

# WINTER/SPRING SEASON

Jan 23–24	eighth blackbird <i>Hand Eye</i>
Jan 28–30	Toshiki Okada/chelfitsch <i>God Bless Baseball</i>
Feb 4 and 6–7	Ingri Fiksdal, Ingvild Langgård & Signe Becker <i>Cosmic Body</i>
Feb 11–14	Faye Driscoll <i>Thank You For Coming: Attendance</i>
Feb 18–27	Tim Etchells/Forced Entertainment <i>The Notebook, Speak Bitterness, and (In) Complete Works: Table Top Shakespeare</i>
Mar 5–6	Joffrey Academy of Dance <i>Winning Works</i>
Mar 25–26	eighth blackbird, Bryce Dessner, David T. Little, and others <i>Ghostlight</i>
Mar 31–Apr 3	Blair Thomas & Co. <i>Moby Dick</i>
Apr 7–10	Teatrocinema <i>Historia de Amor (Love Story)</i>
Apr 12 and 14–16	Taylor Mac <i>The History of Popular Music</i>
Apr 28–May 1	Kyle Abraham/ Abraham.In.Motion <i>When the Wolves Came In</i>

Feb 11-14, 2016

# Faye Driscoll

## *Thank You for Coming: Attendance*

Conception and Direction	Faye Driscoll
Choreography	Faye Driscoll in collaboration with the performers
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Performers	Giulia Carotenuto
	Sean Donovan
	Alicia Ohs
	Toni Melaas
	Brandon Washington
	Nikki Zialcita*
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Visual Design	Nick Vaughan and Jake Margolin
Sound Design/Original Composition	Michael Kiley
Lighting Design and Production Manager	Amanda K. Ringger
Artistic Advisor	Jesse Zaritt
Choreographic Assistant	Nadia Tykulsker
Costume Construction and Alteration	Sarah Thea Swafford
Tour/Stage Manager	Alessandra Calabi
On-Site Production Manager	Randi Rivera

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The performance runs approximately seventy-five minutes with no intermission.

\*Original cast member

Generous support for MCA Dance is provided by David Herro and Jay Franke.

*Thank You For Coming: Attendance* is made possible by the 2013-14 Danspace Project Commissioning Initiative, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, and Creative Capital. It also received support from the Jerome Foundation, 92Y New Works in Dance Fund, a Headlands Alumni New Works Award, with the assistance of New York State Council on the Arts, and is made possible through the sponsorship of The Field. *Thank You For Coming: Attendance* received a production residency at Danspace Project's venue, St. Mark's Church, with support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. *Thank You For Coming: Attendance* is commissioned by Mass Live Arts through a multiyear residency and presentation commitment. Faye Driscoll received residency support from Park Avenue Armory, as well as with Lower Manhattan Cultural Council's Extended Life Dance Development program made possible in part by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

The MCA presents Faye Driscoll, *Thank You For Coming: Attendance* as a part of IN-TIME Festival, which celebrates contemporary performance in partnership with the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events, defibrillator, the Illinois Humanities Council, Links Hall/Constellation, 6018North, Poetry Center, Roosevelt University, Threewalls, and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

## ABOUT THE WORK

Faye Driscoll describes her body of work as rooted in an obsession with the problem of being somebody in a world of somebodies and with the conflict and comedy born in our interactions with others.

*Thank You for Coming: Attendance* is the premiere of a series of works in which she extends performance's sphere of influence in order to create a communal space where the co-emergent social moment is questioned, heightened, and made palpable.

Each iteration of *Thank You for Coming: Attendance, Play* [working title] and *Space* [working title] accentuates the perceptual complexity of social experience to prove that we do not exist in a vacuum and are made for the creation of interdependent societies, whether it is the creation of a connected body, a connected story, or a connected space.

Driscoll, along with a company of performers and collaborators who will be involved in making and supporting the creation, asks, how do we perceive ourselves as participants in the cocreation of our reality and can we collectively, through performance, create a new vision of society?

The performers pass through morphing states of physical entanglement and scenes of distorted familiarity. In this magnified reality of observation, invitation, and interdependence, audience members and performers increasingly find themselves becoming one.

Ultimately each work in the series will exist in vibrant, dissonant relationships to one another, while forming an ambitious exaggeration of scale, duration, and community.

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

### ALESSANDRA CALABI

is an interdisciplinary artist from Milan, Italy, who works at the intersection of performance, politics, and critical theory. She is a recent graduate of the New School for Social Research, where she completed a master's degree in philosophy. She is the stage manager and a main collaborator of Andrew Schneider's Obie award-winning *YOUARENOWHERE*. She is also a member of the collaborative arts group Fixed Agency, the 2014 artists-in-residence at the Brooklyn Navy Yard and the creators of Private(i), an immersive, mixed-reality adventure about state surveillance. Recent stage management credits include 17 Border Crossings (BAM Next Wave) and LongYarn (The Bushwick Starr). As a performer she has worked with Pascal Rambert (*A (micro) history of world economics, danced*), Palissimo (*Painted Bird: Bastard*), Andrew Schneider (FIELD), and Zishan Ugurlu (LaMaMa ETC).

### GIULIA CAROTENUTO

is originally from Rome, Italy. She received a BFA in dance performance from Chapman University in Southern California, before moving to New York in 2008. Carotenuto has performed

with artists such as Mark Dendy, Douglas Dunn, Catherine Miller, and Kate Fisher. In 2011, as a company member of Palissimo, directed by Pavel Zustiak, she helped create *Strange Cargo*, the final work of Zustiak's trilogy *The Painted Bird*. She has taught and performed as a member of Monica Bill Barnes & Company in engagements at the Joyce Theatre, Skirball Center for the Performing Arts, and The Kennedy Center in Washington DC. She joined Faye Driscoll Group in 2012. Most recently she has become a member of Third Rail Projects and performed in *Then She Fell*.

### SEAN DONOVAN

is a performer and writer. He received a BFA in theatre from New York University Tisch School of the Arts' Experimental Theatre Wing. As a performer, he has worked with Faye Driscoll, Miguel Gutierrez, Jane Comfort and Company, the Builders Association, Witness Relocation, 600 Highwaymen, Jennie Marytai Liu, John Jesurun, and others. He has appeared at BAM, the Kitchen, Danspace Project, PS122, New York Live Arts, La MaMa, the Chocolate Factory, HERE Arts Center, the Joyce Theater, the Duke, Baryshnikov Arts Center, Incubator Arts Project, and the Ohio Theatre. He has trained and performed with the French

collective Ildi! Eldi and Sankai Juku of Japan and toured with the companies to France, Holland, Romania, Poland, Russia, Panama, Canada, Thailand, and Japan. He creates theater and mixed-media works in collaboration with Sebastián Calderón Bentin as Donovan & Calderón. Original works include the site-specific bilingual piece, *Se Vende* (2008), for the FAE Festival

postmodern/pop musical/death metal fantasy; *837 Venice Boulevard* (2008, Bessie Award), an autobiographical work that takes place in a theater within a home; *There Is So Much Mad in Me* (2010), an exploration of ecstatic states; *You're Me* (2012), a duet distorted by props, paint, and manic costume shifts; and *Thank You For Coming*, a series in progress.



Faye Driscoll Group, *Thank You For Coming: Attendance*  
Photo: Maria Baranova

in Panama; *The Climate Chronicles* (2011), presented at the Incubator Arts Project; and *18 ½ Minutes* (2013) presented at JACK. He is a current artist-in-residence at HERE Arts Center.

### FAYE DRISCOLL

is a Bessie Award-winning choreographer and director. Her works include *Wow, Mom, Wow* (2007), a

Driscoll's work has been commissioned by and presented at the Walker Art Center, Wexner Center for the Arts, Institute for Contemporary Art/Boston, Danspace Project, HERE Arts Center, the Kitchen, Dance Theater Workshop, American Dance Festival, Fusebox Festival, UCLA, Counter-PULSE, and the Yard. She

has received funding from The MAP Fund (2014), NYSCA (2013-15), The Jerome Foundation (2012-14), Greenwall Foundation (2008-10), and Lower Manhattan Cultural Council (LMCC) (2013-15), and she was awarded a Bogliasco Fellowship (2014), Guggenheim Fellowship (2013), Creative Capital Award (2013), French-US Exchange in Dance (FUSED) Grant (2015), Foundation for Contemporary Art Grant (2013), NEFA's National Dance Project Production and Touring Award (2010/2014).

She has been an artist-in-residence at Mass Live Arts, the Performing Garage Presents, Baryshnikov Arts Center, and Park Avenue Armory, and a choreographic fellow at Maggie Allesee National Center for Choreography (MANCC). She has collaborated and continues to collaborate with theater and performance artists, including Young Jean Lee,

Cynthia Hopkins, Taylor Mac, Jennifer Miller, and NTUSA. She was one of the only dance artists exhibited in *Younger Than Jesus*, the inaugural exhibition of the New Museum's triennial, and her work was included in *NYC Makers: The MAD Biennial*, the first biennial at the Museum of Arts and Design. In 2015, Driscoll toured *You're Me* at Theatre Vanves in France, with support from FUSED.

#### MICHAEL KILEY

is a Philadelphia-based composer, sound designer, performer, and educator. Past collaborators include SubCircle, Lars Jan, Dan Rothenberg of Pig Iron Theater Co., Luciana Achugar, Magda and Chelsea, and Nichole Canuso Dance Company. He creates his own work under the moniker The Mural and The Mint (TM&TM). His TM&TM creations include *As the Eyes of the Seahorse* (2010), an interdisciplinary perfor-

mance of dance and live music premiered at HERE Arts Center, and *The Empty Air and Anima* (2013), two soundwalk pieces available as iPhone applications, which employ GPS to determine what listeners hear based on their location. His 2003 release "Kuerner Sounds" was commissioned by the Brandywine River Museum for its tour of the Kuerner Farm, known as a career-long inspiration to painter Andrew Wyeth. Kiley is now working with the Play Company on *Ludic Proxy*, which premieres 2016. His work has received support from the Independence Foundation, the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, the American Composers Forum-Philadelphia Chapter, FringeArts (Live Arts Brewery Fellowship), the PEW Center for Arts and Heritage, and the Wyncote Foundation through the Painted Bride.

#### TONI MELAAS

is a dancer and a teacher of wellness practices through her company Hatch NYC. She has worked with Faye Driscoll intermittently over the past thirteen years. She has performed with Netta Yerushalmy/Dancing People, Alexandra Beller/Dances, Shen Wei Dance Arts, Gerald Casel Dance, Melissa Briggs Dance, and David Dorfman Dance, and has worked with choreographers-directors Satoshi Haga

and Nancy Bannon, among others. Her performance engagements have included New York State Theater at Lincoln Center, BAM Harvey, New York Live Arts/DTW, Danspace Project, the Kitchen, PS122, La MaMa, Alvin Ailey Theater, HERE Arts Center, the Duke, Baryshnikov Arts Center, and the John Jay Auditorium. Her theater credits include *Agamemnon*, featuring Olympia Dukakis, with the Aquila Theater Company, and *L'Histoire du Soldat*, directed by Will Kerley and Faye Driscoll and conducted by Maestro Lorin Maazel, at the Castleton Festival. Her SAG Film credits include *Across the Universe*, directed by Julie Taymor, and *The Hottest State*, directed by Ethan Hawk, and her music video-credits include "Fire to the Ground" for The National and "Secret Room" for Joan Osborne.

#### ALICIA OHS (AYO)

is active as a dance and community builder. A graduate of New York University Tisch School of the Arts' Experimental Theatre Wing, Ohs currently dances with Faye Driscoll and Sally Silvers and has performed with Andrea Geyer and niv Acosta, Sondra Loring, and Laura Arrington, among others. She has presented work at BAX, Dixon Place, Movement Research at Judson Memorial Church, CATCH, and Dance New



Faye Driscoll Group  
*Thank You For Coming: Attendance*  
Photo: Maria Baranova

Amsterdam (as the former Dance Space Center). She has curated work for Movement Research's Spring Festival and produced and directed various works in San Francisco from 2008 to 2011. For more than ten years she has worked with youth and collectively organized a CSA farm, taught yoga, and developed health and wellness strategies at the Audre Lorde Project, an organizing center for LGBTQ people of color.

#### **AMANDA K. RINGGER**

has lived in New York since 1997 and has designed lighting nationally and internationally for Faye Driscoll, Doug Elkins, Cynthia Oliver, Molly Poerstel, Jennifer Archibald, Julian Barnett, Nora Chipaumire, Alexandra Beller, Deborah Lohse, Laura Peterson, Donnell Oakley, Kota Yamazaki, 10 Hairy Legs, Darrah Carr, and cakeface, among others. She received a BA from Goucher College in Baltimore, Maryland, and an MFA in lighting design from Tisch School of the Arts at New York University. She received a 2009 Bessie Award for her collaboration on Faye Driscoll's *837 Boulevard*, presented at HERE Arts.

#### **RANDI RIVERA**

is a native New Yorker. She holds a BA in Theater from Hamilton College, studied technical theater at the Royal Welsh College

of Music and Drama, and production management at Universidad San Pablo (CEU) in Madrid, Spain. Rivera is the stage manager and lighting director for theater company Half Straddle, traveling both internationally and domestically with their work since 2012. Additional credits include working with Keigwin + Company, Sidra Bell Dance NY, the Chocolate Factory, Phantom Limb Company, and Doug Elkins Choreography. She has worked with Faye Driscoll since 2009.

#### **NICK VAUGHAN AND JAKE MARGOLIN (NICK & JAKE)**

are Houston-based installation artists. Their solo exhibitions include *A Marriage: 2 (West-er)* (the Invisible Dog Art Center); *A Marriage: 1 (Suburbia)* (HERE Arts Center; MCLA's Gallery 51, North Adams, Massachusetts; *Sleeping Weazle*, Boston); *Art/Slant Presents: Nick & Jake* (Chicago); and *Preparations for a Marriage* (Future Tenant Gallery, Pittsburgh). Their collaborations with choreographers include creating the environments for Yoshiko Chuma's *Shredded* (Gallery 128) and Pavel Zustiak's Palissimo production *Seven* (New Hazlett Theater, Pittsburgh). They were twice official finalists for the NYFA Fellowship and are recipients of grants from the MAP Fund and mediaThe foundation, inc. They are members

of the devised theater company the TEAM, with whom they have created five award-winning plays: *RoosevElvis*, *Waiting For You . . .*, *Mission Drift*, *Architecting*, and *Particularly in the Heartland*, which have toured to the Shed at the National Theater, London; the Barbican Centre, London; the Public Theater, New York; PS122, New York; the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; Culturegest, Lisbon; and the Hong Kong Arts Festival.

Vaughan has designed scenography for more than seventy productions for theater, opera, and dance, which have been seen throughout the United States, Canada, the UK, Portugal, Romania, China, Japan, and Oman. While he was the resident designer of Lorin Maazel's Castleton Festival he designed thirteen productions, including a full cycle of Benjamin Britten's chamber operas. He frequently collaborates with choreographer Yoshiko Chuma and designed the last two installments of Chuma's ongoing Page Out of Order series. For Palissimo, directed by Pavel Zustiak, Vaughan created sets and costumes for five works, including *Le Petit Mort* and *The Painted Bird (Amidst)*.

#### **BRANDON WASHINGTON**

is a native of Chesapeake, Virginia, and received a

BFA from the University of Florida. In New York he has performed with Ryan McNamara, Burr Johnson, Jen McGinn, Neta Pulvermacher, Lauren Bakst, Megan Kendzior, Daria Faïn, Germaul Barnes, Robin Becker, and Dana Katz.

#### **JESSE ZARITT**

has performed solo work in Russia, Korea, Germany, New York, Japan, Mexico, and Israel. He was a 2012–13 resident artist in the Studio Series Program at New York Live Arts, during which he created a duet in collaboration with choreographer/performer Jumatau Poe. Zaritt's solo *Binding* received three 2010 New York Innovative Theater Awards: Outstanding Choreography, Outstanding Solo Performance, and Outstanding Performance Art Production. He has taught at the University of the Arts, Bard College, American Dance Festival, Hollins University, and Pomona College, as well as at festivals in Japan, Korea, and Russia. He was a member of Shen Wei Dance Arts Company (2001–06) and Inbal Pinto Dance Company (2008). From 2009 to 2013 he performed in work by Faye Driscoll and Netta Yerushalmy.

The MCA's newest affinity group, **Enact**, gives longtime performance fans and newcomers alike the opportunity to meet artists, discuss groundbreaking directions with leading curators, and choose key performers to sponsor.

Join Enact, a group of MCA Circle Donors dedicated to supporting and learning more about the renowned programs on the MCA Stage. Membership in Enact enhances your MCA experience by offering you backstage access to artists and insider information about our programs and the current state of the field.

Each year, Enact members choose—through discussion and voting—one performance to sponsor, thereby increasing the impact MCA Stage programming has on the community.

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- Behind-the-scenes access to select rehearsals
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- Recognition as the Enact Sponsor of a select program
- All benefits of Circle Donors

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For more information, contact us at [enact@mcchicago.org](mailto:enact@mcchicago.org).

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## THANK YOU

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As of February 2016

As an internationally renowned institution devoted to contemporary culture, the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago presents the most thought-provoking visual art and performing arts of our time. MCA Stage is a vibrant series presenting theater, dance, and music by leading artists from the United States and around the world in the MCA's three-hundred-seat Edlis Neeson Theater.

MCA Stage's groundbreaking performances are an integral part of the MCA's artist-activated, audience-engaged programming. Along with the museum's exhibitions and educational initiatives, they encourage a broad and diverse community to experience and discuss the work and ideas of living artists.

#### **PARKING**

Validate your ticket at the coat check for \$12 parking in the MCA garage (220 East Chicago Avenue) or the Bernardin garage (747 North Wabash). Discounted parking is limited to six hours on the date of performance.

#### **LOST AND FOUND**

To inquire about a lost item, call the museum at 312-280-2660. Unclaimed articles are held for thirty days.

#### **SEATING**

Please switch off all noise-making devices while you are in the theater.

Patrons are seated at the management's discretion. Food and open beverage containers are not allowed in the seating area.

#### **REPRODUCTION**

Unauthorized recording and reproduction of a performance is prohibited.

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[mcastage@mcachicago.org](mailto:mcastage@mcachicago.org)

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Wednesday–Sunday: 10 am–5 pm

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Program notes compiled by  
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