

ODC Theater presents

State of Play 2026

For a week in June, the Djerassi Resident Artists' Program hosted four lead artists from ODC Theater's 2026 State of Play festival and a gaggle of their collaborators—bright creative minds all. It was a beautiful and generous week, a partnership co-created alongside Djerassi's Creative Director Mushi Wooseong James and Executive Director Craig Adams. It was an honor to work, create, and live on the land with our artists and the impeccable caretakers of the land.

We talked about analog processes. We talked about relating. We talked about what happens when two human planes meet—when two whole realities come up against one another, physically and figuratively, dancing along a seam of relation. We talked about the value of space and time to make. We talked about slowing down.

Throughout the creation of this year's festival, I am struck by a theme: tuning into the body and knowledge of our nervous systems. We are each uniquely positioned to respond to our deepest physical and psychic downloads, if only we listen. gizeh, Laila, Malinda & Emmaly, Leslie, Erin, Johnny, Khala, Babatunji, and Chafin offer a variety of suggestions to look toward movement, movement practice, dance, and creativity, as well as rest, nourishment, good food, good conversation, and collaborations that are still borne of passion.

In contemplative times when we have a collective opportunity to make the same choices—or different ones—than in the past, how might experimenting with a new idea, delving into a creative curiosity, or taking a risk in how we approach process and life elicit a sense of playfulness and joy?

State of Play, co-curated by **Zaquia Mahler Salinas** and me, invites you to find out.

Warmly,



Chloë L. Zimberg
Creative Director, ODC Theater

Scan QR code to read more about
the **artists and work** featured in
State of Play Festival



odc.dance/stateofplay

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

7:00–9:00pm | State of Play Kick Off Party:

Hosted By **36m** THOUGHT PROVOKING
ODC Home Company **Kinetech Arts**
and 2022–2024 resident curator
Maurya Kerr

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28

10:00am | Morning Workshop: *Florwerk For the Dance-Curious* with **gizeh muñiz**

7:00pm | Opening Night Performance &
After Party: **Dragons Dance/Erin Yen - Nervous, Johnny Huy Nguyễn - BURN, & Laila J. Franklin - BABYBABYBABY**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29

10:00am | Morning Workshop: *Experiments in Dancing About Love* with

BABYBABYBABY dancers

Sarah Pacheco and Sasha Peterson

3:00pm | **Babatunji with Hadassah Perry - F** 

3:30pm | **Laila J. Franklin - BABYBABYBABY** 

5:00pm | **gizeh muñiz - Molino for Levitation**

6:30pm | **Malinda LaVelle & Emmaly Wiederholt -** 
What the Hell Happened in San Francisco?

7:30pm | **Khala Brannigan - Maura** 

8:30pm | **Leslie Cuyjet - Blur**

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

10:00am | Morning Workshop: *From Risk to Reflection—Giving Form to Your Dance Story* with **Malinda LaVelle & Emmaly Wiederholt**

2:30pm | **Leslie Cuyjet - Blur** 

3:30pm | **seymour::dancecollective - vernacular** 

4:30pm | **Dragons Dance/Erin Yen - Nervous & Johnny Huy Nguyễn - BURN** 

6:00pm | **gizeh muñiz - Molino for Levitation** 

7:30pm | **Malinda LaVelle & Emmaly Wiederholt - What the Hell Happened in San Francisco?**
(Live Audio Description + Haptic Access Tour)

 ASL Interpretation Provided

ARTIST LINEUP

RISK-TAKERS // Evening Length Performances

Leslie Cuyjet, Laila J. Franklin, Malinda LaVelle & Emmaly Wiederholt, gizeh muñiz

CURIOUS CREATORS // Short Form Performances

Johnny Huy Nguyễn, Dragons Dance/Erin Yen

EXPERIMENTERS // Studio Presentations

Khala Brannigan, Babatunji, seymour::dancecollective

ADDITIONAL CREDITS

ODC Founder and Artistic Director **Brenda Way**

Executive Director **Carma Zisman**

ODC Theater Creative Director **Chloë L. Zimberg**

ODC School Director & Associate Choreographer **Kimi Okada**

ODC Fellow **KT Nelson**

ODC Theater Resident Curator **Zaquia Mahler Salinas**

Audience Services Manager **Katya Oleinikov**

Theater Event & Outreach Coordinator **Ezra Taylor Howlett**

Theater Associate, Operations Coordinator **Sam Hannum**

Box Office Associate **Faith Alexis Dalton**

Director of Production **Thomas Bowersox**

Production Coordinator **Mary Clare Blake-Booth**

Marketing, Communications, & External Affairs **Sophie Leininger**

Publicist **John B. Hill**

Wardrobe Supervisor **Kyo Yohena**

State of Play Stage Manager **Kirra Long**

State of Play Lighting Designer **Danielle Ferguson**

Associate Lighting Designer **Adrian Gilstrap**

ASL Interpretation **Pilar Marsh**

Audio Description **Gravity Access Services**

Front of House **AJ Ong Cortez, Callie Norberg, Annika Mikk, Sophia Grimani, Leilana Majri, Price Little, Brooke Terry, Hannah Cohen, Valerie Mendez, Johnny Cox, Catalina O'Connor, Finn Jordan, Anna Gichan, Jonatan Garibay, & Renee-Valentina Pascua**

ODC Theater Technicians **Shy Baniani, Thomas Bishop, Cornelius Green, Avery Lythcott-Haims, & June Whitehorse**

Scan QR code to see the **Performances & Events Calendar**



odc.dance/calendar

Scan QR code to get the **State of Play Digital Recap**



odc.dance/connect

Scan QR code to read about the **ODC Theater Team**



odc.dance/theater

Scan QR code to view the **ODC Staff List**



odc.dance/staff

Scan QR code to view the **ODC Board of Directors**



odc.dance/board

Scan QR code to **Donate to ODC Theater**



odc.dance/support-theater

*Please support ODC Theater's
Annual Fundraising Campaign*

ODC graciously thanks the following individuals and institutions for their support of ODC Theater:

Anonymous
Lawrence Baker
Jennifer Bogoievski
Marybeth Coyne
Jim and Jessica Doyle
Danek Duvall
Fleishhacker Foundation
Charles Hanes
Didier Legall
Steve Lund
Sam Mazza Foundation
Russell Nelson
Jennifer Norris and Doris Flaherty
Aubrey Mailliard Rawlins and
the Charlotte Mailliard Shultz Fund for the Arts
John Robinson
San Francisco Foundation
San Francisco Grants for the Arts
Marlo Sarmiento
Gae Shulman
Tim Streb
Lilian Chi Tsai
Brian Williamson

Media Sponsors



San Francisco
Chronicle

San Francisco
magazine

Community Partners



DJERASSI
RESIDENT ARTISTS PROGRAM



odc

ODC THEATER PRESENTS
**STATE OF
PLAY** 2026
August 27 - 30

