

La MaMa Experimental Theatre Club Presents
A Helix Queer Performance Network Event

LA MAMA'S SQUIRTS

GENERATIONS OF QUEER PERFORMANCE

*Curated by Cecilia Gentili,
Charlene Incarnate and Mizz June*

May 31 & June 1-2, 2019 at 7pm



Ellen Stewart Theatre
66 East 4th Street, NYC, 10003
May 31 - June 2, 2019

La MaMa's Squirts: Generations of Queer Performance

**Curated by
Cecilia Gentili
Mizz June
Charlene Incarnate**

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Stage Management**

**Hjordis Linn-Blanford
Board Operator**

Production Manager: Amy R. Surratt

Production Assistant: Yasmine Lalkaka

**Dan Fishback
Director, Helix Queer Performance Network**

Each year, La MaMa's Squirts gathers the most exciting voices from New York City's queer performance world, across the generations. This year, three trans women artists with deep community roots will each craft a night of the festival, marking the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall uprising.

Originally from Argentina, **CECILIA GENTILI** is a well-known storyteller in NYC. She has also acted in several plays (Jess Barbagallo's "My Old Man" (Dixon Place), Casey Llewellyn's "O Earth" (HERE Arts Center)) and was a guest star in "Pose" (FX) where she played Ms. Orlando. Gentili found her passion for advocacy working as an intern at the LGBT Center. She headed the Transgender Health Program at Apicha from 2012 to 2016, served as the Director of Policy at GMHC from 2016 to 2019, and currently functions as Principal to Trans Equity Consulting defining policy to the benefit of the TGNC/NB community. She was a contributor to "Trans Bodies Trans Selves" and is a board member at Translatina Network. She is passionate about advocating for her community, specifically for trans women with a Latino background, sex work, drug use and incarceration history.

CHARLENE INCARNATE has been performing drag in Brooklyn for 6 years. She enacted her gender transition as a performance art piece on New York drag stages (including La MaMa's Squirts 2014), and now her performance work centers around the aggressive, dangerous and inherently political nature of living in a transgender body. In the summer of 2017 she was crowned Miss Bushwig and went on to perform at Lady Bunny's Wigstock in 2018, igniting the headline from Time Out New York "Charlene is taking over the planet"

From the Lower East Side of Manhattan and The Bronx, **MIZZ JUNE**, the musical persona of NYC based Actor Julianne Brown - got her start in Musical Theater through ensemble work in various plays, and Activism as a collective cofounder of the TLGBQ organization FIERCE! (www.fiercenyc.org). A protégée of luminary public figures Octavia St. Laurent and Miss Major Griffin-Gracy, she was the first out Black Transwoman to be a guest cast member on a daytime soap opera ("All My Children").

She has appeared in music videos, television and film, and performed on various well known stages in NYC and around the U.S. (including La MaMa and BAM to name a few). Her latest single(s) can be found here: www.theonetheonlymizzjune.com/music

THE HELIX QUEER PERFORMANCE NETWORK is a collaboration between La MaMa Experimental Theatre, BAX/Brooklyn Arts Exchange and the Hemispheric Institute of Performance & Politics, seeking to nurture queer performers, empower queer communities,

and celebrate the legacy and lineage of queer performance in NYC. Directed by playwright Dan Fishback, major programs include *La MaMa's Squirts*, the workshop *Needing It: Solo Performance in Queer Community*, and BAX's festival of queer and trans artists of color, *Submerge*.

DAN FISHBACK is a playwright, performer, and director of the Helix Queer Performance Network. His musical *The Material World* was called one of the Top Ten Plays of 2012 by Time Out New York. His play *You Will Experience Silence* was called "sassier and more fun than *Angels in America*" by the Village Voice. Also a performing songwriter, Fishback has released several albums and toured Europe and North America, both solo and with his band *Cheese On Bread*, which released their new album "The One Who Wanted More" in 2018. Fishback created and oversees La MaMa Experimental Theater's annual series *La MaMa's Squirts: Generations of Queer Performance*. He currently sits on Gibney's Curatorial Advisor Team and is a proud member of the Jewish Voice for Peace Artist Council.

The 7th La MaMa SQUIRTS 2019 has been made possible with support from Ford Foundation, Howard Gilman Foundation, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, and The Shubert Foundation. Public support by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council, with special thanks to City Council Speaker Corey Johnson, City Councilmember Daniel Dromm and the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

FRIDAY, MAY 1 - Curated by Cecilia Gentili

AUSET BENNU is 25 year old Afro Latin Rapper from Bronx, New York. Auset has always been artistic adolescent but began to peruse her music career in early 2018. Since, Auset released her first studio album the *Unplugged EP* this year on Valentine's Day. Mix tape reviewer deemed Auset a star for her hard hitting lyrics and over all pop appeal by Tiny Mix Tape's curator Samuel Diamond. Auset then released her most popular freestyle *Trophyana* (a remix to Blueface's *Thotiana* track) in March and has been impressing different stages since. Auset makes the exact dance-ready, feeling-oneself-heavy-

hip-hop that cisgenders embrace, and could eventually open doors for trans artist in mainstream hip-hop. Auset is now planning her first music video and will be embracing TGNC folks as her main video models. Auset Bennu's music is currently available to stream on YouTube or Soundcloud.

LINDA LABELIJA is a multidisciplinary artist from the Bronx, NY, whose work explores the complexities of living as a transgender woman of color in today's America. With origins in both both black America and the English/Spanish-speaking Caribbean, Linda's transnational experience of living at the intersection of embodied, social, and national borders hones in on the critiques of hegemonic power. As a performing artist and author, Linda's work intervenes with confidence, politicized anger, and grace into a symbolic and literal economy which would otherwise render her bound and gagged.

SUSY SHOCK identifies as an "Trans Sudaca Artist". She was born in Buenos Aires in 1968. She had collaborated in SOY, diversity supplement of the Pagina/12 newspaper and in "Revista Caja Muda" from the faculty of philosophy of Cordoba and many other news outlets. Susy published her first poetry book in 2007, "Revuelo Sur" and in 2011 "Relatos en canecalon" and "Poemario Tranpirado" and in 2014 her record "Bueanvida Y poca vergüenza" came out with great reviews. In 2016, she was honored with the special mention award from the national tango and folklore for her song "Con mi carro voy," and in 2016 she published "Crianzas" and "Hojarascas." In 2018 she came out with her latest record "Traviarca" with Banda de colibríes. She travels Argentina and the world with her show of poetry and songs, "Poemaron Trans Pirado"

JULIA ROSE is a classically trained jazz singer & performer from Philadelphia. Her experiences include dancing professionally for Dance Theater of Harlem, recently being featured on FX Network's "Pose," performing in Vienna for the Life Ball and opening a Christmas event at Joe's Pub. Standing 6' tall with classic style, her stage persona is larger than life!

ASHLEY R.T. YERGENS is 2018-2019 Jerome Foundation AIRspace Resident at Abrons Arts Center, where his first evening-length performance Prettygirl264264 premiered in November 2018. Please text your favorite emoji combination to him at (507)412-1381. Follow him on Instagram at @ashleyyergens.

SATURDAY, JUNE 1 - Mizz June

BANJELA DAVIS is a lazy drag host from NYC. She is the Founder and Co-Chair of the *Miss Krayola Pageant*, known most notably for her notoriously short-lived yet extremely popular talk show *Legends, Statements & Stars!* filmed live at La MaMa, JACK, and Dixon Place in 2016. Since the overwhelming success of her first foray into media satire, Banjela has retreated from the gaslight of social media to rest, rejuvenate, and rebrand. Banjela Davis returns to Squirts this year a humbled queen grateful to share the stage with black trans female legends in the making. Live episodes of her QTPOC-centered cultural programming coming to a theater near you!

MISS MAJOR GRIFFIN-GRACY is a veteran of the infamous Stonewall Riots, former sex worker, and survivor of Attica State Prison, transgender elder and activist Miss Major has fought for over 40 years to create visibility and equity for trans women of color.

PRINCESS SASHA FIERCE, Sasha Shay Maria Washington was born in Brooklyn, NYC, raised in the Bronx, back in Brooklyn living on my own since age of 18, I am a 32-year-old woman of trans experience of color, been part of the LGBTQ community since the age of 12, been a performer since 18, dream to change the world by fighting for rights, as one speaking for those who can't, standing up for mental health care and awareness in our community as one we stand. I love hard, care, and believe we all will come to a great understanding.

Gia Jordan is **THE VIOLENCE**, a dynamic multi-instrumentalist singer songwriter who could probably kick your ass and would definitely do so if you are deserving of an ass-kicking, but gia jordan does not want to have to kick your ass so be polite and you're fine:))))

SUNDAY, JUNE 2 - Curated by Charlene Incarnate

REMY BLACK is a performance artist best known for using drag performance, music, and social media to celebrate the beauty, resilience, and queerness of the black experience while critiquing the social structures that enable its marginalization. Currently based in South Florida, Remy is enjoying an extended visit in New York and looks forward to re-experiencing the city that shaped much of her formative creative years.

IMAGE OBJECT is an athlete, a performer, a student of the timeless art of wardrobe styling, and an aspiring cyborg designer. You can find Image online at @image.object on Instagram, and in person teaching an LGBTQ donation based beginner boxing class every Thursday 8pm at Red Planet Muay Thai.

THESAN POLLYANNA is a professional musician and nightlife entertainer, Thesan Pollyanna traverses many dichotomous mediums of art and synthesizes them through multifaceted performance. Distinctive graduate of the Eastman School of Music (Rochester, NY), Thesan Pollyanna pursued degrees in music education and saxophone performance under the tutelage of Professor Chien-Kwan Lin. A native of South Carolina, Thesan attended the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities (Greenville, SC), where they graduated with both a high school diploma and an arts diploma. Thesan is a former member of the Eastman Wind Ensemble, the Eastman Saxophone Project, and the Bitchin' Kitchen-- an R&B and soul band in which they sang. Thesan has performed for renowned celebrities and artists in both classical and popular music genres, including John Legend, Claude Delangle, Lars Mlekusch, Al Sharpton, Mariano Garcia Jimenez, Darius Rucker, and the Marine Band Saxophone Quartet. Thesan's accolades include first prize in the 2011 MTNA Empire State Competition, a Performer's Certificate from the Eastman School of Music, and first prize in the 2014 National Association For Negro Musicians Competition (NANM). Instagram: thesan_pollyanna, Facebook: Thesan Pollyanna or Keenan Montieth

LA MAMA



RESTORE A BUILDING REMAKE A WORLD



Rendering: 74 East 4th St.

La MaMa's historic, landmark building at 74 East 4th Street is undergoing an urgently needed complete renovation and restoration to preserve the historic façade, create building-wide ADA accessibility, and provide much needed performance, exhibition and community space for decades to come.

La MaMa, founded by Ellen Stewart in 1961, has been on east 4th Street since 1967. La MaMa embraces every person in its community and is legendary as the place where new artists of all nations, cultures, races, and identities are given opportunities. It is the place where art begins.

To learn more about the renovation, or to make a donation please visit www.lamama.org/remakeaworld

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Ellen Stewart Theatre
The Downstairs

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Stonewall 50 at La MaMa
May 24 - June 2, 2019
The Downstairs

La MaMa Squirts
Stonewall 50 at La MaMa
May 31 - June 2, 2019
Ellen Stewart Theatre

Bach & Bleach
June 5 - 9, 2019
The Downstairs

Global Gay
Stonewall 50 at La MaMa
June 6 - 9, 2019
Ellen Stewart Theatre

COMING SOON

Coffeehouse Chronicles
Taylor Mac
Stonewall 50 at La MaMa
Sat, June 8, 2019 at 3pm
Ellen Stewart Theatre

La MaMa Kids
Family Play Date
June 9, 2019 at Noon
The Downstairs

13 Fruitcakes
Stonewall 50 at La MaMa
June 13 - 16, 2019
Ellen Stewart Theatre

Contradict This! A Birthday
Funeral for Heroes
Stonewall 50 at La MaMa
June 20 - 29, 2019
Ellen Stewart Theatre