

**La MaMa**  
Experimental Theatre Club

presents

# La MaMa's Squirts 2026



The Club  
74a East 4th Street, NYC, 10003  
June 4-7, 2026

# **La MaMa's SQUIRTS 2026**

Curator Paris Alexander

Producer Buffy Sierra

Stage Manager and Audio Technician Gloria Gomez

Stage Manager Kyle b. Co.

Lighting Designer and Technician WhimZee Hanna

Production Assistant Majo López

Set Designer Devante Melton

Set Installation Assistant Yannik Couture

Imagery by MTHR TRSA and Paris

Graphic Designer Tim Bergen

Modeled by Crackhead Barney and Justice Smith

Funded in part by The Lillian Goldman Charitable Trust  
and the American LGBTQ+ Museum

## **La MaMa's SQUIRTS 2026**

This year SQUIRTS transforms La MaMa's Club into a chrome Memory Palace, a space akin to "the future" which constantly unfolds in front of us, moving towards the vision of queerness ever on the horizon. The Memory Palace is reminiscent of our disco ancestors, of Andy Warhol's factory, and 90s music videos set in reflective boxes.

Our guest artists have shown time and again the ways in which the personal necessitates the political, and how their voices can be used to enact change. Chiquitita opens the festival performing a section of Cecilia Gentili's "Red Ink", and has an extended conversation with her friend, the irrepressible heart, Lady Bunny. RuAfza stars in her play "Show, Girl"—followed by a conversation with her drag mother LaWhore Vagistan, with special guest—the legendary Bijli! And this year we pay tribute to Agosto Machado and Diana Oh / ZaZa D—two bridges amongst themselves within our queer community who we celebrate, as we celebrate one another.

Agosto Machado was contacted to advise Paris in making a collective / community shrine, in light of the recent passings of Diana Oh (ZaZa D), Eileen Dover, Ozzie Rodriguez (La MaMa's Archivist for decades), and Miss Major—to name a few. Agosto passed away the same day he was contacted. In his absence, we have made the shrine to honor him and the others. Located in The Club's lobby throughout the festival, guests and visitors are encouraged to place small items, mementos, pictures and tchotchkes there, to honor queer loved ones that has passed. At the end of the festival, the shrine will live on in the La MaMa Archive.

June 6, 2026

## An evening for Agosto

Buffy  
Gail Thacker  
Chris Tanner with Joe Montoya  
Ken Angel Davis  
Michael Bullock  
Picky Paraiso  
Nora Burns  
Paris  
Salley May  
Tabboo!

Footage of Nicky Paraiso singing  
*Where and When* filmed by Steven Watson”

Footage of Candy Darling singing “Ramona”  
from *The Death of Maria Malibran* by Werner Schroeter

### **An evening with performances from some of Agosto’s expansive community and friends.**

“I want to be remembered as I was.  
I’m going to join all our friends.”

“I prepaid my cremation. And if you pay in cash,  
now this is a clue, you get a discount...  
and I celebrate that I will one day see them in spirit form.”

“What kind of an artist am I? I’m really a hoarder.”

“The best way you learn is from other people’s experience.”

“Jack Smith didn’t invent glitter,  
but he gave it a sense of purpose.”

“Ellen Stewart was La MaMa.”

— Agosto Machado

A singular figure, **Agosto Machado** is a Chinese-Spanish-Filipino-American performance artist, activist, archivist, muse, caretaker, and friend to countless celebrated and underground visual and performing artists. He has been a vital participant and witness to cultural and creative life in New York since the early sixties, from art, theater, performance, and film to social and political counterculture and the dawn of the gay liberation movement. As part of a cohort of queer revolutionaries, including Marsha P. Johnson, Thomas Lanigan-Schmidt, and Sylvia Rivera, Machado participated in the Stonewall Rebellion.

Agosto Machado was a vital participant in and witness to cultural and creative life in New York from the early sixties on, from art, theater, performance, and film to social and political counterculture and the dawn of the gay liberation movement. Long celebrated for his work in avant-garde theater and performance, in the final four years of his life, he received acclaim and recognition for his visual art, a lifelong practice realized in private until 2022, when Machado presented his first solo exhibition of shrine and altar works at Gordon Robichaux in New York. During the run of his two solo exhibitions at the gallery in 2022 and 2025, Machado made the unique and distinct offering of gallery-sitting during open hours, attending to visitors and friends while sharing stories and memories about his creative community memorialized in his art. His shrine and altar sculptures have since been acquired by The Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Hessel Museum of Art at Bard College, and the Toledo Museum of Art (Promised Gift), and a group of his artworks created between the 1960s and 2025 is currently featured in the 2026 Whitney Biennial.

Machado performed extensively, with numerous individuals and groups, including with The Angels of Light, The Cockettes, Ethyl Eichelberger, Taylor Mead, Rumi Missabu, Jack Smith, Tabboo!, John Vaccaro, Stephen Varble, as well as with Warhol Superstars Jackie Curtis, Candy Darling, Mario Montez, and Holly Woodlawn. An active collaborator in collective and group performances, he also created and performed several of his own solo shows, notably Babbling in a Garden and Babbling with Joe in 1988, and Babbling with Imelda (as Imelda Marcos) in 1989. These “signature” solo performances embodied his passionate philosophy that everyone is capable of creating art. Centering improvisatory, anecdotal, and otherwise “marginal” forms of speech like gossip, Machado’s babbles stand as vital affirmations of the play and possibility in artistic self-definition and storytelling.

Over the course of six decades, Machado has performed at countless theaters, galleries, clubs, lofts, museums, and underground venues including The Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), WPA Theatre, La MaMa ETC, Anderson Theater, Theater of the Lost Continent, Theatre for the New City at Westbeth, Bastiano’s Studio, Theatre Genesis, Judson Memorial Church, The Night House Theater, the Truck and Warehouse Theatre, P.S. 122, The Performing Garage, the National Arts Club, Dixon Place, the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, 8BC, Gene Frankel Theatre, Chandelier, LGBT Community Center, King Tut’s Wah Wah Hut, Club 57, Mudd Club, S.N.A.F.U., Pyramid Club, P.P.O.W., How! Arts, and Participant Inc.

Agosto was a guest of honor for La MaMa’s SQUIRTS in 2016.

**Paris Alexander** is a visual performance artist, storyteller, curator, and conjurer. They have directed *La MaMa's SQUIRTS* since 2020. They believe that looking back helps you go forth. They have done, admittedly, a number of tribute shows and revivals of queer works lost to time- they have lip synced their late grandmother's voice in a song pleading Papa Legba to open the gates to the spirit world, put up an installation of their late mom's ephemera and mementos in a house on Governor's Island with Forest For Trees Collective, and used a flashlight in place of a spirit in a number of numbers past. Through *SQUIRTS* and *Visual AIDS* (separately) they have done archival research and created one night only revivals of plays by members of The Blacklips Performance Cult. From 2021-2025, with Voxigma Lo and Julie J, they led Sylvester- an afro/retro futurist experimental drag show at Purgatory, BK. Recent Credits: Actor in *Down & Out* by Ife Olujobi, Directed by Garrett Allen. Conceived and performed archival drag video pieces for *Life is Drag* by Rachel Rampleman, Produced by SoMad. A gogo dancer for a revival of Felix Gonzalez-Torres' *Untitled (Go-Go Dancing Platform)* at Hauser and Wirth, a dancer in a revamp of Tyler Ashley's 2014 dance piece *Kidnap Me*, now called *Don't Kidnap Us* at QNCC in May. – IG : @parisssssssssssssssss

One of their favorite quotes by La MaMa's founder Ellen Stewart:  
"The Is is the Was, and the Was is the Is."

**Buffy Sierra** is a New York City-based artist and performer whose experimental work slips promiscuously between disciplines. A performance artist, dancer, choreographer, musician, producer, visual artist, writer, and curator, her live and recorded works of art are visceral and haunting. She creates ecstatic experiences that synthesize sex, death, divinity, horror, beauty, and technology through her transgressive transfeminist lens. She is currently producing an electronic album algorithmically composed using the medical data of her own transition. Buffy is a resident artist and company member with the Great Jones Repertory Company at La MaMa Experimental Theater Club, Producer for *La MaMa's SQUIRTS: Generations of Queer Performance*, Co-Producer for an experimental performance series called HOLE PICS, Event Coordinator at Creative Time, and an editor for *Women and Performance: a journal of feminist theory*. She has previously produced events and programs with The NYC Trans Oral History Project, The Park Avenue Armory, BOFFO Performance Festival Fire Island, and many individual artists. @buffysierra | buffysierra.com

**Special Thanks:** Mei Ann Teo, Linda Simpson, Harris Singer, Scout Davis, Glen Santiago, Michal Gamily, Eileen Dover, Sara Arno, Chris Rodriguez, Penny Arcade, Justin Vivian Bond, Dan and Santi, Kylie Goetz, the La MaMa family, Felix Gonzalez-Torres, Ellen Stewart, Adriana Garbagnati

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**A full program with information on this production can be found on the La MaMa website page of *La MaMa's SQUIRTS June 6***

**Scan the QR code Poster located in the theatre lobby for access to detailed information on this program.**

# LA MAMA



## RESTORE A BUILDING REMAKE A WORLD



*Rendering: 74 East 4th St.*

La MaMa's historic, landmark building at 74 East 4th Street underwent 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](http://www.lamama.org/remakeaworld)

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**La MaMa Kids**

**luzAzul**

June 4-7, 2026

Ellen Stewart Theatre

**The Game of Bluff**

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