

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**JULY 23, 2015**

## **2015 TIME-BASED ART FESTIVAL: TEN DAYS OF ART IN REAL TIME!**

**WHEN:** September 10–20, 2015

**WHERE:** Various venues throughout Portland, Oregon

**ONLINE:** [www.pica.org/event/tba15](http://www.pica.org/event/tba15) | [pica.org](http://pica.org)

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**PRESS IMAGES:** [picapressTBA2015](#)

<http://pica.org/about/press/tba15-performance/>

<http://pica.org/about/press/tba15-works/>

<http://pica.org/about/press/tba15-visual/>

**Additional images upon request**

*“TBA is a globally minded festival that is firmly embedded in our local community. This edition, which celebrates PICA’s 20th anniversary, we’re thrilled to be inviting several local guest curators to expand our programmatic reach and reflect the current artistic energy of our changing city.”* - Angela Mattox, PICA Artistic Director

Portland Institute for Contemporary Art presents the 13th annual Time-Based Art Festival (TBA), September 10–20, 2015, featuring a fresh new wave of art in real time from a lineup of performing and visual artists hailing from all over the world including Italy, Tunisia, Japan, Norway, France, and across the US. TBA:15 hand delivers ten days of live performances, music, workshops, talks, and visual art installations in unexpected spaces—activating the city of Portland with the art of our time.

As a champion of artists working to push boundaries, the TBA Festival serves as a space for dialogue and exchange that fosters curiosity and connection. From morning workshops to afternoon artist talks, world premieres, and late-night performances, TBA is an open invitation to an immersive forum of new forms and new experiences.

PICA also continues its year of 20th Anniversary festivities at TBA:15 with a number of limited edition events (hint: dig out your old flannels, Lugz, and mood rings and get ready to party like it’s 1995)!

### **TBA:15 MAIN STAGE PERFORMANCE**

The 13th edition of TBA features performances from near and far that urgently reflect on our immediate cultural moment. This year’s Main Stage artists enter into meaningful pacts and transformative rituals with audiences while others connect with personal and darkly powerful storytelling or animate performance as a catalyst for collective catharsis. Audiences will find rarely experienced international work like that of Italian choreographer Alessandro Sciarroni, Ukrainian musicians DakhaBrahka, or the long-anticipated return of Philippe Quesne (*L’Effet de Serge*, TBA:08). This year’s projects activate folk traditions, investigate questions of personal privacy, identity, and explore art as advocacy. TBA:15 Main Stage performance offers a confluence of visionary, experimental artists from across the globe operating at the forefront of the expanding edges of contemporary performance.

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## TBA:15 MAIN STAGE PERFORMANCE

Holcombe Waller, *Requiem Mass: LGBT / Working Title*, September 11, 12

### WORLD PREMIERE | COMMISSION

Holcombe Waller's *Requiem Mass: LGBT / Working Title* is a ceremonial choral work that deeply explores contemporary faith, advocacy through art, and collective catharsis. Performed in historic Trinity Episcopal Cathedral with an all-abilities community choir drawn from all walks of life, *Requiem Mass* is a personal work that champions inclusiveness while working to invoke remembrance and peace for the dead who have suffered persecution for their sexual orientation or gender expression.

Alessandro Sciarroni, *FOLK-S Will you still love me tomorrow?*, September 11, 12

Lauded Italian choreographer and theatre director Alessandro Sciarroni is known for his awe inspiring stagings and works that straddle dance, performance art, and ritual anthropology. In *FOLK-S*, the Schuhplatter, a Bavarian folk dance is skillfully refined to its most essential form invoking a sense of play and ritualized trance.

keyon gaskin, *its not a thing*, September 11, 12

keyon gaskin has been working on the solo performance work, *its not a thing* for the past 2 years. he intentionally doesn't keep a studio practice around this piece, thus it has become an amalgamation of its multiple performances and a shifting record of itself. The piece is precarious and elusive for the artist and ideally the audience.

Okwui Okpokwasili, *Bronx Gothic*, September 11, 12, 13

At the intersection of theater, dance, and visual installation, *Bronx Gothic* tells the story of two young women on the verge of adolescence in the 1980s. *Bronx Gothic* emerges through visceral flashes of memory that unflinching detail clandestine sex-saturated notes passed between the two. This semi-autobiographical performance reverberates with physical potency while drawing inspiration from Victorian-era novels and West African griot storytelling to reveal an honest and darkly powerful tale of sexual self-discovery.

Get a taste of the Portland dance scene in this evening of two works, September 12, 13

Suniti Dernovsek, *Leading Light* + Luke Gutsell in collaboration with Nicholas Daulton, *The Self Possessed*

**Suniti Dernovsek:** In *Leading Light* (work-in-progress) choreographer and dancer, Suniti Dernovsek works with musician Holland Andrews to create a haunting reflection on personal stories and the performer's role in expressing an ideal versus what is intimate and flawed.

**Luke Gutsell:** In *The Self Possessed*, two young gay men attempt to integrate their shared identity and in the process invoke quasi-mystical states of transcendence and endure grueling tests of strength. To the beat of 80's house and pop diva hymns, the two exorcise demons of mainstream media and crumble each others' defenses with humor and kindness.

Lars Jan / Early Morning Opera, *The Institute of Memory (TIme)*, September 12, 13

*TIme* is a multimedia theater performance that smartly utilizes Cold War archival documents, Edward Snowden, Henryk Gorecki's 3rd Symphony, and a rhino to trace the constant shifting of memory over time. Based on Jan's father, an enigmatic Cold War operative, *TIme* resonates with personal storytelling and timely political issues around privacy.

Lucy Yim, *Devastation Melody*, September 12, 13, 14

Portland-based choreographer Lucy Yim brings to TBA:15 a solo work of mourning and melancholia. From here they depart, measuring the distance within body, thought, language, and feeling; as portal / continent / object / subject / memory / tool. Actions of voice, sound, and movement turn the internalized outward.

Tyondai Braxton, September 13

Tyondai Braxton, formerly of the band Battles, offers a solo performance featuring modular synthesizer and samples. Braxton will be performing pieces from *HIVE1* his first album in six years and his Nonesuch Records debut.

Aki Onda & Akio Suzuki, *ke i te ki*, September 14

In this duet performance, revered Japanese sound artists Akio Suzuki and Aki Onda respond to the architecture, acoustics, and energy of the performance space. They create music-based experiences and installations with self-made instruments, analogue tape machines, radios, wood, nails, hammers, and daily objects.

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## TBA:15 MAIN STAGE PERFORMANCE

**Michelle Ellsworth, *Preparation for the Obsolescence of the Y Chromosome*, September 15, 16, 17**

*Preparation for the Obsolescence of the Y Chromosome* attempts to prepare for the end of men. Utilizing a performance lec./dem. format and archival efforts, web technology, a male gaze simulator, choreography, token cultural gestures, and Ellsworth's signature absurdist humor, this work both combats and stirs rumors about the implications of the Y Chromosome's reputed demise.

**Radhouane El Meddeb / La compagnie de Soi, *Je danse et je vous en donne à bouffer*, September 15, 16**

French-Tunisian Choreographer Radhouane El Meddeb carefully observed his mother and aunts preparing couscous and national dishes for family gatherings from marriages to circumcisions and, mourning rituals... In *Je danse et vous en donne à bouffer*, El Meddeb expresses his love of preparation, and the sensuality of food in a form of sacredness and performative sharing. He is immersed in his loves of dancing and cooking. Seated before his couscous maker, El Meddeb performs and prepares couscous with generosity and poetry.

**Dynasty Handbag, *Good Morning Evening Feelings*, September 17**

Co-presented by Portland Museum of Modern Art

*Good Morning Evening Feelings* with Dynasty Handbag is a live, conceptual, one-hour hybrid morning/late-night/children's show for adults, hosted by everyone's favorite no one, Dynasty Handbag. This inspirational hour is designed to help you navigate through the four basic terrible human feelings - fear, anger, guilt, and shame - that pop up throughout your day and try to kill you.

**Philippe Quesne, *La Mélancolie des dragons*, September 17, 18**

Seminal French director and TBA alum (*L'Effet de Serge*, TBA:08) Philippe Quesne returns with the large-scale theater work *La Mélancolie des dragons*. Filled with Quesne's disarming wit and hints of magical realism *La Mélancolie* is set amid a snowy landscape of classic rock and medieval recorders where a band of metalheads is on a quest to build an amusement park devoted to hard-rock. Presented in English.

**Amy O'Neal, *Opposing Forces*, September 17, 18, 19**

*Opposing Forces* utilizes Hip Hop and live beats from Seattle's WD4D to choreographically explore the perceptions and fears around what is considered feminine. A cast of five world-class B-Boys tackle the value systems of gender within the worlds of breaking and contemporary dance with vulnerability and incredible power.

**Dana Michel, *Yellow Towel*, September 18, 19**

*Yellow Towel* takes its name from Dana Michel's childhood habit of wearing a yellow towel to emulate blonde girls. Influenced by the aesthetics of fashion, queer culture, and comedy, Michel creates a richly textured and gut wrenching account of black culture stereotypes. *Yellow Towel* is a conceptual performance work that explores socially ingrained constructions of normativity with honesty and fearlessness.

**Radhouane El Meddeb / La compagnie de Soi, *Au temps où les Arabes dansaient...*, September 18, 19**

French-Tunisian choreographer Radhouane El Meddeb harkens back to the glory age of Arab cinema in this bittersweet dance work performed by four men. Pared down to an existential intensity of rolling hips, exposed navels, and flirting, *Au temps* serves to eloquently celebrate and provoke.

**DakhaBrakha, September 19**

DakhaBrakha is a force of intricate vocal harmonies, pounding drums, and murmuring cello that builds to an anthem and invocation of visual spectacle. Droning vocals and punk sensibilities serve as backdrop for their their mission to bring the music of Ukraine to the world. Crafting new sonic worlds for traditional songs, DakhaBrakha crafts potent performances at the crossroads of Ukrainian folklore, politics, pop, punk, and theatre.

**Inгри Fiksdal, Ingvild Langgård and Signe Becker, *NIGHT TRIPPER*, September 19, 20**

*NIGHT TRIPPER* is at once an outdoor ritual, social event, forest walk, and concert that unfolds on a trail in the woods. The piece features six performers, instruments, art objects, a local choir, and potent forest spirits. Ancient mythology meets a vision of contemporary life where dreams and reality merge into a salient otherworldly tale. (OUTDOOR LOCATION TBA)

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## TBA:15 VISUAL ART: *PICTURES OF THE MOON WITH TEETH*

*Pictures of the moon with teeth* is an exhibition made up of projects by artists whose work asks *what do we believe in, or perhaps what is spirit?* In this way, their work lives at the intersections of belief and disbelief and that is where we will meet them.

This year PICA will be converting a 20,000 square foot building into installation and exhibition space at 2500 NE Sandy featuring work by Tannaz Farsi, Jibade-Khalil Huffman, Bill Jenkins, Dawn Kasper, Karl Larsson, Peter Siminsky, and Akio Suzuki. Stop by the opening reception before heading to THE WORKS at THE REDD on opening night of the Festival.

Curated by PICA's Visual Art Curator, Kristan Kennedy, these projects are free and open to the public from September 10 to October 11, 2015.

PICA AT 2500 SANDY: 2500 NE Sandy Blvd, Portland OR  
OPENING RECEPTION: Sept 10, 7:00 - 9:00 PM

### **Tannaz Farsi, *And Others***

Tannaz Farsi renders in light text by Bertolt Brecht with 5,000 LEDs programmed to brighten and intensify parts of this well-known author's writing—highlighting words as “vehicles of ideas” and with compelling simplicity suggests a thesis on the relationship of visibility to power.

### **Jibade-Khalil Huffman, *Vanishing Point / A Drive-In at the End of the World***

For TBA:15, Jibade-Khalil Huffman presents two concurrently running video works. Within the exhibition space, each will operate independently finding moments of alignment that express a larger narrative between the two. The result is an exploration of adaptation, mediation, and the act of seeing by way of pursuing the vanishing point and the nostalgia of drive-in movie theaters.

### **Bill Jenkins**

A continuation of Jenkins' experiments with light and architecture, this installation work is composed using a system of tarps and ducts to effect and capture light to evoke mass infrastructures in contradictory spaces. They raise questions of individual agency in relation to the complex historical, financial, and social structures that form spaces for living and working.

### **Dawn Kasper, *WHAT IS TIME?***

*WHAT IS TIME?* is a new site-specific performance composition illustrating historical perceptions of time in the ‘age of anxiety’. The work references philosophical topics such as the meaning of life, existentialism, and time to explore, interpret, and draw physical lines of interconnectivity through improvised movement and sound.

### **Karl Larsson with Morgan Ritter, Pascal Prosek, and Container Corps, *Commonplace***

H.P. Lovecraft's *Commonplace book* consists of 221 short ideas and sketches for weird fiction. In their lack of narrative outlines and prosaic structure, they appear almost more potent than they would be as long-form works. Larsson's *Commonplace* takes Lovecraft's book as a starting point where the unfinished idea, the formless form, and fear of what can never be fully grasped works as a methodological engine.

### **Peter Simensky, *Surface Contents 1 & 2***

Simensky's multi-part *Surface Contents 1 & 2* employs gold in a series of actions, prints, and architectural interventions. The resulting work will form a dialogue that sees a quantity of gold as both a literal index of a locatable value and something ever-shifting in meaning and influence.

### **Akio Suzuki, *Nami***

Ancient Japanese haiku describes the sea as “hinemosu notari notarikana... all day and night it moves slow and calmly,” with the shapes of waves never ceasing to shift and turn. In his work *Nami*, meaning waves, legendary sound artist Akio Suzuki translates this idea as sound installation.

### **MPA, *Nothing to You***

Curated by Chiara Giovando, Disjecta Curator-in-Residence, 2015-2016.

*I do not believe that this performance will put people into a transcendental state. We would need much more time together to accomplish this. So, what to do in the meantime?* - MPA

*Nothing to You* is a temporary site-specific installation that will act as a frame for an encounter. MPA will direct an action that tours the perimeters of thoughtful collision between bodies, objects, and sound within the space.

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## TBA:15 THE WORKS AT THE REDD

When the sun goes down, the Festival gathers for night soaked happenings and libations at THE WORKS. This year, THE WORKS brings a flood of guest curated nights, an homage to the Riot Grrrl movement, the fabulous force of “realness” that is Critical Mascara, late-night food cart fare, Time-Based Ale by Fort George Brewery, the return of Ten Tiny Dances, and to close the Festival out we’ll party like it’s 1995 to celebrate PICA’s 20th anniversary! THE WORKS is an after-party where everyone’s invited and a warehouse venue that transforms with each new day.

For the 13th edition of THE WORKS, PICA transforms THE REDD, a former foundry, metal stamping, and manufacturing building at 831 SE Salmon St. Portland, Oregon. **Outdoor bar opens nightly at 9:30 PM.**

### **TBA OPENING NIGHT AT THE WORKS: STEPHEN MALKMUS & THE JICKS**, Thursday September 10, Free, all ages.

The influential and relentlessly relevant rock band of mythical standing Stephen Malkmus & the Jicks kick off TBA:15 with a free concert for all! Fresh of the release of their latest album *Wig Out at Jagbags*, Stephen Malkmus and the Jicks are veteran Portland musicians Mike Clark, Joanna Bolme, Jake Morris, and frontman Stephen Malkmus.

### **LIVE RIOT: SINGING WE MUST RAGE! A SING ALONG**, Friday September 11

General Sisters and The Feminist Art Gallery with Emily Kingan, and other *Alien She* collaborators.

Musicians rooted in punk feminism perform a selection of songs expanding the notion of Riot Grrrl “hits.” *Live Riot* pulls into focus the politics and power of these fearless songs with karaoke style videos for the audience. Following the show Ginger will DJ the night away as you dance it out. Singing, we must rage!

### **CRITICAL MASCARA: A POST-REALNESS DRAG EXTRAVAGANZA**, Saturday September 12

Pepper Pepper

*Critical Mascara: A Post-Realness Drag Extravaganza* is a competition celebrating community and creativity. Inspired by the legacy of vogue balls, house culture, and irreverent activism, *Critical Mascara* is an expression of the new wave of queer liberation aesthetics.

### **S1 NIGHT AT THE WORKS**, Sunday September 13

S1 Presents: Zola Jesus (DJ set), U.S. Hard / Contemporary, Coast2C

Celebrated avant-pop explorer Zola Jesus performs a rare DJ set, Coast2C displays her voracious enthusiasm for worldly electronic music with an expansive dance journey, and US Hard / Contemporary performs experiments in minimal music live. Visual artists from around the globe will be featured on and off stage for an immersive experience.

### **TEN TINY DANCES**, Monday September 14

TBA favorite Ten Tiny Dances (TTD) returns! An experiment in confined space, TTD is dedicated to fostering inventive dance and performance while providing an exhilarating experience for audiences, all on a 4x4-foot stage. This 37th edition features Subashini Ganesan, Moon Patrol, Keith Hennessy, Michelle Ellsworth, Amy O’Neal, sub.set dance, and more!

### **DISORIENTED COMEDY: STANDUP COMEDY**, Tuesday September 15

Bri Pruett, Jenny Yang, D’Lo

Disoriented Comedy is the first-ever nationally-touring stand-up comedy showcase featuring the fresh voices of a (mostly) female, Asian American lineup. Since 2012, Disoriented Comedy has presented over 40 shows at independent theaters and clubs throughout the country.

### **BEACON SOUND NIGHT AT THE WORKS**, Wednesday September 16

Bardo:Basho, Benoit Pioulard, and Apartment Fox

BEACON SOUND brings to TBA:15 an experimental night of music featuring performances by Benoit Pioulard, Bardo:Basho, and Apartment Fox. Together all three Beacon Sound artists occupy a different yet complimentary place near the nexus of contemporary experimental, electronic, and ambient music

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**DJ KLYPH NIGHT AT THE WORKS, *Welcome to the Neighborhood Live!***, Thursday September 17  
Featuring: Vursatyl, Mic Capes, Theory Hazit, and Neka & Kahlo

*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 MC Vursatyl of the legendary Lifesavas movement, Hip Hop / soul duo Neka & Kahlo, St. John's MC Mic Capes of The Resistance, and MC/ Producer Theory Hazit.

**DECIBEL FESTIVAL NIGHT AT THE WORKS**, Friday September 18  
Featuring: Lapalux, Strategy, Racia w/ Cold Brew Collective

Decibel Festival curates three compelling audio/visual performances, each channeling a distinct output. Seattle's Raica aka Chloe Harris with the Coldbrew Collective. Portland's own Strategy "implants dub's DNA in a whole new host" according to Pitchfork. and UK-based abstract R&B composer Lapalux.

**PARTY LIKE IT'S 1995! (PICA's TBA 20th Anniversary Dance Party)**, Saturday September 19  
Featuring: SNAP! + MORE

1995 was a fruitful year in Portland. Punk and indie bands filled clubs like Satyricon and La Luna, DIY ruled, and PICA was born. For the closing night of TBA, we'll celebrate the spirit of 1995 with songs, stories, and videos inspired by the pioneering music and artists of the era, followed by a 1995-focused edition of Portland's SNAP! 90's DANCE PARTY, and 1995-priced drink specials at the bar! Co-produced by Claudia Meza.

## TBA:15 INSTITUTE

Each year, the TBA Festival convenes around connecting audiences with the most renowned and radical artists of our time. The TBA Institute provides an additional platform for connection between artists and audiences. It is an opportunity to expand your TBA experience with activities that range from free TBA conversations, gallery tours, and salons to immersive workshops, Field Guide sessions, and curated Festival Flights—TBA Institute brings you further into conversation with the ideas, research, and inspirations behind the work presented in the Festival.

# PICA

## 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.

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