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REVIEW: PERFORMANCE MIX FESTIVAL 2018



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Photo by Kathryn Butler

Elena Rose Light

Still Looking and Listening for Life

New Dance Alliance presents its 32nd Performance Mix Festival at University Settlement

By [QUINN BATSON](#)
Offoffoff.com

New Dance Alliance just put on their 32nd Annual Performance Mix Festival, and it's as mixed as ever. Two of three pieces were well-conceived and well-performed, and the others gained performing experience.

Gabrielle Revlock keeps refining and expanding a version of her hula-hoop solo/masterclass, and it keeps getting better. *Performance of a Feminine Object* manages to keep tension high to the end, and it keeps audience guessing and gasping. Giggles are a big part, too.

The tabbed books that she pulls off her head to read snippets, whether printed or improvised, are a favorite bit. It's hard to describe the full range of her shenanigans, but the headwear bit

PERFORMANCE MIX FESTIVAL 2018

Choreography by: **many**.
Produced by: **Karen Bernard**.
Lighting design by: **Brian Aldous**.
Production stage manager: **Mersiha Mesihovic**.
Sound/video operator: **Emma Rivera**.

SCHEDULE

University Settlement
June 7-10, 2018

- Brian Brooks
- Brian Brooks Moving Company 2012
- Bryn Cohn: Skin
- Burr Johnson
- Chavasse Dance and Performance
- Chris Schlichting: Stripetease
- Christina Noel and the Creature
- Chunky Move: Faker
- Chunky Move: Mortal Engine
- Cool NY 2011
- Cool NY 2012
- Current Sessions: 03Savings
- The Current Sessions: Volume 1
- Da-on Dance: Thirst
- Dance Apocalypse: Solos
- Dance Gallery 2013
- Dance Gallery 2015
- Dance Gallery Festival
- Dance Gallery Festival 2012
- Dance Now 2015
- Dance Sampler 2
- DanceNow 2011
- DanceNow 2011 Two
- Dancenow 2012
- DanceNow 2013
- DanceNow 2014
- DanceNow 2016
- DanceNow 2017
- Daniel Gwirtzman: The Oracle
- DaOn Dance: Root
- David Appel and Daniela Hoff: Take Root
- The Dinner Party: A Whodunnit Cabaret
- Donnell Oakley: Sure
- DorothyAnnieMaria
- Doug Varone and Dancers 2017
- Dumbo Dance 2010
- Dumbo Dance 2011
- Dumbo Dance Festival 2012
- Faye Driscoll: Thank You for Coming
- Faye Driscoll: There is so much mad in me
- Faye Driscoll: You r Me
- Festival Twenty Ten
- Festival Twenty Ten Too
- FLICfest 2012
- FLICfest 2013
- Fresh Tracks 2010
- Fresh Tracks 2011
- Gallim: Sit, Kneel, Stand
- Gerald Casel: Fluster and Plot

brings "madcap" to mind.

Victoria Libertore has also really honed her skills; *I Want to Die One Day After You* is masterful. It is storytelling plus; a solo play; or any description that means "moving and effective performance". She uses music well, too; Leonard Cohen and George and Ira Gershwin are good choices for a love story that began several generations ago.



Photo by Kathryn Butler

Gabrielle Revlock

performance, and the tape he puts on the rear wall may or may not relate to the tape on his face.

Solo for Two has Sarah Chien and Emily Faulkner dancing really well, together or, more often, solo, with improvised but intentional music/sound choices run by an onstage computer they take turns controlling. Chien especially is a pleasure to watch, with full, fluid-and-chunky movements.

Igloo has some beautifully fluid b-boy/floorwork dancing, especially in an opening solo by Sarah Bauer, Chelsea Hecht or Nikki King. Nicholas Rodrigues gets choreographer credit, and Jonathan Rodrigues and Alex Tenreiro Theis complete the cast. The "storyline" is a little obvious, but the dancing and ensemble work are solid.

Christopher Unpezverde Núñez performs *The sun set twice on the same day* in an odd mask of tape, part of a significant subset of Performance Mix performers who keep their face hidden or masked. Here the mask goes with an intriguing

- Gotham Dance Sampler 1
- Green Space: Take Root
- Gwen Gussman: Nourishment
- HATCHed WAX: two to view
- Heather Olson: Shy Showoff
- Hilary Easton: The Constructors
- Hurricane Party
- Hyperbolic!
- Jeanine Durning: To Being
- Jenni Hong: Mach.com
- Jody Oberfelder: The Soldier's Tale
- John Jasperse: Canyon
- Jonah Bokaer: Rules of the Game
- Jonathan Pratt
- Julian Barnett: Sound Memory
- Julie Bour: Why Now?
- Katie Workum: Black Lakes
- Katie Workum: Fruitlands
- Katie Workum: Herkimer Diamonds
- Katy Orthwein and Aaron McGloin
- Keigwin and Wolcott: Places Please
- Keigwin+Company 2012
- kerPlunk and Friends
- Kidd Pivot: Dark Matters
- Kota Yamazaki: Rays of Space
- Kyle Abraham: Heartbreaks and Homies
- Larry Keigwin: Exit
- Lincoln Center Kenan Fellows
- Imno3:BANGS
- Lucy Guerin: Structure and Sadness
- Lucy Guerin: Untrained
- Magda and Chelsea: The Vulgar Early Works
- Mari Meade and Companies
- Mari Meade and Gierre Godley
- Mari Meade and Teresa Fellion
- Mari Meade: Not My Home
- Mark Dendy: Labyrinth
- Mark Dendy: NYny Astor Place
- martha clarke: angel reapers



Photo by Kathryn Butler

(L-R) Emily Faulkner and Sarah Chien

Life in the Woods hits pretty much every note on the Performance Mix Festival chart, even without music. Laser intention and full commitment to absurdity are Elena Rose Light's biggest strengths, and the ability to speak without moving her lips helps, too. Bambi dies, but dance lives.

And Sari Nordman takes us to the woods again for *Saari-Island*, a very quiet and deeply personal videopoem testament to deep connection, possibly with an onstage Andrea Haenggi or the person she represents. The sensibility is very Nordic — outwardly still but inwardly deep, soaked in Nature.

The above represents well less than half the performances offered in Performance Mix Festival, which still retains the vibe of early multi-venue, multi-day NYC dance festivals like DanceNow and, of course, PMF's younger self. There's a lot to be said for holding strong and forging on, especially in dance.

JUNE 14, 2018

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