



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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LGBTQIA+ dance community comes together for upcoming virtual festival

WHAT: Gaze: A Queer Research Gathering

WHEN: June 16 - 20, 2021

WHERE: FREE virtual festival found online at danceplace.org

May, 2021 (Washington, D.C.) -- Dance Place is excited to host and present *Gaze*, a 5-day virtual festival highlighting local and national LGBTQIA+ artists and companies. Featuring performances from Creep Cuts and jumatatu m. poe and Donte Beachem and virtual workshops as part of Excessive Realness, a queer-normative dance intensive, this full week event will celebrate and honor queer identities and expression.

See below for the full schedule and description of events.

Excessive Realness - June 16-20, 2021, all virtual

Excessive Realness is a queer-normative dance intensive geared toward LGBTQIA+ people who consider themselves dancers or use dance as a tool for their own artistic and personal practice. This intensive provides a platform for participants to channel their own artistic practices, personal expression, and sociopolitical engagement through dance, performance, queerness, and the many other intersecting identities that people within these communities hold. [Click here](#) for more information on how to register for Excessive Realness.

Jumatatu m. poe and Jermone Donte Beacham - June 16, 2021, 5pm virtual Streaming on danceplace.org through Monday, June 28 following the presentation

This Is an Invitation is the latest project in jumatatu m. poe and Jermone Donte Beacham's Let 'im Move You decade-spanning series of performance and installation projects. Since 2009, jumatatu and Donte — with an extensive squad of collaborators — have centered their explorations of J-Sette movement and culture to explore recurring themes of intimacy, spectacle, belonging, organization, tenderness, and happiness. These performance and installation projects source J-Sette's legacy of formatting call-and-response choreographies, social hierarchies, sensual and spectacular movement choreographies, and ornate rhythmic structures in order to activate playful and complex images of Black femininity and queer affection. Invitation juggles between two choreographed duets, both filmed at dawn in outdoor locations in Mississippi (Jackson and Hazlehurst) and Bahia (Salvador and Itaparica), respectively. The two duets — jumatatu and Donte in Mississippi, and Sebastião Abreu and Uoston Alcântara in Bahia — are both performed and auto-documented by the respective pairs, each framing self and environment as a

means to create the terms for being seen. The project is choreographed by jumatatu and Donte, directed by jumatatu.

Creep Cuts - June 17, 2021, 5pm virtual

Streaming on danceplace.org through Monday, June 28 following the presentation

What do you do when you want to perform your full length drag cabaret but all you can do is stare at the wall? What happens when the distraction and the self doubt kick in? You think to yourself: Is this drag? Is this a cartoon? Is this real life? If we knew the answers to any of this, we probably would have one of those really inspirational advice socials with millions of followers. Since we don't, and we don't, we instead present to you CREEP CUTS IN FREEZE RESPONSE! FREEZE RESPONSE follows agitprop surrealists and anti-fascist clowns Mz. Asa Metric and Mqr En Between (that's us) as we accidentally present an evening of genre-queer cabaret. Join us as we careen between dada drag, original electronic music, gay ass social media diatribes and malfunctioning sketch comedy to try and make sense of our nervous, overactive imagination.

A Conversation with Gaze artists - June 18, 2021 5pm virtual

Join artists involved with Dance Place's Gaze festival for an informal dialogue. Community members are welcome to join the conversation! More information is coming soon.

The SPILL by Excessive Realness - June 19, 2021 7pm virtual

Streaming on danceplace.org through Monday, June 28 following the presentation

The SPILL features faculty of Excessive Realness: LGBTQIA+ artists from around the country. The performance celebrates the innumerable imaginations, identities, and experiences that exemplify queerness and queer dance.

Dance Place's Gaze Festival is supported by generous grant funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation, and the Tom Lane Fund.

About Dance Place

Founded in 1980, Dance Place builds a community of artists, audiences and students through high quality performances, commissions, training and educational programs. We are committed to enriching the field of dance locally, nationally and internationally. Led by Executive Artistic Director Christopher K. Morgan, our thriving arts campus serves as an anchor in our Brookland / Edgewood neighborhood in Washington, DC.

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