

Black Aesthetics at Judson Arts Wednesdays



DESCRIPTION

Black Aesthetics is an ongoing experimental performance art and dance series that celebrates Black, radical, moving, dismantling, and subverted avant-garde experimental work. Centering Black queer, non-binary, and trans artists, this season promises to captivate audiences with immersive, transformative experiences and thought-provoking, boundary-pushing performances that highlight the variegated perspectives and experiences within the Black queer and trans community. Black Aesthetics has become a cornerstone of Judson Arts, opening up the gate for artists to be seen, programmed, and allowed to engage with new audiences as they explore and express their one-of-a-kind visions through an abundant variety of artistic performance mediums.

BIO

MALCOLMX BETTS is a New York based visual and dance artist who believes that art is a transformative vehicle that brings people and communities together. His artistic work is rooted in investigating embodiment for liberation, Black imagination, and directly engaging with challenges placed on the physical body. He has a community engagement practice allowing artistic freedom and making art accessible to everyone.

ARIEN WILKERSON is a choreographer, dancer, video maker, director, producer, and installation artist. Born and raised in Hartford, Connecticut, Arien is Founder and Artistic Director of, TNMOT AZTRO, a collaborative multidisciplinary company working at the bridge of dance, performance art, installation, sculpture, and sound design for engagements in museums, galleries and site-specific locations. Under the alias Tnmot Aztro considers that the complexities within art derive from the alienation of objects, identities, the body, sounds, and humans and is rooted in repurposing and redefining meanings of "fine art" and its attachment to colonialism, white supremacy, and institutionalized racism.

UPCOMING ACTIVITY

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| April 3 | willing to eat stars Extended trailer by <i>Maxi Hawkeye Canion</i> | Judson Memorial Church |
| April 17 | tell me what your god look like by Angel Edwards | Judson Memorial Church |
| May 8 | Chole Marie | Judson Memorial Church |
| May 15 | Crackhead Barney | Judson Memorial Church |
| June 5 | Amina Ibrahim & Reason Wade | Judson Memorial Church |
| June 19 | Malcolm x Betts | Judson Memorial Church |

PRESS

"This hot mess was one of the highlights of Catch 50. Don't miss. Don't watch sober." - Claudia LaRocco, *The Performance Club*

"This irreverent song and dance duo...can work a crowd with such deliberately dissonant tracks as *Accolades*, *Yackez Dot Com* and *Get an Education*. In *Give It to You Stage*, they corral their hits..." – Siobhan Burke, *The New York Times*

"A groundbreaking culmination of years of underground queer performance..."
- James Michael Nichols, *The Huffington Post*

"Whether it's rapping, dancing, or throwing down in the ring, their work is high-energy, silly, odd, and even chaotic at times, going from spectacle to cartoon to pop culture critique and back again. – Cassidy Dawn Graves, *New York* magazine's *Bedford and Bowery* blog

CONTACT

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