

New Dance Alliance's 26th Annual Performance Mix Festival 2012

Artists' Biographies and Work Descriptions

TUESDAY, MARCH 13 | USA

Karen Bernard (USA)

In *Ouette* Karen Bernard uses a laptop and projector to create different spaces evoking imagined and real experiences. With video footage of floor tiles, patterned fabrics and human silhouettes, Bernard creates a heightened film noir that is quickly fractured by the non-performative technical tasks of manipulating a lap top and projector. Loosely based on François Ozon movie *Swimming Pool*, Bernard's character parallels the story's protagonist, an elderly English novelist who becomes involved in a dangerous sexual fantasy that is part her fiction and part her desire. Karen Bernard is a solo dance and performance artist. She began studying dance at age three with her father, Steven Bernard, a company member with 20th century pioneer, Charles Weidman. She grew up in a household, which incorporated her father's dance school with students crossing through the family space. Performance art has therefore been deeply engrained throughout her life. As an artist and the Founder and Director of New Dance Alliance (NDA), she performs, teaches, lectures and serves on advisory panels across the U.S., Canada and Europe. This cross-pollination strengthens an ongoing social dialogue among international artists, one that exemplifies her lifelong commitment to performance. That commitment is fully brought to life in NDA's justly-renowned Performance Mix Festival, now in its 26th year. Bernard's solo work has been presented at Performance Space 122, The Kitchen, Dance Theater Workshop (now New York Live Arts), Danspace at St. Mark's Church, Brooklyn Arts Exchange, Movement Research at Judson Church, Dixon Place, HERE Arts Center, and DIA Center for the Arts (now Joyce SoHo) in New York City, as well as several festivals including Festival of New Dance (St. John's Newfoundland), Rhubarb Festival and Hysteria (Toronto) and Women in Transition (Vienna). Her work as received support through residencies at the Bogliasco Foundation (Genoa), Wassard Elea (Ascea), Earthdance (Massachusetts) and DanceNOW's Silo (Pennsylvania). She has been awarded grants from NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, Electronic Media and Film (AKA Experimental Television Center) Presentation Funds grant program, administered by The ARTS Council of the Southern Finger Lakes and Meet the Composer. She was a Movement Research Resident Artist, serves on the Board of Earthdance, and facilitates Fieldwork, creative process feedback sessions for The Field.

Shannon Gillen (USA)

BOTLEK, a work-in-progress, is an in depth, physical analysis of the international shipping industry. Fascinated by the scale and complexity of maritime trade this project delves into the idea of shared boundaries, geometric stacks, unpredictable events in isolated conditions, skilled and unskilled labor, identity and trade. Artistic Director of Shannon Gillen & Guests (SGG), received her BFA from The Juilliard School, where she was mentored by Martha Clarke and Pat Catterson. Her choreographic works have been presented by Alice Tully Hall, the Clark Studio Theater, Dance New Amsterdam, HERE Arts Center, with Movement Research at Judson Church, the Ontological-Hysteric Theater, at Joyce SoHo as part of its season and as a finalist in the *The A.W.A.R.D. Show!*, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council's Sitalines Series as part of NYC's River to River Festival, the Wave Rising Festival, INDEX Festival, Reverb 2010, Dance Conversations at the Flea Theater, The University of Hartford, and PULSE Art Fair as part of Art Basel. She has held residency with Festival Oltre Passo in Lecce, Italy, Fresh Tracks at Dance Theater Workshop, as an Artist in Residence with DNA, with LMCC's Swing Space, and as a MADAIR at the Stella Adler School of Acting. SGG's latest work 'CLAP FOR THE WOLFMAN' premiered at St. Mark's Church in May in association with the Incubator Arts Project before going on to tour to Canada. While in Montreal, Shannon was invited to perform at the Bain St.

Michel as part of the 'Piss in the Pool' series and returned to Springboard Dance Festival to create an original work that premiered at Usine C. She currently teaches at Dance New Amsterdam and was awarded a Dean Fellowship to pursue her graduate studies at NYU Tisch.

Daniel Linehan (USA/Belgium)

Daniel Linehan's solo, *Way Past Tense*, is part of an ongoing process in which he forces himself to think outside of what he is doing, while he is doing it. The piece proposes "impro-graphed" or "choreo-vised" tasks which allow for the simultaneous co-existence of the strictest choreography along with the most open improvisation. This incarnation of *Way Past Tense* might also be titled: "(failed) attempts at thinking outside inside the structure." Linehan previously worked as a dancer and choreographer in New York before moving to Brussels in 2008. In Brussels he completed the Research Cycle at P.A.R.T.S and as a performer; Linehan has worked with Miguel Gutierrez and Big Art Group, among other artists. He has collaborated with Michael Helland on multiple duet projects, which have been presented in New York, Philadelphia, and Montréal and was also a Movement Research Artist-in-Residence from 2007-2008. Linehan's choreographic work intension is to softly obscure the line that separates dance from everything else. His choreography has been presented at numerous venues and festivals in New York (Dance Theater Workshop, the Kitchen), Paris (Rencontres chorégraphiques internationales de Seine-Saint-Denis), Brussels/Lille (Latitudes contemporaines), Antwerp (deSingel), Ghent (Vooruit), Berlin (Tanz im August), Vienna (ImPulsTanz), London (Sadler's Wells), Amsterdam (Julidans), and elsewhere. *Not About Everything* and *Montage for Three* (his duet project with Salka Ardal Rosengren) were presented in the season of the Théâtre de la Bastille in Paris in February 2010. His latest project *Zombie Aporia*, premiered at Vooruit in Ghent in March 2011.

TUESDAY, MARCH 13 | Quebec

Dana Michel/Band of Bless (Montreal)

1976 (excerpt) is a character-shifting solo that traces a glimpse of Michel's personal evolution thus far. Heading heart and muscle first into a hyper-personal performance state, Michel peels away the layers of her desired femininity and perceived masculinity to reveal her human truths. Michel is a choreographer and performance artist based in Montreal, Canada. Before entering the world of contemporary dance in her late twenties, she was a competitive runner and football player. Her work has toured through North America (Montreal, Quebec, Toronto, Ottawa, Boston, Salt Lake City and New York) and Europe (Serbia & Switzerland) over the past five years. Michel's work has garnered numerous awards including the Montreal Fringe Festival "Best Dance Production" in 2005, the Globe and Mail's "Best Emerging Choreographer" in 2006, and the "Top Ten Choreographers" listed by the Montreal Mirror newspaper in 2008 and 2009. Most recently, the film version of her solo the *Greater the Weight* won the jury prize for the best performance at the In Shadow International Festival of Video, Performance and Technologies in Lisbon. "Michel... is a killer soloist who tackles the warped, frenetic and fierce rhythms of her piece with precision and fiery authority..." (InfiniteBody, 2007).

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14 | USA

Kiyoko Kashiwagi (USA/Japan)

Life of A Mosquito is a satirical tragicomic anime dance which depicts the circle of life of an ordinary mosquito. Choreographer Kiyoko Kashiwagi created this piece as a response to the earthquake, tsunami, and the nuclear disaster in Japan. Kiyoko Kashiwagi began her dance training at the age of five in Japan. In NYC, she received a scholarship from the Merce Cunningham Dance Studio, learned dance composition from Doris Rudko, and performed for Karole Armitage, David Salle, Ellen

Cornfield, Yoshiko Chuma, Maureen Fleming, and others. In 1997, she founded Anime Dance Theater, and her original choreographic works have been presented by various venues such as HERE Arts Center, The Chocolate Factory, LaGuardia Performing Arts Center, Dixon Place, Children's Museum of Manhattan, and Queens Museum of Art. She has been funded by the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs and Greater NY Arts Development Fund. She is also a founding member of Ex.Pgirl, a physical theater group, which participated in the HERE-Artist-Residency-Program (HARP), and has received grants from New York State Council on the Arts and Franklin Furnace Fund for Performing Art.

Johanna S. Meyer (USA)

Johanna S. Meyer performs her newest dance/performance, *Two Fs D*, a lecture that navigates shimmying showgirls, mythical beasts, and a geocentric view of a very large river. This piece is inspired by Jen Bervin's installation *The River*, a one inch scale of the Mississippi River, from source to mouth, hand sewn in sequins. Meyer captures the sexiness, humor, and danger of the submerged elegance of this immense and overwhelming power of water. Meyer has been performing and choreographing in NYC since 1991. She has collaborated with Alexandra Hartmann making over ten original dance pieces and has made two evening length shows. She has choreographed for experimental theater artists and has worked on a Marie Losier's *Scopitone* and *Carmelita Tropicana's Ole*. She has performed with Nami Yamamoto, Karen Sherman, Alejandra Martorell, Tory Vazquez, Ken Nintzel, Nina Martin and Richard Maxwell. She is currently in graduate school for choreography and teaching at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign.

WaxFactory (USA and beyond)

WaxFactory's film, *416 MINUTES*, features a collaboration with artists from Japan, Eastern Europe, and the United States, inspired by the imagination of Haruki Murakami. In the company's signature multidisciplinary style, this unsettling new work shadows an actress whose escape from a film studio sets her on a trail of chance encounters during the hours of the night when things take on a particularly eerie glow. WaxFactory is an international group of artists dedicated to exploring a multiplicity of theatrical visions. Since its formation in 1998, WaxFactory has emerged as one of the most internationally active multidisciplinary groups to emerge from the New York downtown scene, creating new performance, installation, film and video works featuring a highly innovative blend of physical performance, audio-visual, architectural and fashion design, and an integrated use of the new media and technology. In addition to site-specific works created for a variety of unconventional locations, they have recently presented their work at such renowned international venues and festivals such as the ICA/Institute of Contemporary Arts (London, UK), the Gulbenkian Museum (Lisbon, Portugal), SommerSzene (Salzburg, Austria), OLTRE90 (Milan, Italy), MESS (Sarajevo, Bosnia), Exodos Festival, Ex Ponto Festival and Cankarjev dom (Ljubljana, Slovenia), and Karantena Festival, Zadar Snova, Split Summer Festival and ITD Theatre in Croatia, among others.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14 | Poland NOW

Florentina Holzinger (Amsterdam/Vienna) and Marta Ziolk (Warsaw/Amsterdam)

White is the second part of a trilogy that Marta Ziolk and Florentina Holzinger started two years ago with the creation and performance of *Pink*. *White* continues their previous exchange drawing from their particular encounter and shared fascinations. *White* investigates the "rough and imperfect pearl." A pearl is a hard object produced within soft tissue.

Florence Holzinger

Florence Holzinger studied architecture in Vienna, Austria. She trained in dance and performance in Vienna and worked with the theater company, Kopergieterey, in Ghent, Belgium before she moved to Amsterdam to study choreography at the School for New Dance Development (SNDO) at the Amsterdamse Hogeschool voor de Kunsten. She received education in composition, dance and choreography with Deborah Hay, Robert Steijn, La Ribot, Benoit Lachambre amongst others and received the Dance web Europe Scholarship in 2008 and 2010 at Impulstanz Vienna. She has been working as a performer for artists like Deborah Hay, Rob List, Ann Liv Young and currently Jeremy Wade. Her work has been produced by the Kc Nona, in Mechelen, Belgium and she received residencies at Impulstanz Vienna, Frascati Amsterdam and Workspace Brussels. She presents her work in the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany and Austria. Her latest work *Kein Applaus fuer Scheisse* is currently touring international venues in Amsterdam, Brussels, Genth, Vienna, Utrecht, Berlin and Oostende and is presented at performance festivals around Europe.

Marta Ziólek

Marta Ziólek studied Interdepartmental Individual Studies in the Humanities (Collegium MISH) at Warsaw University before she came to Amsterdam as a student of the choreography programme at the School for New Dance Development(SNDO) in the Amsterdamse Hogeschool voor de Kunsten. She has participated in projects and workshops with Deborah Hay, Robert Steijn, Maria La Ribot, Felix Ruckert, and Juylien Hamilton amongst others. She received the Dancweb Scholarship 2011. She is performing her work internationally and has been invited to festivals such as the *Korean Experimental Arts Festival (K.E.A.F)*, the performance festival, Diverse Universe IV in Estonia, Inter-auto-prese-turbance-docu-formativity-Live Art in Helsinki, the Theatre Institute in Warsaw, Springdance Festival in Utrecht and the Lucky Trimmer Festival in Berlin.

Karol Tyminski (Warsaw)

Crete for C, inspired by *The Wind Up Bird Chronicles* by Haruki Murakami was created as an exploration of a body language as a communicator. The performer is telling a story of the a character called Crete. What is the meaning hidden behind the complexity of the form? Karol Tyminski is a Warsaw, Poland based dancer and choreographer and member of Universal Law of Impermanence dance collective (U/LOI). He graduated from Performing Arts Research and Training Studios (P.A.R.T.S.) in Brussels, Belgium and Warsaw Ballet School. Tyminski performed in works created by various artists, including Nigel Charnock, Liat Magnezy, Jennifer Lacy, Kaya Kolodziejczyk, Agneja Seiko, and Joe Alter. He also collaborated with Vincent Dunoyer. While being in New York City he had a chance to become an understudy for Bill T. Jones/ Arnie Zane Dance Company. During his career Tyminski has performed in New York City, San Diego, United Kingdom, Poland, Lithuania, Czech Republic, Holland, Germany, Belgium and others. Tyminski has created his own dance pieces presented in various venues in Poland and abroad (ex. *Orlando, 4:04, Crete for C*). His new creation *Doll House* is soon to be premiered at the 10th C/U International Dance Festival in Warsaw. Tyminski has been awarded The European Committee Scholarship, The President's of The Radom City Fund, Solo Project Residency and Alternative Academy Scholarship.

THURSDAY, MARCH 15 | USA

Nicole Bindler (USA)

Nicole Bindler will perform *What if I Think Not*, created during a Deborah Hay residency. "*What if I think Not* is not about the repression of thought but rather about the expansion and perseverance of the dancer's sensibilities?" –Deborah Hay. Nicole Bindler, a Philadelphia based artist, has

performed in the work of Linda Diamond, Brenda Divelbliss, Jennifer Hicks, Debra Bluth, Ju-Yeon Ryu, Leah Stein, PIMA Group, Willi Dorner, Katsura Kan, among others. Her work has been shown throughout the U.S., Canada, Argentina, Berlin, Tokyo, Beirut and Quito, Ecuador. She has been presented by High Zero Festival, Transmodern Age Festival, Shawinigan Street Theater Festival, Philadelphia Live Arts Festival, D.C. Improvisation Festival, Fireside Festival, nEW Festival, X Fest, Bowerbird, CEC New Edge Mix, First Person Arts, Philadelphia International Festival of the Arts and Irtijal09'. Her work has been supported by Philadelphia Dance Projects, Foundation for Contemporary Arts and Dance Advance. Her piece *I made this for you*, created, in collaboration with Gabrielle Revlock, was a 2011 finalist for the A.W.A.R.D. Show! Bindler holds a BA in Dance and Poetry from Hampshire College, a degree in Muscular Therapy from the Muscular Therapy Institute and a certificate in Embodied Anatomy Yoga from the International Contact Festival Freiburg in Germany.

Krista DeNio (USA)

Derived out of the Sally: M.I.A. trilogy, (a solo series about the first female automate, written & performed by DeNio, over three years), *Edith & Me* follows Sally's re-integration back into *human life*. Triggered into intensely visual & physical memories, through the music of Edith Piaf, Sally (or the woman named Sally, by the system) finds herself a conduit, by moments a seer, generating dynamic glimpses into the intimate details of this woman's/ these women's lives. Whose memories are whose? Moving her body, at times in trance-like vision, she attempts to recognize who is coming through. Krista DeNio is an interdisciplinary artist: choreographer, direct, performer, writer; educator and arts administrator. She has performed and produced dance and theater work in San Francisco, New York City, New Mexico, Colorado, Western Massachusetts, and internationally. From aerial dance to clown work, post-modern dance to interview-based theater projects. She is committed to constantly evolving the work she presents. DeNio is devoted to making work that engages communities, large and small regarding issues of social justice, and the contemporary human experience. She is currently the Executive and Artistic Director of Earthdance, where she dovetails her artistic inquiry with social justice engagement, through commitment to a more sustainable world.

Eliza Ladd (USA)

on est dishabille, a comedy about death is a feast of human spirit as we travel with a woman and her stick. Fragile and ferocious, she is part warrior, part creature, and part housewife. Her adventure thrives in the territory and composition of language, sound and body. Born out of Rock-and-Roll and teetering toward clown, this solo performance theater spawns utter delight. Eliza Ladd is a performer, composer, writer, director, and theater teacher from New York City. She holds an MFA in Theater: Contemporary Performance from Naropa University and a BA in Comparative Religion from Harvard University. Ladd has performed original work in NYC at PS122, Dixon Place, Dia Downtown, Movement Research, Joyce SoHo, the Kitchen, and at the Knitting Factory. Most recently Ladd performed a version of *on est déshabillé* in the United Solo Theater Festival, in Karen O's *Stop the Virgins* at St. Ann's Warehouse, and in *Big Exit*, an ongoing collaboration with Sara Zimmerman. Following a great run at the Berkshire Fringe Festival, Ladd's musical play, *Elephants and Gold*, is in further development for a New York City premiere. Ladd is thankful for a Puffin Foundation grant in support of her *Live Sound Action* theater training, and to have participated in the E | Merge Residency at Earthdance, as well as the Field's EAR residency.

THURSDAY, MARCH 15 | Quebec (See Tuesday, March 13)

Dana Michel (Montreal)

FRIDAY, MARCH 16 | USA

Luciana achugar (USA)

FEEL...FORM presents dance as a celebration of experience, and pleasure as the consummation of experience. With award-winning collaborators **Michael Mahalchick** (sound design) and **Carrie Wood** (lighting design), a quartet of women engage achugar's signature durational phrasing, multiplying the dancers' movements to create an organic form reflecting both rigorous formalism and corporeal excess. Luciana achugar is a Brooklyn based choreographer originally from Montevideo, Uruguay. In 1995, she graduated from CalArts and has been in NY since. She began her career as a choreographer collaborating with Levi Gonzalez, and went on to continue her own from 2002. She has been presented by most downtown dance venues in NYC, as well as, as the Walker Art Center, the Southern Theater in Minneapolis, PICA's Time-Based Art Festival for "Catch" in Portland, and extensively in Montevideo. achugar is a two-time Bessie Award recipient for her latest work *PURO DESEO* (2010) and for her first full-evening length show *Exhausting Love at Danspace Project* (2006). She was one of Dance Magazine's 2011 "25 to Watch". In 2009 she received a LMCC President's Liberty Award, and in 2008 she accepted a BAX "Passing it on" Award from Tere O'Connor. *FEEL...FORM* will premiere at Abrons Arts Center in May, as a co-presentation with The Chocolate Factory.

Rebecca Patek (USA)

Untitled 2b, an exploration/examination of the interior/exterior (inferior/superior?) structural systems, systemic symbols, signs and psychological subtext: the methods by which we sequence and separate forms to create a shared perception of reality. Rebecca Patek creates performance that is a synthesis of dance, theater and comedy. Currently she is a 2011 Movement Research Artist in Residence. She was a 2010-11 Artist in Residence at Dance Theater Workshop as part of the Fresh Tracks Performance and Residency Program. Beginning her artistic life training in classical ballet at the North Carolina School of the Arts, she moved on to receive her BFA degree with honors in Dance from The University of the Arts, Philadelphia. Her work has been presented at Dance Theater Workshop, Joyce SoHo, Movement Research at Judson Church, Dixon Place, Mulberry St. Theatre, The Tank, Aunts, Triskelion Arts, The LoFt, 14 Karat Cabaret, Studio 34, Fidget, The Overture Center (Madison WI), Brickyard Pond (NH), and Nexus Foundation for Today's Art, among others. In 2008 she worked with Master Artist Susan Marshall as Associate Artist in Residence at the Atlantic Center for the Arts. Patek's film collaboration, *The Princess* and *The Vagicorn*, was shown as part of Philadelphia Dance Project's Motion Pictures 2009. She has collaborated with performers in Denmark in Live Arts Installations and Half Machine, and performed for numerous artists and choreographers including Katsura Kan, Tania Isaac, Bill T Jones, Laura Peterson, and Brigitta Herrmann. Marshall as Associate Artist in Residence at Atlantic Center for the Arts. Patek's film collaboration, *The Princess* and *The Vagicorn*, was shown at Philadelphia Dance Project's Motion Pictures 2009.

Nami Yamamoto, (USA)

no repetition for the last episode (a working title) is a very beginning of a full evening length dance/puppet piece, *ordinary people* (a working title), which investigates sincerity in a playful mind. Originally from Matsuyama, Japan, graduated from New York University in 1993 with a MA in Dance Education. Since then her work has been presented in New York and elsewhere. Her work has been funded by Puffin Foundation, Creative Capital, Manhattan Community Arts Fund from Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, Jim Henson Foundation, and Suitcase Fund from Dance Theater Workshop. She has been nurtured and inspired by her residency experience at Asian Pacific Performance Exchange in UCLA, Djerassi Resident Artists Program, Movement Research, Dance Wave in Matsuyama Japan, Brooklyn Arts Exchange, Summer Theater Lab in UC Santa Barbara and

Maggie Allesee National Center for Choreography. For her own work, she has received a commission from The Wooden Floor (formerly known as Saint Joseph Ballet) and choreographed two original pieces for more than 50 young dancers from age 10-18. In 2010, she also choreographed an original piece for BAXco, a teen company at Brooklyn Arts Exchange. She is very happy to come back to Performing Mix for 2011-2012 season after spending a wonderful motherhood time with her two year old daughter, Momiji.

FRIDAY, MARCH 16 | Poland NOW (see Wednesday March 14)

Florence Holzinger (Amsterdam)

Karol Tyminski (Warsaw)

Marta Ziolk (Warsaw/Amsterdam)

SATURDAY, MARCH 17 | USA

Davina Cohen and Deborah Black (USA)

I'd Rather See My Daughter Dead than on the Stage demonstrates two women's lives in a world full of garbage, lingerie, nuclear weapons, and champagne. The world explodes. Isadora Duncan rises from the ashes.

Deborah Black

Deborah Black grew up in rural Western Pennsylvania. She received a BFA in dance from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts with a second major in Art History, and commissioned two solos from Deborah Hay -*The Runner* (2007) and *I'll Crane for You* (2008). She has collaborated with Kinderenvandevilla, Margot Bassett, Karl Cronin, Genevieve Beth Grady, Christianne Hommelsheim, Sasha Welsh, and has danced for Diana Crum, Fitzgerald and Stapleton, Naomi Goldberg-Haas, Anneke Hansen, Susan Rethorst, and Peter Sciscioli. Black, with Karl Cronin, received funding from the Jerome Foundation in 2010 to travel to Childress, TX to research the town, the people, and its landscape. She studies the Alexander Technique with June Ekman and has trained with the SITI Company.

Davina Cohen

Davina Cohen is a theater artist who makes dances, plays, music, and films. Credits include: Nick Brooke/The Cabinet, Target Margin, Women's Project, foolsFURY, Berkeley Rep, San Francisco Opera, New Dramatists, Playwrights Foundation, Blessed Unrest, Magic Theatre, Shotgun Players, NY Clown Theater Fest, The South Wing, and HERE Arts. She is a SITI Company student and has been extended ensemble member since 2004. Cohen's original work and adaptation of Deborah Hay's *I'll Crane For You* have been supported by and presented at Dixon Place, Movement Research, Philadelphia nEW Dance Festival, FURY Factory, Earthdance, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, the Pop-Up Museum of Queer History, and Tiny Dangerous Fun!. Collaborators include: "Pistol" Pete Sturman, Sophia Remolde, Taylor Mac, Enrique Urueta, Hillary Charnas, and Leaf Tine. Cohen works directs candidates at the MFA program at Columbia University to develop their work. She has taught and assisted workshops at the Atlantic Theater Conservatory, Solano College's Actor Training Program, Pacific Union College, the Western Massachusetts Moving Arts Festival, and American Opera Projects. Cohen was awarded an E | Merge Residency at Earthdance in 2010 and 2011.

Bobbi Williams (AKA Smokifantastic) (USA)

In *The Divine Masculine* Smokifantastic is Bingo, a personal coach, activist and adventure helps you to connect and celebrate your divine macheezemo. Bobbi Williams is an interdisciplinary artist, educator and visionary. Williams holds a Master in Fine Arts in Playwriting and acting from Carnegie Mellon University and Moscow Art Theater School. In 2011, William's short films, "Fantastica" and "Grace," appeared in the (light works) Film festival at Grimsby minister in England. Williams performed her solo show "Fantastica" live with the beat cabaret in Pittsburgh, PA in 2010. Williams' short film "Fantastica" also appeared in the 2-minute film festival at the Carnegie Museum of Art and was presented as a performance art piece at The Pittsburgh Center for Dance and World Cultures. In 2009, Bobbi's film, "Breathing with you" was featured in the Arizone Festival in Milan Italy. In 2007, Williams directed *Le jazz Hot (The Life of Josephine Baker)* which premièred at The Apollo Theater. Williams also directed the green Circus NYC from 2002-2006.

Valerie Striar (USA)

Dance, photography and video are used to assist Valerie Striar in the developing work, *Marguerite and Robert, part 1*. A government interrogatory suggesting anti-American sentiment in 1949 leads to a poetic conversation between mother and daughter. The music of Zoe Keating creates a moving landscape and a photojournalist, master of faces, slowly loosing hold on reality to dementia... Striar creates solo and group dance/theater and film works that have been presented in the United States, Canada, Germany and Italy. In New York, her creations have been seen at the Wax Performing Space, Judson Church, Danspace Project at St. Marks Church, the Kitchen, the Dia Center, Joyce SoHo, Dixon Place, the Ohio Theater, The Vineyard Theater and Anthology Film Archives. Her work, "Cosimo", inspired by Italo Calvino's, *The Baron in the Trees* was produced by La Mama, E.T.C. and HERE. She is a New York Foundation for the Arts Fellow. Most recently she danced in the film *Romance and Cigarettes* directed by John Turturro. Her newest and sweetest performance to date is a puppet performance of Jenny and the Cat Club which she created with her daughter, Aria. This was performed at the Community Bookstore in Park Slope, June 2011. Striar presented new poetry and a viewing of her film, *The Bird Queen*, at The Shed in Dec. 2011. She lives in Brooklyn with her husband Walter and their daughter Aria.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17 | Quebec

Marie Brassard (Montreal) and Sarah Williams (Montreal)

A collaborative new creation, *Moving in this World* is a solo for Sarah Williams under the direction of Marie Brassard. *Moving in this World* is inspired by the observation of people whose minds are altered by ritualistic trance or drugs. The drugged person keeps moving into an internal vision yet we, on the outside, see only the unusual movements of a vessel that has been temporarily discarded by the mind.

Marie Brassard

Marie Brassard is an actress, a writer and a director. For many years, her professional endeavors were closely linked with Robert Lepage, with whom she participated along with other artists in the creation of several plays and films. In 2001, she created her first solo production, *Jimmy*, within the framework of the Festival de Théâtre des Amériques. Since then, she has produced other works – *The Darkness*, *Peepshow*, *The Glass Eye*, *The Invisible* and *Me Talking to Myself in the Future* - in which she has continued to explore the many ways with which sound can be manipulated in theater. By interlacing voices and music and traversing the planes of reality, she leads us to a world where the

boundaries between public and private dissolve and the relationship between human beings and technology becomes intimate. Her unique work performed both in English and in French, has received widespread acclaim in many cities across America, Europe and Australia.

Sarah Williams

Sarah Williams trained in contemporary dance and ballet at private studios in Vancouver. She augmented this learning with workshops in the US and across Canada. After dancing for several leading choreographers and companies in Vancouver, Williams moved to Montreal to join La La La Human Steps. Since then we have seen her on stage and in film, performing in the works of prominent directors and choreographers like Robert Lepage, Jean-Pierre Perreault and Léa Pool. Williams has been a guest artist in Halifax, back in Vancouver with The Holy Body Tattoo and recently in Montreal with George Stamos and Louise Bédard Danse. She has collaborated with Welsh performance artist Eddie Ladd, with photographer Cylla Von Tiedemann and with peripatetic artist Don Gill on *The New Flâneurs* exhibit. Williams has also choreographed for performance and video, (frequently collaborating with musician/composer Jackie Gallant). On three separate occasions Williams has commissioned, co-produced and performed full evenings of work.

SUNDAY, MARCH 18 | New York, New York

Karen Bernard (see Tuesday March 13)

Janna A. Zinzi/AKA jazabel jade

Fall In Love: Die to Be Reborn is set to the music of Erykah Badu and inspired by the Inuit story of the "Skeleton Woman," jaz explores our fear and resistance to love, the barriers we place around our heart, and love's capacity to transform and ultimately free ourselves. Janna A. Zinzi became jazabel jade after studying "goddess burlesque" with Howlin' Vic (Victoria Libertore) in 2010. Further studies include New York School of Burlesque and the Brown Girls Burlesque "Broad Squad Institute." Zinzi is currently a troupe member of Brown Girls Burlesque and has performed at the Burlesque Hall of Fame in Las Vegas, in Miami, and various venues in New York City. Zinzi began studying dance at the age of three, learning tap, ballet, jazz and acrobatics. As a freshman at the University of Delaware, she joined the Dark Arts Performing Dance Company and remained a core member for four years. There she learned and choreographed West African, hip-hop, modern, jazz and Latin styles, and performed with the troupe throughout the northeast. Upon returning to New York City after graduate school, Zinzi studied Haitian and Congolese, dancing for a year with the FUSHA Congolese Dance Company.

The Reverend Raymond Nader

The Reverend Raymond Nader has singlehandedly converted the Bible Belt into Bible Cowboy Boots and Bible Leather Pants. His podcast called "Wake Up & Sin" is the most downloaded podcast on The Godcast Network, with over 50 trillion daily downloads. He has been profiled on *America's Most Wanted* and *To Catch a Predator with Chris Hansen*, and his YouTube series "How To Repent for This Sin or That" has garnered over a gazillion hits with an unwavering five-star rating. All of his sermons are improvised, inspired by audience suggestion. The Reverend Raymond Nader is managed by Ben Hauck.