



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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On the Boards 2017–2018 Season

SEPTEMBER 2017 – JUNE 2018

SEATTLE, WA – **On the Boards (OtB)** is proud to announce our **17/18 Season. Art, Activism, Protest, History, Dreams and 100% More Chicken Suits than last year.**

OtB kicks off its 39th season with powerful theater of dissent by Belarus Free Theater with Maria Alyokhina of Pussy Riot; we're investing in the creation of new works by NW-based artists Dani Tirrell, Alice Gosti, Evan Flory-Barnes, Frank Boyd, Cherdonna and Kate Wallich. We're welcoming back OtB faves Forced Entertainment; presenting an operatic meditation on Pancho Villa and US/Mexico relations; and featuring one of contemporary dance's leading innovators, Bebe Miller Company. This season's artists hail from Austin, Mexico, Australia, Eastern Europe, England, Ohio, Capitol Hill, South Seattle, and Ballard. The 17/18 Season marries art and protest, music, theater, dreams, and jokes, and – in typical OtB fashion – intellect and fun!

We continue our mission of innovation, equity, and artistic growth this year with programs designed to build bridges across communities, including the **Ticket Bank** (now in its third year), a lottery system allowing patrons to buy tickets for art fans in need; the **Ambassador Writers Corps Project**, (the Ambassador Project now in its fourth year) a community-wide cohort of some of Seattle's leading creative minds – who meet with our local artists to create program notes, essays, and conversations around OtB performances; **Studio Suppers**, intimate, family-style meals served on-site by local chefs with a portion of the proceeds going to local charities; **Open Studio**, our nuts-and-bolts showcase for artists making experimental work now in its third year; and **OntheBoards.tv**, entering its 7th year. We've got 53 High-Definition performance films, users in 157 countries, and at 110 universities! Our **Performance Production Program** continues to provide support for new and commissioned works. OtB is known internationally for constant innovation and organizational stability as our national and global landscape changes, and we plan to keep it that way – even in the face of changing artistic leadership.

Big changes are in the works for OtB and we couldn't be more excited. This summer we're launching a national search for new artistic leadership. Lane Czaplinski – our artistic director of 15 years is departing this month for the Wexner Center for the Arts in Columbus, Ohio. As an organization that presents risk-taking new performance we are more than comfortable with change. New energy is important – and we're fiscally strong, smart, and we have our mission and values as On the Boards' touchstones that remain steadfast and true.

- On the Boards puts artists first. We invest in artists near and far – and value them as leaders and community connectors who inspire, enrich lives, and contribute to civic and global dialogues.
- We strategically advance the role contemporary artists play in society.
- We create a comfortable space for all kinds of people to meet ideas that might feel uncomfortable.
- We embrace racial and social equity to ensure our organization includes multiple viewpoints;
- We value good hospitality, and we like to have fun.

We are proud of all we've accomplished in our 39 years. The present is exciting and the future even more so. We'll see you soon at OtB!



JODY KUEHNER/CHERDONNA SHINATRA: *KISSING LIKE BABIES: PART III OF ONE GREAT BRIGHT BRITTLE ALLTOGETHERNESS*. PHOTO: DYLAN WARD

2017–18 Subscription Series

- Belarus Free Theatre (Belarus) | *Burning Doors* | **Theater**
- Jody Kuehner/Cherdonna Shinatra (Seattle) | *Kissing Like Babies: Part III of One Great Bright Brittle Alltogetherness* | **Theater/Dance**
- Graham Reynolds + Shawn Sides + Lagartijas Tiradas Al Sol (Texas/Mexico) | *Pancho Villa from a Safe Distance* | **Theater/Opera/Music**
- Kate Wallich + The YC (Seattle) | *Dream Dances* | **Dance**
- Forced Entertainment (England) | *Real Magic* | **Theater**
- Tamara Saulwick (Australia) | *Endings* | **Theater/Music**
- Evan Flory-Barnes (Seattle) | *On Loving the Muse and Family* | **Music/Comedy**
- Bebe Miller Company (Ohio) | *The Making Room* | **Dance**
- Alice Gosti (Seattle) | *Material Deviance in Contemporary American Culture* | **Dance**
- Frank Boyd & Libby King (Seattle/San Francisco) | *Patti & The Kid* | **Theater**
- Dani Tirrell (Seattle) | *Black Bois* | **Dance**
- Kaneza Schaal & Cornell Alston (New York) | *Jack & Jill* | **Theater**

More

ONTHEBOARDS.TV

HD films of the world's best performance, filmed onsite and elsewhere. Available for streaming and download. Thousands of students at 110 universities use OntheBoards.tv, as do individuals in 157 countries.

AMBASSADOR PROJECT

Local creative leaders harness the power of art + community.

STUDIO SUPPERS

Intimate opening night suppers created by local chefs, with a portion of the proceeds going to charity.

OPEN STUDIO

No frills, no tech – just available space for local artists to try new projects.

5PM SUNDAY SHOWS

5pm performance times allow more flexibility for attendees with families.

OtB + You = The magic is exponential



PHOTO: ALEX BRENNER

Belarus Free Theater
Burning Doors

Artistic Expression – Freedom Authoritarian Government

Sep 28–Oct 1, 2017 **Belarus | Theater**

Burning Doors shines a light on artists declared enemies of the state and expression as treason. Belarus Free Theatre is the first theater to survive, function, and flourish in exile and at home. They have been incarcerated for the art they make. To create this piece, the ensemble has combined forces with Maria Alyokhina of Pussy Riot.



PHOTO: JIJI LEE

Jody Kuehner/Cherdonna Shinatra
Kissing Like Babies: Part III of one great bright brittle alltogetherness

Dance + Drag + 7[Brass Band]

Oct 12–15, 2017 **Seattle | Theater**

In this dance/theater piece, OtB audiences will explore childhood with the help of bio-drag queen Cherdonna, a seven piece brass band, and therapy with a live kitten. Cherdonna Shinatra takes what you recognize about dance, what you believe about drag, what intrigues you about improvisation and what delights you about entertainment, effortlessly tosses it in a mason jar, shakes it up, and opens the lid.



PHOTO COURTESY THE ARTISTS

Graham Reynolds + Shawn Sides + Lagartijas Tiradas Al Sol *Pancho Villa from a Safe Distance*

Enigmatic Legendary Bandit
Mexico + America x *Experimental Opera*

Nov 16 – 19, 2017 **Texas/Mexico | Theater/Opera/Music**

Experience the legendary bandit, enigmatic general, and hero of the Mexican Revolution through the lenses of experimental opera and both sides of the border. Graham Reynolds is a composer and bandleader who collaborates widely with other artists. Lagartijas Tiradas Al Sol creates work that crosses borders and links work and life.



PHOTO: ANDREW J.S.

Kate Wallich + The YC *Dream Dances*

Dance + Deconstructed x [d x r x e x a x m x s]

Dec 7–10, 2017 **Seattle | Dance**

Seattle dance it-girl Kate Wallich brings a new work featuring layered movement scenes and deconstructed dream fragments. Wallich is a Seattle-based dancer and choreographer, last seen at OtB with her piece *Splurge Land* in 2015.



PHOTO: HUGO GLENDINNING

Forced Entertainment *Real Magic*

Spoiler Alert = Chicken Suits

Jan 18–21, 2018 **England | Theater**

Contemporary Performance luminaries Forced Entertainment present a part mind-reading feat, part cabaret act, part chaotic game show that features an abundance of chicken suits. Forced Entertainment is from Sheffield, England. Since 1984, they have made performance that inspires confusion as well as laughter. Artistic Director Tim Etchells received the 2016 Spalding Gray Award which supports this performance and its North America tour. *Real Magic* sees regular Forced Entertainment performers Richard Lowdon and Clair Marshall joined by Jerry Killick.



PHOTO: HEIDRUN LOHR

Tamara Saulwick *Endings*

– Cycles x Death + Intimacy

Music

Feb 1–4, 2018 **Australia | Theater/Music**

Award-winning performer Tamara Saulwick explores death's strange intimacy through music. Saulwick has a long career of performance-making involving digital and analogue technology and experimenting especially with the role of sound in live presentations.



PHOTO: JESSE MICHENER

Evan Flory-Barnes *On Loving the Muse & Family*

(Cosmic Cats + Jung) x (Motown x Dean Martin x Curtis Mayfield x Sammy Davis)

Mar 1 – 4, 2018 **Seattle | Music/Comedy**

Son of Seattle Evan Flory-Barnes has his first solo show at OtB featuring musings on Jung, Motown, and cosmic cats like Sammy Davis, Dean Martin, and Curtis Mayfield. Evan Flory-Barnes is a musician, artist, collaborator and loving citizen living in Seattle.



PHOTO: DEREK FOWLES

Bebe Miller Company *Dancing in The Making Room*

If a legendary choreographer is making a new piece that will tour here about 365 days from now moving at 3 miles per hour, and the internet moves at the speed of your WiFi (X), at what point will technology and dance intersect? *Please show your work.*

Mar 15–18, 2018 **Ohio | Dance**

Legendary dancer and choreographer Bebe Miller's suite of new dance works is based on the dynamics of adaptation and translation. With nods to Gertrude Stein, Toni Morrison and David Foster Wallace, Miller is looking at the syntax of movement – how we apprehend meaning through the juxtaposed dynamics of action and context in time and space. Miller began creating performances in the late 1970s and is a four-time "Bessie" winner.



PHOTO COURTESY THE ARTIST

Alice Gosti *Material Deviance in Contemporary American Culture*

$$\text{Materialism} - \frac{\text{Your Self Worth}}{\text{Stuff}} + \text{Dance} \times \text{Surrealism}$$

Mar 29–Apr 1, 2018 **Seattle | Dance**

This surrealist dance explores how capitalism confuses self-worth with the accumulation of stuff. Alice Gosti is an Italian/American transformer of space living in Seattle. She recently choreographed *Awaiting Oblivion...* at OtB.



PHOTO: JOSEPH LAMBERT – JAZZY PHOTO

Frank Boyd & Libby King *Patti & The Kid*

$$Y = \frac{\sqrt{\text{Dystopian American West}}}{\text{Tech} \times \text{Ghosts} + \text{Guns} \times X}$$

Solve for Y when X = *Waiting for Godot*.

Apr 12–15, 2018 **Seattle/San Francisco | Theater**

A showdown in the future dystopian American West features a post-technological world, ghosts, guns, and references to 'Waiting For Godot'. Libby King is an actor, writer, and mom who recently relocated to San Francisco from New York. Frank Boyd is a Seattle-based performer and writer. He was last seen at OtB in his piece *The Holler Sessions* in 2015.



PHOTO COURTESY THE ARTIST

Dani Tirrell *Black Bois*

$$\frac{\text{Toxic Masculinity}}{\text{Femininity}^{\text{Black person in a male body}}}$$

Apr 26–29, 2018 **Seattle | Dance**

Femininity and toxic masculinity explored through a black person in a male body. Dani Tirrell is a Seattle-based dance artist, performer, choreographer and dance educator. He has performed in NW New Works and has been an OtB Ambassador for the past two years.



PHOTO COURTESY THE ARTISTS

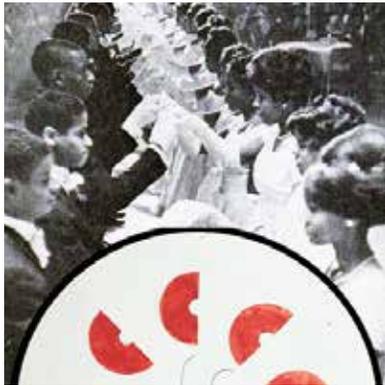


PHOTO COURTESY THE ARTISTS

Kaneza Schaal & Cornell Alston *Jack & Jill*

Prisoner Reentry + *Theater x Parables*
Stories

May 10 – 13, 2018 **New York City | Theater**

True stories of previously incarcerated people and their reentry into society through theatrical and movement-based vignettes. Kaneza Schaal and Cornell Alston's mutual commitment to experimentation in theater brought them to their second long-term collaboration. Previous research considered the performance demands of being in prison, how these languages are stored in the body, and their effect on re-entry to society.

Additional images for 2017-2018 performances available upon request.

Box Office & Ticket Information

Box Office

Tue–Fri, 3–6 pm
Phone: 206.217.9888
100 W Roy Street (lower Queen Anne)
ontheboards.org

Ticket Information

Subscriptions for the 17/18 Season go on sale Thursday, May 4.
Information for single ticket purchases will be available in August.

Subscriptions

Early Bird Subscription prices available through June 30.

Complete Series Subscription

12 performances for \$240 | After June 30 for \$252

Pink | Green Series

Packages of 9 performances throughout the season. Check ontheboards.org for details.
9 performances for \$185 | After June 30 for \$190

Pick 6 Subscription

Choose 6 performances (additional performances may be added at a discount).
\$129

A-List Subscription

All OtB performances + donation to OtB & other perks.
\$750 (\$424 tax-deductible)

NEW SUBSCRIPTION OFFERINGS

OtBFFs Subscription

All OtB performances + donation to OtB & other perks.
\$425 (\$173 tax-deductible)

Under 30 Subscription

12 performances for \$144. Must be 30 or under on Sept 1, 2017 to qualify.

Performances subject to change.

For more details or help choosing performances, please call our administrative office at 206.217.9886

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