

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JUNE 30, 2016

PICA ANNOUNCES THE 2016 TIME-BASED ART FESTIVAL

DATES: September 8–18, 2016, with exhibitions continuing through October
LOCATION: Various venues throughout Portland, Oregon, USA
ONLINE: pica.org/tba (available June 30, 2016)
PRESS PHOTOS: pica.org/tbapress (available June 30, 2016)
Password: picapressTBA2016
Additional images available upon request

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“We’ve researched globally and locally and invited an extraordinary group of visionary artists this TBA Festival who defy categorization and evoke response. TBA:16 is breaking down more borders, as artists are traversing mediums and forms of expression. The projects explore complex identities and realities, celebrate possibility, and acknowledge the fragility of human existence.” said Angela Mattox, PICA’s Artistic Director.

From September 8–18, 2016, PICA’s Time-Based Art Festival (TBA) will activate Portland, Oregon, with contemporary art projects that bring artists and audiences together, creating a vibrant community through live performances, music, film screenings, workshops, talks, and visual art installations - activating the city with the art of our time.

TBA is resolutely interdisciplinary, and champions those artists who are challenging forms and working across mediums, from dance to performance to visual art. The 14th edition of TBA features artists from near and far that urgently reflect our current cultural moment. Global in scope, TBA exposes artists from regions not normally presented in the US, with projects hailing from Lebanon, Bulgaria, South Korea, France, Germany, and beyond.

TBA:16 will be the first festival in **PICA’s new home at 15 NE Hancock**. We’ll be throwing the doors open with our annual opening night dinner followed by a ritual with Kelly Pratt, a visual exhibition opening with A.K. Burns’s multi-channel video work *A Smearly Spot*, and late-night performance party with Juliana Huxtable.

The logo for PICA, consisting of the letters 'PICA' in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The letters are positioned on a horizontal yellow bar that extends to the left of the 'P'.

415 SW 10th AVENUE
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pica.org

FESTIVAL

Kelly Pratt

Fanfare: Birth > Rebirth

SEPTEMBER 8: Commemorating the opening of PICA *Fanfare: Birth > Rebirth* inaugurates the festival in our new East Side home. The performance will be enacted by an all-ages ensemble comprised of hundreds of local brass and woodwind players directed by local composer Kelly Pratt. The piece is a celebration of new life and all of the opportunities that arise from it. With each beginning comes an infinite amount of possibilities to change ideas, lives, and events. Within the piece there will exist several sections open to improvisation to reflect the shifting dynamics of the audience and ensemble.

AK Burns

A Smeary Spot

SEPTEMBER 8 – OCTOBER 20

EXHIBITION OPENING: SEPTEMBER 8, 8:30 PM

HOURS:

SEPTEMBER 8–18, 12 PM – 5:30PM

SEPTEMBER 22 – OCTOBER 20:

Thursday–Friday, 12 PM – 6 PM; Saturday–Sunday, 12 PM – 4 PM

Part of *Makeup on Empty Space* curated by Kristan Kennedy

A Smeary Spot is a four-channel video installation drawing on theater and documentary methods to rework the genre of science fiction. Shot in two locations: on public lands in the deserts of southern Utah and inside a black box theater, where performers deliver recitations of appropriated and altered texts that compose a loose manifesto on being. Inside this cinematic experience is a surreal narrative of bodies in transition (both movement and definition) that act out, delivering curious combinations of language, materiality and gestures.

Bunnybrains

SEPTEMBER 1 – OCTOBER 15

EXHIBITION OPENING: SEPTEMBER 1, 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Part of *Makeup on Empty Space* curated by Kristan Kennedy

Co-presented with PNCA's 511 Gallery and Director of Center for Contemporary Art & Culture Mack McFarland

Dan Seward AKA Bunnybrains is a musician and promoter in Hudson New York, where he runs the celebrated (and somewhat nomadic) record store, John Doe Records. This exhibition focuses on Bunnybrains thirty plus years as a transgressive, mutable, performative project and what it means to illustrate the life of a true muse. Bunnybrains' career highlights include a vinyl only pressing with Matador, a national tour supporting Devendra Banhart, a four CD boxset that garnered raves from the indie press, and opening for a reunited Hawkwind—a set credited with giving the many hippies in attendance bad trips.

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Morgan Thorson

Still Life

SEPTEMBER 9, 10, 11, 13, AND 14: (WEST COAST PREMIERE)

Co-Presented with the Portland Art Museum and Curator of Modern & Contemporary Art at the Portland Art Museum, Sara Krajewski

Within the galleries of the Portland Art Museum, Minneapolis choreographer Morgan Thorson stages a durational ensemble dance that uses time as both subject and practice to process the meaning of killing, extinction, and loss. The piece enacts the death of choreography by erasing elements of the performance; with each repetition of the cycle, something is lost—a dancer, a sequence, or sound—and we are left with the physical and imaginative residue of their movement. The audience is welcome to come and go from the intimate space of the performance.

Christian Rizzo/*l'association fragile*

d'après une histoire vraie

SEPTEMBER 9 AND 10: (US PREMIERE) The powerful memory of a traditional dance leads seminal French choreographer Christian Rizzo on a bold and hypnotic exploration of masculine ritual. Stepping onto a stark white stage, the eight dancers are propelled by two live drummers. Their undulating movements build into frenetic bursts of dance that recall the centuries-old dances of the Mediterranean. By turns tender and vibrantly joyful, the all-male ensemble rides the friction between folkloric practice and formal contemporary performance, building a communal, visceral force.

Ivo Dimchev

Songs from my shows

SEPTEMBER 9 AND 10: (WEST COAST PREMIERE) Bulgarian performer Ivo Dimchev is known for breaking taboos in his provocative and boldly physical pieces. While his work blends performance art, dance, theater, and visual art, Dimchev's enormous musicality and his remarkable vocal gift are at the center of each of his productions. For this live musical event, he has selected 15 songs from his past performances to present as independent, individual opuses. Accompanied on the piano by Dimitar Gorchakov, Dimchev displays his prodigious talent in a stirring concert that leaps between the feral and the virtuosic.

Narcissister

SEPTEMBER 9 AND 10: Wearing mask and merkin, Narcissister's spectacle-rich live performances tackle issues of gender, racial identity, and sexuality. Humor, pop songs, elaborate costumes, contemporary dance, unabashed eroticism, and her trademark mannequin mask are her tools in deconstructing stereotypical representations and challenging the audience to question its own attraction and repulsion.

Britt Hatzius/Ant Hampton

Blind Cinema

SEPTEMBER 10, 11, 16, 17, AND 18: (US PREMIERE) In the darkness of a cinema, the audience sits blindfolded. Behind each row of audience members is a row of local

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schoolchildren—aged 8 to 11—who narrate a film only they can see. Accompanied by a wordless soundtrack, the children’s whispered descriptions form a fragile, fragmentary, and at times struggling but courageous attempt to find words for what is projected on the screen. Artist Britt Hatzius works with a different group of children for each screening, and PICA is advancing collaborations with Boise-Eliot/Humboldt School and King School.

Libby Werbel

Portland Museum of Modern Art

SEPTEMBER 10 AND 11

Co-presented with Houseguest

A weekend-long outdoor modern art museum, artist Libby Werbel orchestrates an exhibition in the heart of the city, inviting an impressive roster of performers to engage with the space. PMOMA draws a direct link between Portland’s lack of a major contemporary art museum and the impressive output of our creative community. PMOMA partners with PICA and the Houseguest Residency program to investigate these ideas in Pioneer Courthouse Square.

Meg Wolfe

New Faithful Disco

SEPTEMBER 10 AND 11: In LA-based choreographer Meg Wolfe’s lushly physical *New Faithful Disco*, belief is made manifest as energy. A queer-love power-trio of dancers—taisha paggett, Marbles Radio, and Wolfe—feel and feed on that energy, remixing it as they prepare to take on something BIG. Is it Love? Faith? Impermanence? Pleasure? Power? Propelled by nature sounds and disco fragments,, the dancers build communal energy into an accumulated whirlwind wrought with awkwardness and contradiction.

Royal Osiris Karaoke Ensemble

The Art of Luv (Part 1): Elliot

SEPTEMBER 10, 11, 12, AND 13: (WEST COAST PREMIERE) On May 23, 2014, Elliot Rodger killed six people and injured 13 in Santa Barbara, California, in a rampage motivated by his lack of success with women—a fixation he had detailed in a series of confessional and defiant YouTube videos. NYC theater company Royal Osiris Karaoke Ensemble responds to this wound to the body of Love with a modern-day ritual performance suffused with humor and experimentation. Within the sacred space of the performance, this “musical priesthood” will lead a group meditation on insecurity, longing, and masculinity, performing humanity’s common search for Love as we misunderstand it.

Keijaun Thomas

Distance is Not Separation: Section 1. Selective Seeing: Corners, You, Section 2: Painted Images, Colored Symbols: She’s Hard, She Q.

SEPTEMBER 11, 12, AND 13: (WEST COAST PREMIERE)

Part of *Makeup on Empty Space* curated by Kristan Kennedy

In Thomas’ most recent project *Distance is Not Separation*– she takes us back to what it means to be a femme black person growing up playing on the street corner, waiting till

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the street lights came on, the street lights being a signal for the darkness coming. Thomas investigates the black femme body in relation to the athletic body, thinking about value and skills. Thomas rethinks and rebalances how we see and observe sports imagery, the labor and value of craftsmanship, the hairdresser, the janitor, the 'exotic' dancer and how language constructs and transcribes symbols on to the black femme body.

Carlos Motta

Nefandus and Deseos/تابغر

SEPTEMBER 12: (WEST COAST PREMIERE) Carlos Motta is a multi-disciplinary artist whose work draws upon political history in an attempt to create counter narratives that recognize suppressed histories, communities, and identities. He will be presenting two of his films at TBA that draw on themes of geography, culture, gender norms, and religion. His work is known for its engagement with histories of queer culture and activism and for its insistence that the politics of sex and gender represent an opportunity to articulate definite positions against social and political injustice.

Sacha Yanow

Dad Band

SEPTEMBER 15

***Cherie Dre* is on exhibition at the Douglas F. Cooley Memorial Art Gallery from September 9 - October 9**

EXHIBITION OPENING: September 9 at 4:30 PM

EXHIBITION HOURS: 12 - 5 PM on Tuesday - Sunday

Co-presented with Douglas F. Cooley Memorial Art Gallery and John and Anne Hauberg Curator and Director, Stephanie Snyder

Sacha Yanow's solo performance is an intimate psychological portrait of the artist's father, her internalized dad, and patriarchy in general. For one night only, Dad covers and lip sync to his favorite songs from the '50s and '60s, shares footage of his 1970s winning appearance on the *To Tell the Truth* game show, presents motivational speeches, and more. His button-down shirts become his costumes, his yellow notepad usually reserved for stock market details contains his set list, and his Agatha Christie novel collection and Wall Street Journal become his props.

Dad Band is presented in conjunction with Yanow's Cooley Gallery exhibition, *Cherie Dre*, comprising the development of a new companion performance exploring Yanow's matrilineal line.

Luke Wyland

AU and the Camas High School Choir

SEPTEMBER 14

Presented in association with Young Audiences of Oregon

AU's collaboration with the Camas High School choir is an explosive, joyful expression of community and creativity that is—like most things involving the beloved Portland experimental pop outfit—a little hard to describe in words. This concert is the summation of a year's worth of planning that found AU's Luke Wyland working directly with Camas students to produce an exciting and entirely new body of music that blur the lines between propulsive art-pop and avant-garde soundscapes.

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Ali Chahrour

Leila's Death

SEPTEMBER 15 AND 16: (US PREMIERE) Lebanese choreographer Ali Chahrour explores the practice of Islamic Shiite religious ritual through dance and the body. In this performance, Chahrour takes the stage with two musicians and Leila, a professional mourner whose role it is to deliver the lamentations and honor the departed at a funeral. Woven from traditional *Ataaba* song verses and the plaintive cries of bereavement, the work is a poetic elegy to a fading cultural heritage. *Leila's Death* addresses the relationships between the body and religion, the mourner and the deceased, the sacred and the performed.

Dylan Mira

Duty Free

SEPTEMBER 15: (US PREMIERE)

Part of *Makeup on Empty Space* curated by Kristan Kennedy

A live video essay that arrives next to and against and through a base note, a vanishing point, an other history of orientations. Dylan Mira is an artist moving image and text, recording how language makes bodies. Her recent projects have been presented at Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, 356 Mission Rd, Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami, Performa 15, Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts, Film Society of Lincoln Center, and Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions.

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Allie Hankins

better to be alone than to wish you were

SEPTEMBER 15, 16, AND 17: Part lecture, part choreographic exposition, *better to be alone than to wish you were* is a solo performance that affirms the anticlimactic futility of lust, from its first intoxicating charge to its subsequent, stumbling pursuit. While slyly humorous, Portland artist Hankins unabashedly exploits and strips her body of its poetic nature as it is offered up for consumption, judgment, and of course: desire. Created with an all-female identified production team, *better to be alone...* weaves seduction, stand-up comedy motifs, and forced voyeurism in an attempt to exhibit the extraordinary and cumbersome illogic of love and sex.

Alessandro Sciarroni

UNTITLED_I will be there when you die

SEPTEMBER 16 AND 17: (US PREMIERE) Italian artist Alessandro Sciarroni returns to Portland with a performative reflection on the passing of time. Continuing his trilogy that began with *F-OLKS* (TBA:15), Sciarroni here focuses on another traditional artform comprised of repeated actions: juggling. He strips away all stereotypes commonly associated with this circus art, and creates a poignant and unexpected piece that evokes the fragility of human existence.

Geumhyung Jeong

7ways

SEPTEMBER 16 AND 17: Where lies the boundary between the body and the machine? In an empty space, illuminated only with cold light, South Korean artist Geumhyung Jeong explores the potential of the human: the sensuality, power, and mutability of the body. In seven peculiar “duets” with mundane objects (ranging from household appliances to CPR mannequins), Jeong bestows a bizarre and disconcerting life to the inanimate through an intense and risky interaction with her own body.

Rinde Eckert

My Fools: A Life in Song

SEPTEMBER 17: Rinde Eckert has been writing, composing, performing and directing evocative and haunting performance pieces and plays that have pushed at the edges of recognized theatrical form since the early 1980's. “My Fools: A Life in Song” combines song, dramatic monologues, lecture, and video from his archive. Beginning with a montage of visually striking moments from his shows across the decades, the work is a series of variations on a smart, slightly cock-eyed Everyman who begins his journey with a pure sense of mission and descends into the maelstrom.

Mohamed El Khatib

Finir en beauté

SEPTEMBER 16, 17, AND 18: (US PREMIERE) French/Moroccan author and director Mohamed El Khatib presents a solo lecture performance on loss and remembrance, drawing from documents from his family's past - newspaper clippings, emails, phone messages, scraps of exchanges with the father, recorded transcripts, videos. These snapshots of life evoke family, nationality, native language, memory, mourning and shift between between documentary and fiction.

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THE WORKS: LATE NIGHT AT TBA:16

Commemorating the opening of PICA *Fanfare: Birth > Rebirth* inaugurates the festival in our new East Side home. The performance will be enacted by an all-ages ensemble comprised of hundreds of local brass and woodwind players directed by local composer Kelly Pratt. The piece is a celebration of new life and all of the opportunities that arise from it. With each beginning comes an infinite amount of possibilities to change ideas, lives, and events. Within the piece there will exist several sections open to improvisation to reflect the shifting dynamics of the audience and ensemble.

Juliana Huxtable (House of LaDosha/NYC)

SEPTEMBER 8: Juliana Huxtable will treat the audience to a dynamic experience sonically and visually. The night will play between text, sound and video, questioning the parameters between club and gallery. In her work, Huxtable explores the intersections of race, gender, queerness, and identity. She uses a diverse set of means to engage these issues, including self-portraiture, text-based prints, performance, nightlife, music, writing, and social media. Huxtable's work has been featured in group presentations at MoMA

PS1, New York (2014); White Columns Annual, White Columns, New York (2014); "Take Ecstasy with Me," Whitney Museum of American Art, New York (2014); Frieze Projects, London (2014); and 2015 Triennial: Surround Audience, New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York (2015); among other venues.

PMOMA at THE WORKS

SEPTEMBER 9: The Portland Museum of Modern Art (PMOMA) curates a night of powerful and joyful performances. PMOMA creator Libby Werbel presents a selection of artists who will be activating the PMOMA exhibition in Pioneer Courthouse Square throughout the weekend. Tropic Green (Oakland, CA) incorporates reggae, house, spirituals, and Afrofuturist themes, Dynasty Handbag (Los Angeles, CA) emcees with her absurd mix of improv, comedy, and movement, and radical trio Strange Babes (Portland, OR) offers an eclectic DJ set.

Pepper Pepper

Critical Mascara: A Post-Realness Drag Extravaganza

SEPTEMBER 10: *Critical Mascara: A Post-Realness Drag Extravaganza* returns for its fourth year in a row serving you a wild hybrid of dance, vogue, and drag competition unlike any other! Critical Mascara is here to celebrate community and creativity through competition and collaboration. Hostess and drag-artist Pepper Pepper is joined by celebrated choreographer Kumari Suraj and Portland's luminaire Isaiah Esquire to MC, curate and produce the Pacific Northwest's largest, queerest and most fabulous extravaganza.

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Kelly Pratt

No No Soliciting

SEPTEMBER 11: *No No Soliciting* will feature several of Portland's most talented and respected musicians and songwriters performing songs specifically composed for the event. Each songwriter will take several different directives from the audience regarding form, key, tempo, melody, instrumentation, and lyrical content and compose a song in 15 minutes respecting these wishes. After the song is written they will return to the ensemble, walk the band (and audience) through the composition, and then perform the song while the following songwriter is composing the next song. Participating musicians are Kelly Pratt (Beirut, David Byrne/St. Vincent), Dave Depper (Death Cab for Cutie), Erika Anderson (EMA), Holcombe Waller, Johanna Kunin (Thao and the Get Down Stay Down), Matt Sheehy (Lost Lander, El Vy), Dana Buoy, and other surprise guests!

Andrew Dickson

Don't Get Me Started

SEPTEMBER 12: Your soapbox and microphone awaits at *Don't Get Me Started*, an evening featuring well-crafted rants by artists, comedians, activists and everyday citizens, with MC Andrew Dickson. After a series of presentations by invited guests, audience members will have a chance to participate in an open-mic style "speed round" of one minute rants.

DJ Klyph

Welcome to the Neighborhood Live!

SEPTEMBER 13: *Welcome to the Neighborhood Live!* expands the reach of the weekly radio broadcast bringing the very best from the northwest to the stage. DJ Klyph curates a night of hip hop featuring some of Portland's finest including DJ/Producer/MC Omega Watts of Mello Orange, Oakland transport MC Brookfield Duece, NW MC Matty Portland MC by way of Chicago Karma Rivera and Producer Trox, plus familiar elements of the WTTN broadcast. Expect a great night of music and surprises.

Blind Coven curated by Burke Jam

SEPTEMBER 14: *Blind Coven* will feature Portland-based songwriter, songstress, and actor Amenta Abioto. Abioto's work is on the cutting edge of all that is musical, theatrical, and literary. Her music is boldly mystical and soul-fired, and her raw improvisational live performances invoke elements of both theatrical surprise and magic through ancient African diasporic sounds and stories. The performance will feature a boutique designed 10-channel surround sound system as well as correlating lighting and visuals from artist DB Amarin.

Cinema Project

The Mechanics Laid Bare

SEPTEMBER 15: *The Mechanics Laid Bare* is a one-time only performance and celebration of the expanded cinema form. Referencing the psychedelic light shows of the 1960s and 70s as well as the harsh noise performances of contemporary avant-garde rebels like Bruce McClure, the Cinema Project collective, Portland-based musician Matt Carlson, and friends will create a momentary light and sound environment, a temporary dynamic installation in which to immerse audience members both wandering and still. Several 16mm projectors will run simultaneously and light beams will appear in the round.

Deep Under Ground (DUG) and Young Gifted & Brown (YGB)
Gifted Grounds

SEPTEMBER 16: DUG & YGB have been curating safe spaces for brown folks to congregate, express themselves, share stories, love one another, and move their bodies since early & mid 2015. They are now joining forces, to present, *Gifted Grounds*, a multi-sensory, community experience that will feel like no dance party you have ever stepped into. They're calling all Lovers, Creators, Change-Makers, Hustlers, Baby Mamas, Nation Builders, Dancers, Revolutionaries, Freedom Fighters, Spiritual Gangsters and Everyone in Between. Free yourself on this day...

Shannon Funchess

She's in Parties

SEPTEMBER 17: Shannon Funchess presents a curated evening of sound and sights. Funchess, is the founder, vocalist, producer and multi-instrumentalist of Brooklyn-based electronic group LIGHT ASYLUM. Funchess' vocal prowess has been sought after for many collaborations with acts such as TV on the Radio, LCD Soundsystem, and The Knife. Funchess toured as a member of The Knife in 2014, and participated in a Knight

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Foundation-funded residency in Detroit Michigan in 2015, spearheaded by electronic husband and wife duo ADULT. Funchess is currently producing and recording a much anticipated LIGHT ASYLUM sophomore release, enlivening a 20 year long DJ career and performing new solo material.

TBA:16 INSTITUTE

Each year, the TBA Festival connects audiences to renowned and radical artists and thinkers of our time. TBA Institute is an opportunity to expand audiences' festival experience through illuminating conversations and dialogues, participatory workshops, and deep-dive Field Guide sessions, as well as two immersive weekends of lectures, panels, and roundtables with TBA artists and Guest Scholars. For the first time, we've convened six visiting and local scholars and artists to immerse themselves in TBA as an experimental site for critical inquiry, engaged research, expanded discourse, and intellectual exchange with artists and audiences. Representing a range of practices, politics, and perspectives, our TBA:16 Guest Scholars are committed to notions of—and spaces for—public forum, direct dialogue, and equal exchange. Festival focus areas include new feminist performance; the queer Black body on stage/in motion; queer time, space, place, and futures on screen; the intersection of art, religion, and politics in Lebanon; and the cultural, curatorial and nightlife scenes of Portland's emerging women artists of color.

The logo for PICA (Portland Institute for Contemporary Art) features the word "PICA" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The letters are positioned on a horizontal yellow bar that extends to the left of the text.

ABOUT PORTLAND INSTITUTE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART (PICA):

Portland Institute for Contemporary Art acknowledges and advances new developments in contemporary art, fostering the explorations of artists and audiences. Since 1995, PICA has championed the practice of contemporary artists from around the world, driving vital conversations about the art and issues of today. PICA presents artists from visual and performance backgrounds and embraces those individuals who exist at the borders of genres and ideas. Through artist residencies and exhibitions, lectures and workshops, and the annual **Time-Based Art Festival**, PICA constructs a broad platform for contemporary art.