

## Joan Jonas Performance Program Artist and performer bios

Born in 1936 in New York City, **Joan Jonas** is one of the most important US artists to emerge in the late 1960s and early 1970s. She is a pathbreaking figure in video and performance art; her early projects and experiments were influential in the establishment of video performance art and video installation as artistic mediums, and her influence has extended to Conceptual art, theater, and beyond. Teaching has also been a central part of her career, and she has worked with new generations of artists at institutions including Staatliche Akademie der Bildenden Künste Stuttgart; Rijksakademie van Deelende Kunsten, Amsterdam; and, since 1998, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, where she is now professor emerita. She has performed and exhibited internationally, with retrospectives at the Haus der Kunst, Munich (2022), Fundação de Serralves-Museu de Arte Contemporânea, Porto (2019), Tate Modern, London (2018), HangarBicocca, Milan (2014), Queens Museum of Art (2003), Galerie der Stadt, Stuttgart (2000), Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam (1994), and Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven (1994), among many other solo and group exhibitions. She represented the US at the Biennale di Venezia 56th International Art Exhibition in 2015, and in 2018 she was awarded the prestigious Kyoto Prize for Art. Jonas lives and works in New York and Nova Scotia.

### **Joan Jonas and Jason Moran: A Lecture Demonstration (2015/2024)** March 26 and 27, 2024

Pianist, composer, and artist **Jason Moran** is the artistic director for Jazz at the Kennedy Center. He has released 18 solo recordings with Blue Note Records and Yes Records. He curated the permanent exhibition *Here to Stay* for the newly opened Louis Armstrong Center in Queens, New York, and co-curated the exhibition *I've Seen the Wall: Louis Armstrong on Tour in the GDR 1965* at Das Minsk Kunsthau in Potsdam, Germany. In 2022, he was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and in 2023 he was awarded the German Jazz Prize for Pianist of the Year. Moran's latest recording, *From the Dancehall to the Battlefield*, is devoted to the music of World War I jazz pioneer and organizer James Reese Europe, the "big bang" of jazz. He has collaborated with artists including Joan Jonas, Adam Pendleton, Lorna Simpson, Kara Walker, Glenn Ligon, and Adrian Piper. His self-titled exhibition was hosted by the Walker Art Center, the Wexner Center for the Arts, ICA Boston, and the Whitney Museum of American Art. He currently teaches at New England Conservatory.

**Kate Fenner** is a Canadian singer and songwriter based in New York. She has participated in several Joan Jonas works, including *The Shape, the Scent, the Feel of Things; They Come to Us without a Word; and Reading Dante*.

### **Joan Jonas: Out Takes (2022/2024)** May 16, 17, 19, and 20, 2024

**Ikue Mori** moved to New York in 1977, where she started playing drums. In the mid-1980s Mori started playing drum machines in the unlikely context of improvised music, forged her own signature style, and became involved in the Downtown arts scene. Mori won the Distinctive Award in the Prix Ars Electronica Digital Music category in 1999. Shortly thereafter, she started using a laptop computer to expand her vocabulary not only for playing sounds, but to create and control visual work as well. Mori received a grant from the Foundation for Contemporary Arts in 2006 and was named a MacArthur fellow in 2022. She has collaborated with Joan Jonas since 2018's *Moving Off the Land*.

**Lucy Mullican** lives and works in New York. She received her BFA from the Glasgow School of Art in 2019. In March 2022 she had her first solo exhibition, *Sensed as Well as Seen*, at New York City's Olympia Gallery, followed by her first European show, *Fragments*, at Villa Magdalena, San Sebastián, in September 2022. In February 2023 Villa Magdalena also produced Mullican's second exhibition, *Veils*, at Galeria Moscota in Mexico City. She is currently featured in the group show *Illusive Places* at Pace Gallery, Seoul, South Korea, and her work has also been featured in group shows in Glasgow, Edinburgh, London, and New York.

### **Joan Jonas: Mirror Piece I & II (1969/2024)** June 25, 26, 28, 29, and 30, 2024

Educated in classical ballet and contemporary dance, **Nefeli Skarnea** has collaborated with several companies and independent choreographers, including Sergiu Matis, Colette Sadler, Russell Maliphant, and Cie Alias, among others. As a movement director, she has worked alongside visual artists whose practices incorporate a performative aspect, such as Martin Creed, Cally Spooner, and Megan Rooney. In 2018, as part of the major retrospective exhibition dedicated to Joan Jonas at Tate Modern, London, Skarnea led the reconstruction and restaging of a selection of Jonas's early works, the reactivation of which continue to this day. Skarnea holds a master's degree in cultures of the curatorial

(2013), which facilitated her engagement as a project and curatorial assistant at dOCUMENTA(13) in Kassel, the Serpentine Galleries' Public Programs, Art Night London, and the exhibition *Dance First Think Later – an encounter between dance and visual arts*. Currently, Skarnea is based in Geneva, where she works as the coordinator of the cultural program of the Plaza Foundation, a pioneering hub for cinema and architecture in the making.

**Martita Abril (Pichu)** is a performer, choreographer, curator, and teaching artist from the border city of Tijuana, Mexico. She is also a mentor for the New York Foundation for the Arts Coaching Program for immigrant artists, and guides Spanish-language workshops for recently arrived immigrant families in community gardens through the iLAND organization.

**Kristel Baldoz**, a Filipina-American, multidisciplinary artist from Delano, California, works across dance, performance, and ceramics. Her work is grounded in labor and the textuality of objects, and focuses on how bodily movements flow into material forms, and how they become emblematic of colonial symbology.

**Biba Bell** is a dancer, choreographer, educator, and writer based in Detroit. Her current work focuses on arboreal relations through the lens of what she theorizes as epiphytic choreographies. She has danced for Walter Dundervill and Maria Hassabi, among others, and she earned a PhD in performance studies from New York University.

**Joyce Edwards** is a multi-hyphenate creative revolutionary forging her artistic path in New York and beyond. Edwards is a 2023 Bessie Award winner for Outstanding Performer in Ronald K. Brown's *Open Door/ The Equality of Night and Day/Grace*. She continues to dream while wide awake, and her results are strengthened by the support of her ancestor kin.

Born in Mexico and based in New York City, **Miguel Angel Guzmán** has performed in Europe, the Middle East, and the Americas. He has worked alongside dance and performance artists Madeline Hollander, Coco Karol, Ligia Lewis, Pope.L, Simone Forti, and Deborah Hay, and with musicians Amanda Palmer, Sharon Van Etten, and Sxip Shirey. Guzmán is currently performing in Joan Jonas's *Mirror Piece I & II* at MoMA and in Alexandra Pirici's *Attune* at the Hamburger Bahnhof museum in Berlin.

# MoMA

**The Museum of Modern Art**  
11 West 53 Street  
New York, NY 10019

**Hristoula Harakas** is a contemporary dance artist, teacher, and Pilates instructor based in Brooklyn. She is a 2006 New York Dance and Performance Award (Bessie) recipient who has had the pleasure of performing with many inspiring artists of the New York dance world, including, most notably, her longtime collaborator Maria Hassabi.

**Kehari Hutchinson** is a professional dancer, performance artist, and choreographer who graduated from CalArts. Raised in New York City, Hutchinson began his formal training with Ballet Tech. He has performed in such notable works as Shikeith's *Notes towards Becoming a Spill*, Solange Knowles's *Metatronia (Metatron's Cube)*, and Beyoncé's *Black Is King*.

**djassi daCosta johnson** is a native New Yorker, dancer, choreographer, actor, photographer, filmmaker, anthropologist, writer, activist, designer, and doula. She has lived and worked in Brazil and Italy and collaborates with visual artists, jazz musicians, and performance arts. She is a Met Opera dancer, a mycelium enthusiast, and mama to a 13-year-old star named Luna.

**NIC Kay** is a performer, dancer, conceptual choreographer, and all-around artist who uses creative movement, performing arts history, and performance art theory.

**Jennifer Kjos** hails from the subtropics and lives in Brooklyn. Her career highlights include dances with Heather Kravas, RoseAnne Spradlin, chamecki/lerner, luciana achugar, and Walter Dundervill. Kjos wishes to thank Herbert Ross, Rosita Segovia, Jennifer Way Rawe, and Tamara Star Belin for their delightful and lasting influences on her dancing.

**Tara Lorenzen** is a dancer and educator who has worked with Trisha Brown, Merce Cunningham, Maria Hassabi, and Beth Gill, among others. She is currently a visiting associate professor of dance and the director of the Dance Program at Bard College.

**Mickey Mahar** is a dancer and performer originally from Milwaukee. He works mainly with artists creating performance inside of visual-art contexts, and has collaborated most recently with Pope.L, Anne Imhof, and Maria Hassabi. He lives in Berlin.

**Lydia Okrent** is a dancer and writer who works within the expanded field of performance.

**Stacy Lynn Smith** is a neurodivergent, Black mixed-race performing artist and improviser, choreographer, director, and Green Circle Keeper at Hidden Water (by and for those affected by CSA) whose practice synthesizes various lineages of improvisational forms, somatics, experimental theater, and butoh. As *Psychic Wormhole* (with Alex Romania), Smith is creating their abstract memoir, *RECKONING*, the duo's first feature film.

**Jin Ju Song-Begin** is a choreographer and dancer from Korea whose work has been presented internationally and in the US. In 2025, she will participate in the Rauschenberg Residency. She currently dances in New York City with Douglas Dunn + Dancers, Sean Curran Company, Cornfield Dance, Netta Yerushalmy, and Big Dance Theater.

**Anna Adams Stark** is a performer, producer, director, arts worker, and stage manager who has been based in New York City since 2008. Her recent performance credits include Kim Brandt, Walter Dundervill and iki nakagawa, and Laurie Berg. Stark was raised in Normal, Illinois, and received her BFA in dance from the University of Iowa.

**Coco Villa** is a Jamaican-Colombian dancer, interdisciplinary artist, and educator from Queens. They lead an art-research practice investigating relations between body, object, and landscape. Villa utilizes performance, fashion design, analog photography, and film to tell autobiographical stories, explore human intimacy, and build familial archives through self-portraiture and choreography.

**AJ Wilmore** is a Philadelphia-born artist and performer based in Brooklyn. Wilmore attended the University of the Arts, where she trained in performance approaches with creators like Kaneza Schaal, Jesse Zaritt, Lauren Baskt, and Tommie Waheed-Evans. Her most recent performances include Okwui Okpokwasili and Peter Born's *ADAKU* at ICA Boston, REDCAT, and BAM's 2023 Next Wave Festival.