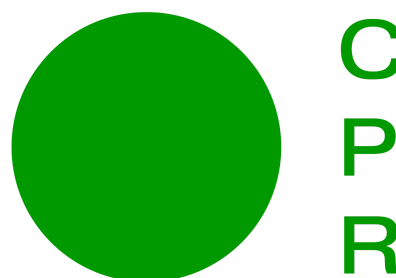


Open Studios: Curated by Tatyana Tenenbaum
with rebeca medina, Mor Mendel, and lisa nevada

Thursday, December 9, 2021 at 7:30 P.M.
CPR – Center for Performance Research
361 Manhattan Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11211
This program is also presented via live-stream



Open Studios is a series of work-in-progress showings which serve as an incubator for new work, and invites the public into the artistic process. Each installment is organized by guest curator, and culminates in a conversation with the artists and organizer, where audiences are invited and encouraged to share their feedback.

A note from curator **Tatyana Tenenbaum**:

"Mor, lisa and rebeca's works contain threads across many intersections, including lineage, intergenerational memory, healing our more-than-human-relations and geographical borders. Each offers a solo-in-process glimpse and an opportunity to participate in activating questions together, as a community. I am so glad that this program has been able to manifest, 2 years after initially planned! Thank you, CPR for your persistence and care."

PROGRAM

rebeca medina

Tangible Time

Sound Design by jean carla rodea featuring the voices of Asiya Wadud, Miriam Parker, rebeca medina, and Merche Blasco.

Revisiting an archive of choreographed movement and testing it in my postpartum body— a body that is not "in shape" in a familiar way. It feels vulnerable, but also necessary to ask the community to support through witnessing what it means to be a mother and mover.

I keep thinking about why I am feeling so drawn to dance choreography and visit archival movement. It's a request from my body. I can only see through the trembling of time. To return is to make room for life to let itself be affected by time and what continues to vibrate there.

Mor Mendel

Tell me what I need to know to understand you.

Poem: "Twigs" by Taha Muhammad Ali. Thank you Kate, Mimi and Hadar for your feedback and friendship. I edited my mother's voiceover speaking of a scene she loves. She didn't like it, she said she sounded incoherent. She sent me a new version which I didn't use. Apologies to my mother.

This is an improvisation, conversation, a passing thought in the form of dance centered around music, an old picture, a poem, and some slippery thoughts that lead me as I try to capture an understanding of a place, a past, and what it means to belong.

I move within subtle planes of love and memory and through a compilation of scored, choreographed and improvised moments. It is my hope to capture a dance that moves from the very personal essence to a collective being and that can offer a place of common ground between me, the audience, and everybody that shares this thing called life.

lisa nevada

skin of trees

skin of trees is an initiation of healing from the violence of loss –

loss of the missing, murdered, disappeared, and displaced.

loss and violent suppression of the feminine and the feminine energies that promote balance and care.

the loss of traditions and stories passed on to future generations.

the violence i carry in me projects back to you – a trait derived from inherited familial and societal violence. the violence of so-called “love” and invented ideologies of what love is supposed to mean, represent.

the list of loss and violence could go on in perpetuity. . .

skin of trees embodies these multiple cycles of violence and seeks respite and wisdom from trees, to carry me and you through – for they too have shared the unimaginable violence of loss.

layered with a series of vocal expressions while embodying trees projected on my body, *skin of trees* evokes a haunting sound and landscape, an urgent call to humankind for care: it is a cry to find home, to honor home, to bring them home. i am compelled to deepen my embodiment of the damage inflicted upon this earth, upon our bodies, and activate a path toward a restoration of our relationship to the land, within oneself, and with each other.

this offering is a time to go inward, to reflect, to restore our mama earth

immense gratitude and thanks to Ucross Foundation for providing time and support and the surrounding landscape to conceive and cultivate this new offering. skin of trees would not exist without the folks at Ucross, my fellow Residents, and the innumerable resources and conversations each imparted.

skin of trees is dedicated to my relations who gathered at MAQAHATINE in Tio'tia:ke [Montréal] and all the relatives working on the front lines to bring justice to the missing and murdered.

In lieu of a formal talkback, we are providing feedback cards and writing implements for you to share your reflections with the artists. Please stay and mingle afterwards, and also join lisa nevada for a burning of piñon resin outside CPR, on the corner of Manhattan Ave and Jackson St, following the program.

BIOGRAPHIES

rebeca medina. Improviser. Dancer. Choreographer. Craniosacral Therapist. Admirer of plants and disciple of their secrets. Interested in the magic of time and the power of community. Addicted to interdisciplinary collaborations. Curious about slow rhythms. Immigrant from Bogotá, Colombia. She has had the privilege of performing and collaborating with Agnes Borinsky, Dai Jian, Yoshiko Chuma and The School of Hard Knocks, Megan Byrne, Alex Zaccarello, Tatyana Tenenbaum, among others. She gave birth to her first child in July 2021.

Mor Mendel was born in Pittsburgh, but grew up in Israel. I am a movement based artist, choreographer, improviser, and teacher who always danced but never defined technique as part of my dance calling. My work focuses on human experiences and personal stories as a way of reflecting and telling a story. It's an interplay of dance, music, poetry, memories, and the ones we love. I am involved within the Dance for Parkinsons community and other diverse populations and feel grateful to have worked with many gifted artists. In 2018 I began my motherhood journey.

lisa nevada i am a naturalist, a dancemaker, collaborator & coconspirator, and educator. my encounters with humans and the more-than-human bolster my desire to create offerings of performance and education that are centered on gratitude and ignites kinship with mama earth. having spent most of my life in Nuevoméxico, i have spent the last several years following a migration route that has placed me in an area of Lenape territory that is more commonly known as Brooklyn, NY. my embodied research delves into sonic realms of lullaby and wailing in response to humanity's active destruction of psyche and home. a month-long residency in May 2021 at Ucross Foundation instigated a series of new offerings and have become the thrust of my research. the current series in development is for soil, plants and trees. lisanevada.com

Tatyana Tenenbaum is a choreographer, composer, organizer, and slow-simmering filmmaker. Her work employs breath, voice, fascia, and musculature to excavate spaces of memory, power, and transformation. Most recently she was a co-recipient of the 2021 New Jewish Culture Fellowship, in collaboration with Hadar Ahuvia. She will be a 2022 Artist-in-Residence at ISSUE Project Room, creating a solo voice/body conversation with her paternal grandmother, Selma. She is grateful to Mor, lisa and rebecca; and to be in an evolving relationship with CPR since its early days.

Open Studios at CPR - Center for Performance Research is directly supported by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, and New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature. CPR's public programs are additionally supported by Dance/NYC's Rehearsal Space Subsidy Program made possible by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, The Harkness Foundation for Dance, Howard Gilman Foundation, Mertz Gilmore Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, CPR's Board of Directors, and generous individual donors.

Up next at CPR:

Saturday, December 11 at 2-5 P.M.

Workshop: How Do I Become WE with Parijat Desai

In-person and open to dancers

Sunday, December 19 at 3:30-7:30 P.M.

Creating/Conjuring/Covenant: A Convergence of Raucous Embodiments by/for BIQTPOC Qwitches with Estrellx and mayfield brooks

In-person and by invitation only

For more information about CPR's programs, including our Subsidized Space Rental Program for rehearsals, classes, performances, film production, and more,

Visit www.cprnyc.org

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