



THE RICHARD B.
FISHER
CENTER
FOR THE
PERFORMING ARTS
AT BARD COLLEGE

Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York

YEAR 4 | 2015–16

About Live Arts Bard

Live Arts Bard (LAB) is the interdisciplinary residency and commissioning program of the Richard B. Fisher Center for the Performing Arts at Bard College. LAB creates a community of professional artists and students who develop work side by side, inspiring one another to create and experiment. LAB provides commissioning and residency fees, studio and stage time, research resources and dramaturgy, and production support to a wide range of professional artists and ensembles. During LAB's fourth year of operation in 2015-16, TK professional artists and ensembles received residency and commissioning support, representing a wide range of practices across theater, dance, performance, and the visual arts.

Though their projects and working methodologies vary widely, LAB artists share a common commitment to rigorous inquiry and innovation. At a time when developmental resources and commissioning funds for contemporary performing artists are increasingly scarce both nationally and internationally, LAB provides much needed support for artists who are creating groundbreaking and unconventional projects.

LAB provides important benefits for the wider communities of Bard and the region. Students are mentored and taught by a roster of master artists from across the performing arts, and audiences enjoy a full season of performances and works-in-progress at the Fisher Center. The program's impact is also felt far beyond Bard and the Mid-Hudson Valley. Projects developed during LAB's first four years have been performed in more than TK communities worldwide.

To become involved in LAB, please contact Bob Bursey, Fisher Center Executive Director, at bbursey@bard.edu or 845.758.7980.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

"The spirit of inquiry and support that exists at LAB is incredibly nourishing. I made more music here in two weeks than I've made in two months anywhere else." NICK HALLETT

NICK HALLETT & LUCIANA ACUNA *LA DISTANCIA REAL*

The American composer Nick Hallett and Argentinian choreographer Luciana Acuna collaborated for the first time, developing a new performance that subsequently premiered at the Festival Internacional de Buenos Aires. This international residency was developed in partnership with El Jardin Sahel and Teatro Colon in Argentina.

"As a student translator and interpreter, I was excited to be part of this creative process. It was great to see such talented artists collaborate in the give-and-take of a professional working experience." KEVIN SOTO '16, WRITTEN ARTS

Year 4 of Live Arts Bard was made possible by the generous support of the members of the Live Arts Bard Creative Council, and by grants from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, New York State Council on the Arts, New England Foundation for the Arts, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

"I love Bard. The students here are smart and open, and the staff has been nothing short of magnanimous with me. My work has always existed and blurred the lines between disciplines and the roles of performer and teacher. I'm one of the lucky ones who make a living at my art making." MIGUEL GUTIERREZ

MIGUEL GUTIERREZ

AGE & BEAUTY PART 3

Bessie Award-winning choreographer and Guggenheim Fellow Miguel Gutierrez returned to develop and premiere the third and final installment of his ebullient *Age & Beauty* triptych, *Part 3: DANCER or You can make whatever the f**k you want but you'll only tour solos or The Powerful People or We are strong/We are powerful/We are beautiful/We are divine or &:'''*, a co-commission of LAB, New York Live Arts, and the Crossing the Line Festival. During his residency Miguel also presented marathon performances the entire trilogy, gave a lecture on queer choreographies, led his participatory performance *DEEP* Aerobics with a cohort of Bard students, and offered student critiques in the Dance and Studio Arts programs.

"It's invigorating to discover that Miguel is so in touch with the experience he and the audience are having together. I was just overcome. He asked us to improvise a performance for him, and he made one in response, and then we responded to that. It was very productive for me, and healing." REBECCA ZEIGER '18, STUDIO ARTS

Miguel Gutierrez was a Live Arts Bard Choreographic Fellow, supported by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Production residency for *Age & Beauty Part 3* and presentation of the *Age & Beauty* trilogy was supported by the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, with additional support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

"Since I'm working with these incredible students for four years, watching them develop as I'm developing, I decided not to separate them from the rest of my artistic life and to include them in Tournamento. Now we're continuing the journey to make something together. It's very sweet and meaningful to me that they're still here, for the duration." SARAH MICHELSON

SARAH MICHELSON

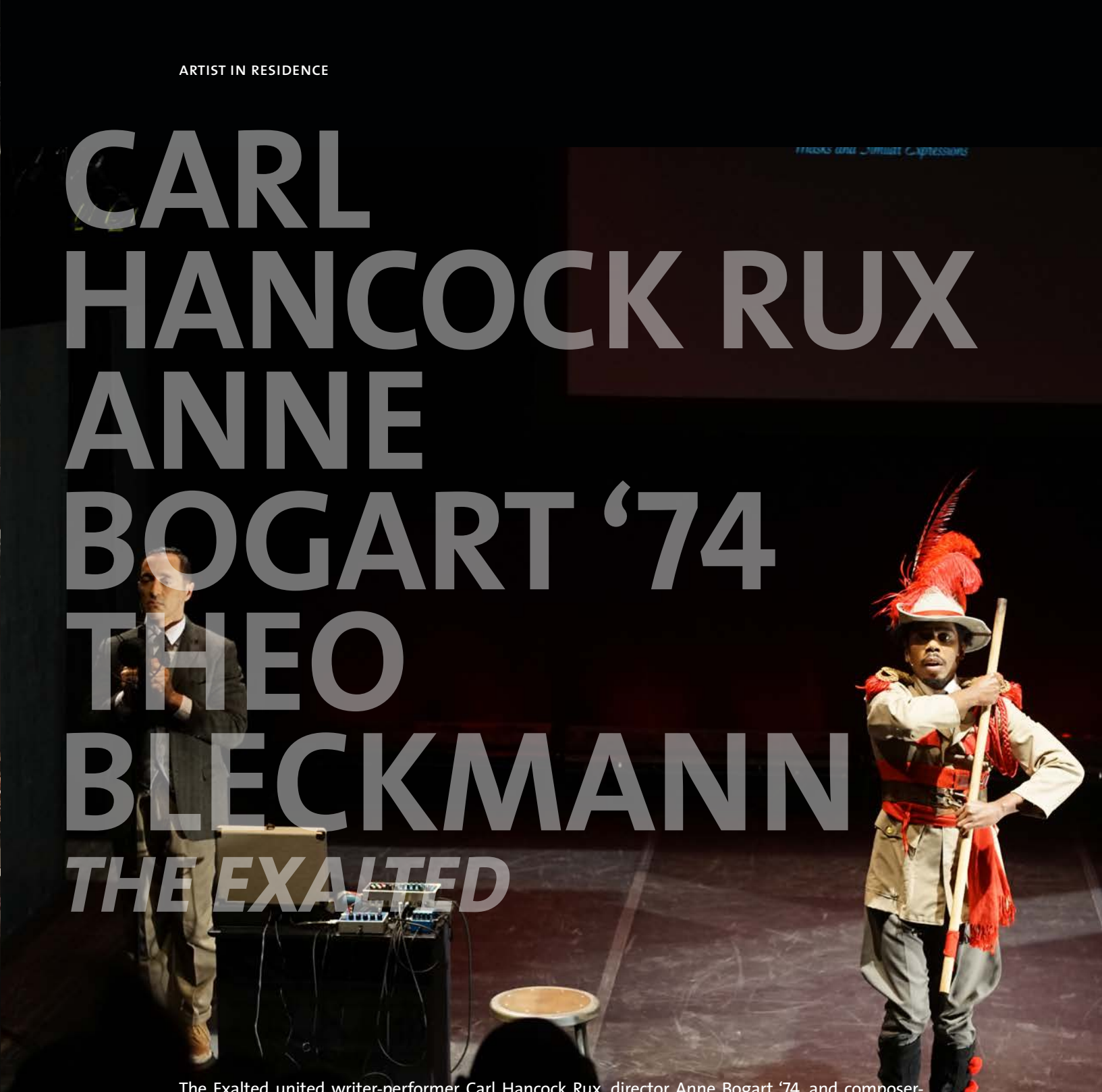


Choreographer Sarah Michelson won the 2012 Whitney Museum of American Arts Biennial Bucksbaum Award, and is the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship. Since 2013 she has been working with a group of Bard students to develop a new work commissioned that will premiere at the Fisher Center in 2017. Students working with Michelson traveled to the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis to perform in her new work Tournamento in September 2015, which was developed in part through a LAB residency.

Sarah Michelson is a Live Arts Bard Choreographic Fellow, supported by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

CARL HANCOCK RUX ANNE BOGART '74 THEO BLECKMANN THE EXALTED



The Exalted united writer-performer Carl Hancock Rux, director Anne Bogart '74, and composer-musician Theo Bleckmann to explore the life and legacy of the German-Jewish art historian Carl Einstein. After a technical residency, the team gave three preview performances to prepare the production for its premiere the Brooklyn Academy of Music. While on campus, Rux gave a public reading of a new work, and Bogart and Bleckmann each taught master classes.

"What a pleasure it was to return to my alma mater! LAB is a place where things are literally being made, rather than simply being presented. Everything we needed was there for us, which is very rare in my experience. We couldn't have done it anywhere else." ANNE BOGART '74

“The residency has been incredible, and so helpful in furthering our creativity and collaboration. John has been entirely open to my ideas, and I’m grateful that we both trust each other while respecting the mystery and discovery of this process.” AMY TROMPETTER

JOHN HEGINBOTHAM & AMY TROMPETTER

FANTASQUE

Award-winning choreographer John Heginbotham collaborated for the first time with master puppeteer Amy Trompeter to create *Fantasque*, a ballet for puppets and dancers, set to music by Rossini and Respighi. Trompeter also taught a course in the Theater & Performance program, giving her students the opportunity to contribute to the creation of the puppets used in the work. Three of her Bard students went on to perform in the work’s world premiere in the 2016 Bard SummerScape Festival.

“Working with Amy, in class and on *Fantasque*, was always an adventure. She radiates grace—it isn’t about getting it ‘right,’ but rather about getting one’s hands dirty and learning what works along the way. She created an artistic environment where it was possible to learn and to discover.”

ETHAN ROGERS '16, THEATER AND PERFORMANCE

“While working with Dan I discovered that puppetry is all about geometry. The precision of a puppet that allows it to be beautiful. Like sloppy math, sloppy puppetry just doesn’t work.”

DAISY ROSATO '16, THEATER AND GERMAN

DAN HURLIN

DEMOLISHING EVERYTHING WITH AMAZING SPEED

While on a Rome Prize fellowship, Obie and Bessie Award-winning puppeteer Dan Hurlin unearthed a series of puppet plays by the Italian Futurist artist Fortunato Depero. The plays had never been translated into English, published, or performed until their world premiere at the 2016 Bard SummerScape Festival. Hurlin developed his multi-media “puppet noir,” *Demolishing Everything at Amazing Speed*, during an extended LAB residency, with four Bard students working as his studio assistants.

“When I take on a new project, I ask myself ‘who do I want to be locked in a room with for an extended period of time?’ They have to be people I like because the very definition of puppetry requires close collaboration. The four Bard students working in my studio with me are talented and skillful and have made things that are amazing. Bard is the kind of place that when you have a new idea, the first response is always ‘yes!’” DAN HURLIN

“In his dance history class, John talked about his work in relation to the journey from modern to postmodern dance. His insights into the historical and cultural implications of dance were invaluable.”

MADDIE HOPFIELD '17, DANCE

JOHN JASPERSE

WITHIN BETWEEN AND REMAINS



Choreographer John Jasperse used his LAB residency to develop technical elements for his new performance *Remains*, prior to performances at the American Dance Festival and Brooklyn Academy of Music. He gave an open rehearsal of *Remains*, and also presented his highly acclaimed work *Within Between*. Jasperse also taught composition and history classes in the Dance Program, and led a master class open to all undergraduates.

*John Jasperse received a Live Arts Bard Choreographic Fellowship, supported by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Production residency for *Remains* was supported in part by the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project, with funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.*

“I’m a huge fan of Faye Driscoll’s dance-theater. I worked with her on crew and as a performer. She remakes the performance for each site, and we figured out a lot of it together. It was an example of the way LAB helps students understand and respond to the current cultural landscape.”

KEDIAN KEOHAN '16, THEATER PERFORMANCE

FAYE DRISCOLL

THANK YOU FOR COMING: ATTENDANCE



Faye Driscoll is a Bessie Award-winning choreographer whose work is rooted in an obsession with the conflicts and comedy born in social interactions. At LAB she presented her acclaimed work *Thank you for coming: Attendance*, with the participation of many student performers. She also taught a technique class and spoke to students about her life as a professional artist.

LAB Artists and Projects Updates

Jack Ferver and Mark Swanson's *Chambre*, a 2014 LAB commission and premiere, was later presented at the American Dance Institute in Maryland, and at the New Museum (NYC) as part of the 2015 Crossing the Line. It is nominated for a 2016 Bessie Award for Outstanding Production.

Ralph Lemon's *Scaffold Room*, a 2014 LAB commission, had its NYC premiere at The Kitchen in Fall 2015. It is nominated for a Bessie Award for Outstanding Production and Outstanding Visual Design.

Nature Theater of Oklahoma's *Life and Times: Episodes 7-9*, a 2013 LAB commission and 2015 LAB premiere, will have its NYC premiere in the Crossing the Line Festival at the Anthology Film Archives in Fall 2016.

Aaron Landsman TK?

Annie Dorsen's *A Piece of Work*, a 2013 LAB residency project, will be presented at the inaugural Made in the USA Festival in Athens in Fall 2016, with the support of *USArtists International* and made possible through support from the National Endowment for the Arts and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

2016-17 LAB Season Preview

Commissions

Beth Gill
Claudia Rankine, John Lucas, and Will Rawls
Annie Dorsen
Michelle Ellsworth
Alex Segade
Caden Manson/Big Art Group
Sam Miller '15
Hasan Elahi
Tere O'Connor

Residencies

Sarah Michelson
Maria Hassabi
New Saloon (Morgan Green '12,
Milo Cramer '12, and Madeleine Wise '12)
PWR BTTM (Benjamin Hopkins '14 and
Liv Bruce '15)

The Second Live Arts Bard Biennial – Spring 2017

We've Got Your Number:

*An exhibition about security, democracy, and
who's watching*

Featuring the work of Claudia Rankine,
John Lucas, Will Rawls, Annie Dorsen,
Michelle Ellsworth, Alex Segade, Caden
Manson/Big Art Group, Sam Miller '15,
Hasan Elahi, and more.

Presented in partnership with Goethe-Institut
New York.

Bard College and The Richard B. Fisher Center for the Performing Arts

Bard College has distinguished itself as a leader in the field of liberal arts and sciences for more than 150 years by providing a first-rate undergraduate education for its students. The College is known for its pioneering ideas in education, its passionate commitment to the highest standards of artistic inquiry and practice, and for its vigorous advocacy of liberty, citizenship, individual dignity and tolerance of differences.

The Richard B. Fisher Center for the Performing Arts, designed by architect Frank Gehry, is the most ambitious capital project in Bard's history, and illustrates the commitment of the College to bringing performing artists of the first rank to perform and work with its students, faculty, staff and the public. The Center's programs in opera, dance, theater, music, film and cabaret, along with its world-class facilities, provide an outstanding venue in which to create and learn.

Together these institutions provide an exceptional environment for resident artists to create original pieces, work in close collaboration with faculty and staff, and inspire students' thinking and practice.

Thank You

Year 4 of Live Arts Bard was made possible by the generous support of the members of the Live Arts Bard Creative Council and the Advisory Board of the Richard B. Fisher Center for the Performing Arts. LAB received grants from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation; the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature; and the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, with additional support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

The Richard B. Fisher Center for the Performing Arts

Advisory Board

Jeanne Donovan Fisher, *Chair*
Carolyn Marks Blackwood
Leon Botstein
Stefano Ferrari
Denise S. Simon
Thurmond Smithgall
Martin T. Sosnoff
Toni Sosnoff
Felicitas S. Thorne
Andrew E. Zabler

Live Arts Bard Creative Council

Alicia Davis
Steven M. Dawson
Jeanne Donovan Fisher
Dr. Terry S. Gotthelf
Richard and Jane Katzman
Doris J. Lockhart
Stephen Simcock
Sarah Stack

Live Arts Bard Program Staff

Debra Pemstein, *Vice President for Development
and Alumni/ae Affairs*
Bob Bursey, *Executive Director*
Gideon Lester, *Artistic Director of Theater
and Dance*
Caleb Hammons, *Producer, Theater and Dance*
Jeannie Schneider, *Business Manager*
Kieley Michasiow-Levy, *Development Manager*
Zia Affronti Morter '12, *Associate Producer*
Vincent Roca, *Production Manager*
Matthew Waldron '07, *Production Coordinator,
Dance and Theater*
Bob Bangiola, *General Manager, Dance and
Theater & Performance Programs*
Jennifer Lown, *Program Coordinator, Dance
and Theater & Performance Programs*

Publication Credits

Richard Bell, *Writer/Editor*
Karen Spencer, *Designer*
Printed by Quality Printing, Massachusetts

The Richard B. Fisher Center
for the Performing Arts at Bard College
845-758-7900
fishercenter.bard.edu

©2016 Bard College. All rights reserved.