



Wild Art Group Presents

On Death

One night of unbridled living inspired by death

Saturday, February 9, 2019

7PM

Pollution.tv Studios
1531 S Grande Vista Ave
Los Angeles, CA 90023

@wildartgroup
www.wildartgroup.org

Created by Allison M Keating
Original Score by Paul Nabil Matthis

Performed by

Shawn Brown
Murphy Martin
Katie McKewin
Kristin Tripe

Production Team

Created, Directed and Produced by Allison M Keating
Producer: Jade Cagalawan
Composer: Paul Nabil Matthis
Scenic Designer: Melanie Waingarten
Costume and Puppet Designer: Alexandra Friedman
Lighting Designer: R.S. Buck
Sound Designer: Cinthia Nava-Palmer
Videographer: Paul Fenkhart
Stage Manager: Jaime Mills
Marketing Manager: Phoenix Rodman

About *On Death*

In the space of a one-night-only performance, which by design is as energetically potent as it is fleeting, lies artist Allison M Keating's reflection on "why stay alive?"—an existential question posed after a friend's suicide and Trump's detrimental renouncement of the Paris Climate Agreement. As ephemeral as life itself, *On Death* invites us to celebrate in raw reverie what gives us reason to live. Appealing to the viscera of its audience with collaged visual metaphors of life-high mimicry and imaginative facsimiles of death (giant flies, song, hooded tap dancers, a TrumpFly, a choir), this cathartic unfettered release is bounded by the self-imposed limitation of Keating's ultimate purpose—the creation of a papertape. This pre-1912 method of printing film stills onto paper has proven to be the most durable and longest lasting method in which to capture live performance. With technical and directorial decisions committed to the production of material testimony meant to outlast the humans in the room, the performance struggles with the tension between our id-driven quest for momentary pleasure and our ego-driven ambitions to leave a legacy beyond our corporal existence. Keating posits that both living in the moment and living for the future stem from the unitarily absurd motivation to cheat death as she asks us to consider this most influential of fears and reminds us that we always have hope.

Wild Art Group is a project based performance company based in the booming arts town of Los Angeles dedicated to developing and creating new artworks by Allison M Keating. Wild Art Group creates artistic projects that are relevant to NOW, charging people to examine and question our current contemporary moment. Keating's performances herald unfettered self expression and are daring, ambitious, visually striking, exciting and never without a sense of danger.

Wild Art Group works to ensure the experimental arts (works of art in which the outcomes are unknown) have a thriving future in America by fueling a culture of collaboration, resource sharing, support and sustainability, both economic and environmental. In this vein, Wild Art Group organizes Wild Art Parties, a chance for Los Angeles experimental artists of all professional stages to perform bold, risky new work in a supportive atmosphere.

Shawn Brown (Actor)

RS Buck (Lighting Design) is an international lighting designer for theater, dance, and mixed media, as well as a creator of immersive environments and interactive art. Upcoming work includes *Canyon* with IAMA, *Formulae and Fairy Tales* with Invertigo Dance Theatre, *Hairspray* with Grand Arts, as well as touring with the In[heir]itance Project, a national company that recontextualizes and rehumanizes sacred texts. Their work has been seen in LA at the Ford Amphitheatre, the Wallis, REDCAT, LATC, 18th St Arts Center, the Bootleg, the Mortuary, and more. In NYC their work has been seen at The Public, Ars Nova, the Bushwick Starr, and more. Buck has an MFA in Lighting Design from CalArts and a BA in Dramatic Arts from UNC-Chapel Hill.

Jade Cagalawan (Producer) A native to Los Angeles, Jade is an Educator, AEA Stage Manager, Production Manager, Company Manager, and new producer. She received her MFA in Stage Management from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and a Graduate Certificate in Higher Education. Previous credits include: Assistant Company Manager for Lythgoe Family Productions, Stage Manager for *Vietgone* (East West Players), ASM for *Skeleton Crew* (Geffen Playhouse), and Company Manager for Ojai Playwrights Conference. She recently became the Arts Education and Professional Enrichment Programs Manager at East West Players. Her next producing project will be *The Vagina Monologues* at the Expo Arts Center in Long Beach with fellow artist, Cinthia Nava-Palmer.

Paul Fenkart (Videographer) For nearly twenty years, Paul has worked in a variety of functions on large and small projects. His work has included documenting behind the scenes on Hollywood Blockbusters like *Watchmen* and *Speedracer*, creating innovative documentaries for PBS, sensitive insightful classical pieces with the Los Angeles Philharmonic and international talent like Gustavo Dudamel, Herbie Hancock, and John Lithgow. Having left his native Austria to follow his calling to make films, Paul started at the New York Film Academy, took classes at the Rockport College of Photo and Film, and many other classes and workshops. His teachers include Robert Butler, Evin Lotman, and Judith Weston. Through his unique perspective on culture as an ex-Pat who traveled the world extensively, his education and experiences, and his personal sensitivity, Paul developed the capacity to create deep authentic connections with his subjects, and capture their essence while not interrupting the artistic process that he is documenting. Paul has directed, shot, and produced a great variety of projects in Europe and the USA with an emphasis on documentary and music. Silverlake, Los Angeles, has been his home since 2000, and if not out of town or working, Paul can be found enjoying SoCal life.

Alexandra Friedman (Costumes Design) Alexandra Friedman designs environments for live performance and film. Upcoming projects include LAIKA's newest stop-motion feature *Missing Link* (set design; premiering 4/12/19), a remount of Ammo's *Fairy Tale Theatre 18 & Over: the Musical* at the Pico (set design; 2/22-3/10/19), and music videos for Anna Akana and Big Data (production design). Other favorite projects for screens include the short films *On Time* (costume design) and *Eclipse* (production design). Theatre: *Vasalisa* (set – Source Material, PDX); *Murmuration* (set – Sharon Disney Lund Theater, CalArts); *A Dreamplay* (costumes – Disney Modular Theater, CalArts); *Pomegranate Jam: A Shadow Ballet* (set, costumes, puppets – Edinburgh Festival Fringe); *Invasion!* (set – Crowded Fire, SF); *Crevice* (set – Impact, Berkeley); *Into the Woods* (set – Berkeley Playhouse). Alex is especially interested in media that embrace the tactile craft of design, and got to explore a lot of methods and materials in developing the costume/puppet pieces for this project. She is excited to share the experience of *On Death* with you. Love to JP and thanks to MW for sharing the right side of the dirt throughout this process. MFA: CalArts. www.afriedmandesign.com

Allison M Keating is a visual artist, experimental theater director, and artist curator. In 2015 she founded the project based performance company Wild Art Group in Los Angeles. Wild Art

Group creates original art projects that are specific to our current contemporary moment of NOW, charging people to examine and question the world we live in. Her performance art, drawings, and video art have been shown in New York and Los Angeles at Highways Performance Space, Machine Project, Paloma Street Studios, 3LD Art & Technology Center, Pollution.tv among others. She holds an MFA in Directing/Integrated Media from the California Institute of the Arts.

Murphy Martin (Actor) Hello, my name is Murphy and I love to act. The end.

Paul Nabil Matthis (Composer) is a half-Syrian composer, performer, and author living in Los Angeles. He received his M.F.A. in music composition and vocal performance from CalArts in 2013, where his first original musical, Lunatic Sun, was performed. He was born the year Grandmaster Flash and the Furious Five released "The Message" down the road from the prison where Lead Belly first met Alan Lomax. His original works for dance, theater, and film have won several awards and been featured in venues across the globe. He is the songwriter and frontman for his band Mad Apple, has a couple published fantasy short stories, has completed a debut fiction novel, and is currently workshopping a chamber opera based on the life and poetry of his grandfather, Ali al-Jundi. He is a regular panelist at the World Fantasy Convention. In his spare time, he walks up mountains, live-loops on YouTube, and drinks far too much fancy tea.

Katie McKewin (Actor)

Jaime Mills (Stage Manager) Recently attended Santa Monica College Theatre Arts Program with studies in both Stage and Production Management. Some of her most recent Stage Management Credits include *The Resurrection Experience I & II* held at the Redondo Beach Performing Arts Center, *The Dance Experience I - V* at the Martha B.Knoebel Dance Theater at Cal State Long Beach University and *Violet with Actors Co-Op Theater* in Hollywood, CA. This year Jaime will stage manage several upcoming productions including a dance production entitled *Inspire* in Los Angeles.

Cinthia Nava-Palmer (Sound Designer) Cinthia is a California native who has traveled around the world and is happy to be home. She earned her B.A. in Drama from UC Irvine. She is a teaching artist, and does sound work and music composition for film and theatre. Stay tuned for her direction of an English/Spanish production of *The Vagina Monologues* at the Expo Arts Center in Bixby Knolls, Long Beach, on February 23rd. Proceeds will benefit local women's and family shelter, "Su Casa- Ending Domestic Violence".

Kristin Tripe (Actor) is an actor, filmmaker, and arts educator working in Los Angeles. She recently earned her MFA in Acting from California Institute of the Arts, where she specialized in speech pedagogy, and she also has a BA in Theatre from the University of Nebraska at Omaha, where she specialized in Theatre of the Oppressed. Kristin currently works as an educator at Los Feliz Charter School for the Arts, where she integrates theatre and social studies learning

with elementary school students, and is in post production for her debut film, *Fortunate Country*. She is most interested in the place where arts and empowerment intersect, and believes deeply in the ability of performative storytelling to change the world. She loves games, sports, yoga, dance, and making people smile.

Melanie Waingarten (Scenic Design) is an international scenic designer, architect, visual artist, performer and deviser. Her work explores the intersection of visual art, design and performance and the meaning of politics in the context of contemporary theater. Melanie graduated from Torcuato Di Tella University in Buenos Aires with an Architecture Degree and a Master Degree in Performance Design from California Institute of the Arts.