The Bushwick Starr**

**Monday, March 28, Tuesday, March 29, Monday, April 4, and Tuesday, April 5, 2022, at 7:30 P.M.**

Tickets: Free, RSVP required | [www.eventbrite.com/e/259208047247](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/259208047247)

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Since 2010, The Bushwick Starr’s annual Starr Reading Series has cultivated a diverse group of writers at all stages of their careers, who approach writing for the theater in thrilling and unexpected ways. Selected through an invited submission process by a rotating committee of curators, currently Jehan O. Young, Elizagrace Madrone, and William Burke, 4-8 playwrights are selected each year, and receive developmental support for a public staged reading of a new, usually unfinished, work. With The Bushwick Starr’s new permanent home currently under renovation, the 2022 Starr Reading Series will take place at, and is co-presented by, CPR – Center for Performance Research, uniting the process-oriented missions of both organizations, and celebrating the incubation of new, experimental work in performance. As always, tickets to attend the readings are free! The Starr Reading Series has previously supported new plays by writers including Whitney White, Clare Barron, Phillip Howze, Jackie Sibblies Drury, Haruna Lee, and many more. This year’s selected works are **Ro Reddick: *Throwback Island*** (March 28), **Nkenna Akunna: *cheeky little brown*** (March 29), **Amara Brady: *the beautiful things are gonna kill you*** (April 4), and **Ife Olujobi: *MARKETPLACE*** (April 5).

**Sunday Salon | Doménica García and Damariz Damken: *Trenzadas***

**Saturday, April 9, 2022, 6–9 P.M. Opening and Live Performance**

Tickets: \$0-\$25, pay what you can | [www.eventbrite.com/e/259563229607](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/259563229607)

**Sunday, April 10, 2022, 12–6 P.M. Gallery Installation**

Free and open to the public

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Installed in CPR’s Storefront Gallery, and created by 2022 Artist-in-Residence Doménica García with collaborator Damariz Damken, *Trenzadas* is a memory scape that depicts the connection between geographical spaces, the body, and identity. Through nostalgic imagery, hair, dirt, and movement, *Trenzadas* explores the ways in which identities can overlap. This multi-sensory live installation incorporates large-scale sculpture, video, and performance to immerse the audience in a surreal space, inviting self-reflection.

**Sydney Spann: *Cow, Cow, Cow, Rabbit, Recalcitrance, Bunny, Dog, Dog, Dog***

**Co-Presented with ISSUE Project Room**

**Wednesday, April 20, 8:00 P.M.**

Tickets: Free with RSVP, available February 22 | [www.cprnyc.org/events/sydney-spann](http://www.cprnyc.org/events/sydney-spann)

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For the first event as part of Sydney Spann’s 2022 ISSUE Project Room residency, Spann will use the entirety of CPR’s space to present *Cow, Cow, Cow, Rabbit, Recalcitrance, Bunny, Dog, Dog, Dog*, a performance-activated sound installation using FM baby monitors and discarded hearing aids.

**Spring Movement | Crossroads: Curated by Pioneers Go East Collective**

**Friday, April 29 and Saturday, April 30, 2022, 7:30 P.M**

Tickets: \$0-\$25, pay what you can | [www.eventbrite.com/e/259639056407](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/259639056407)

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As an extension of their participation in CPR's 2022 Artist-in-Residence Program, Pioneers Go East Collective will curate CPR's annual Spring Movement festival, culling from their network of interdisciplinary artists working at the intersection of dance, performance, multimedia, and film, and rooted in a Queer, Feminist lens. Organized by Collective artists Gian Marco Lo Forte Riccardo, Anabella Lenzu, and Philip Treviño, Spring Movement: *Crossroads* features emerging artists who are exploring new genres and modes of art-making which enable them to share their creative practices with other artists and audiences. Throughout the festival, we witness artists dealing with actual, day-to-day, contemporary challenges to further a discussion between artists, activating a network of exchange and inclusion with social and artistic intervention. Taking place over two evenings, Spring Movement will feature new performance work by **Nattie Trogdon + Hollis Bartlett** and **Same As Sister** (April 29), **Angela Schöpke Gonzalez**, **Jenny Pommiss**, and **Aya Soatome** (April 30), and films by **BAIRA**, **Anabella Lenzu**, and **Pioneers Go East Collective** installed in CPR's Storefront Gallery, on view before and after each evening's program.

**Sunday Salon | Stuart B Meyers: THE YENTA SHOW! LIVE from BROOKLYN!**

**Friday, May 13, Saturday, May 14, and Sunday, May 15, 2022, 7:30 P.M.**

Tickets: \$0-\$25, pay what you can | [www.eventbrite.com/e/259669176497](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/259669176497)

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YENTA – a divine matchmaker from heaven above – is all about loving yourself *and thennn* somebody else! In her new talk show, she takes us on a cosmic ride, connecting spirituality and practical wisdom to help us navigate relationships of all kinds. Transforming CPR into a television studio for a live audience, YENTA will plunge into a different topic for each show, live-taped over the course of three evenings: "POLYAMORY & OPEN RELATIONSHIPS: Oy or a Joy?!"; "APPS!: The Who, What, Why & How of Connecting in the Digital Age"; and "FRIENDSHIP: It's Complicated!" *THE YENTA SHOW! LIVE from BROOKLYN!* will feature guest interviews, live coaching, big little teachings from Jewish mysticism, and of *cooourse* some schmoozing, to reveal what really makes love grow – trusting that deep down, we are all perfect.

**Open Studios: Curated by ryen heart**

**Friday, May 27, 2022, 7:30 P.M.**

Tickets: \$0-\$25, pay what you can | [www.eventbrite.com/e/259924961557](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/259924961557)

CPR – Center for Performance Research, 361 Manhattan Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11211; and live-streamed

2022 CPR Artist-in-Residence ryen heart has selected a group of artists to share their work, in an attempt to extend alchemical encounters out in the world through a curatorial process. These artists have expanded ryen's sense of what is possible through their work of cultivating unexpected, queer, transformative relations of care with objects, other humans, and the invisible world. Artists to be announced.

**Open Studios: Curated by Regine Pieters**

**Thursday, June 23, 2022, 7:30 P.M.**

Tickets: \$0-\$25, pay what you can | [www.eventbrite.com/e/259928301547](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/259928301547)

CPR – Center for Performance Research, 361 Manhattan Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11211; and live-streamed

CPR Programs Manager Regine Pieters brings together an eclectic group of artists with distinct backgrounds and movement practices to share works-in-progress, while cultivating a safe environment for feedback and digestion. Pieters is intrigued by interdisciplinary artists who push the boundaries of our lived experiences, and her curation is a

response to the needs of time, space, and resources of artists that she is in continuous conversation with. Artists to be announced.

## **RESIDENCY PROGRAMS**

### **2022 Artist-in-Residence Program January–December 2022**

CPR's year-long Artist-in-Residence (AiR) Program supports a wide range of artists working within various perspectives of contemporary dance and performance, and time-based forms. The program seeks to support the individualized creative process, and to create the conditions for artistic research, experimentation, risk, embodiment, and exchange. AiRs receive a stipend, heavily subsidized rehearsal space, production and curatorial support, and opportunities to share their work as part of CPR's programming. The 2022 AiRs are **Justin Cabrillos, Ayano Elson, Doménica García, ryen heart, Symara Johnson, Johnnie Cruise Mercer, Star Mitchell, Pioneers Go East Collective, Ogemdi Ude, and Jessie Young**. AiRs form a central part of CPR's public programs, which are largely informed by ideas and proposals from resident artists, and are designed to respond to artists' needs at various stages of research and artistic creation.

### **Technical Residency: Stuart B Meyers May 9–15, 2022 (closed to the public)**

CPR's Technical Residency addresses the lack of advanced technical support made available to NYC dance and performance artists, and offers a unique opportunity for one week of unrestricted access to its theater, production staff, and technical equipment to support the development of new work, in addition to a stipend. CPR welcomes **Stuart B Meyers** as the Spring 2022 Technical Resident. Stuart was a CPR 2020-21 Artist-in-Residence, engaging in embodied research on mysticism and tarot, as well as love and relationships, which fueled the development of YENTA – a divine matchmaker from heaven above. The residency will culminate in the three-night premiere engagement of *THE YENTA SHOW! LIVE from BROOKLYN!*, a talk-show style performance filmed live and presented by CPR on May 13–15, 2022 as part of the 2022 Spring Season. Over the course of the week-long residency, Stuart will realize the set and staging for YENTA's talk show, and will fully utilize CPR's new inventory of filming and live-streaming equipment to facilitate a multimedia television studio for a live studio audience.

## **ABOUT CPR – CENTER FOR PERFORMANCE RESEARCH**

**CPR – Center for Performance Research** is dedicated to supporting artists in the development of new work in contemporary dance and performance. CPR focuses its activities in three key areas: creative and professional development support; providing affordable space for artists; and public programming. Curated and open-call programs focus on providing artists with rehearsal, residency, and performance support, which generates time and space for research and dialogue, and creates opportunities to share work in a variety of contexts. CPR's Subsidized Space Rental Program helps to ensure that artists can access CPR's flexible studios and performance space at affordable rates to create and share their work. By presenting work to the public through performances, work-in-progress showings, salon-style discussions, exhibitions, and festivals, CPR exposes local audiences and its community to contemporary artistic practice and process. To learn more about CPR, please visit [www.cprnyc.org](http://www.cprnyc.org).

CPR is grateful for the support of its funders in making the 2022 Spring Season possible, which includes foundation support from **Dance/NYC's New York City Dance Rehearsal Space Subsidy Program made possible by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Emma A. Sheaffer Charitable Trust, The Harkness Foundation for Dance, Howard Gilman Foundation, and Mertz Gilmore Foundation**; government support from **National Endowment for**

**the Arts, New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature, and public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council;** and many generous individual donors and the CPR Board of Directors.

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Angela Schöpke Gonzalez: *Skeleton & Me* (2021), video still. Video by Matt Lima. Image courtesy Pioneers Go East Collective.