



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OntheBoards.tv offering free unlimited performance rentals through April



Image of Tesseract courtesy of Ray Felix

[Wednesday, March 11, 2020 - SEATTLE, WA] OntheBoards.tv offers free streaming of online performances for art lovers.

As On the Boards continues to determine how best to move forward with public performances, and is considering public health guidelines around COVID-19, we recognize, and truly believe, in the need for art in trying times. In this spirit, we offer free access to On the Boards.tv to our local, national, and global community.

“We recognize that connecting art and audiences is at the heart of what we do, and we are navigating uncharted territory,” said On the Boards Executive Director Betsey Brock. “The safety of our artists, our staff, and our audience comes first, and we’re still figuring out on what will happen with our scheduled live performances. We are so lucky that we are able, through On the Boards.tv, to continue to share performance with our community. Even before this pandemic – I am hugely grateful to Lane Czaplinski and Sarah Wilke for On the Boards.tv’s prescient and visionary creation.”

Anyone may access unlimited On the Boards.tv rentals through the end of April 2020. Artists featured on On the Boards.tv include Ahamefule Oluo, Beth Gill, Okuwi Okpokwasili, Pat Graney, Young Jean Lee, Crystal Pite | Kidd Pivot, Zoe|Juniper, Michelle Ellsworth, Amy O’Neal, Lars Jan, and many more.

“2020 marks the 10-year anniversary of OtB.tv, this platform was created to document seminal, field-defining performances and has continued to develop as a teaching tool to encourage and develop an interest in contemporary performance”, said On the Boards Artistic Director Rachel Cook.

Cook also shared information about recent additions to the OntheBoards.tv website including a new suite of contextual and curricular materials surrounding the online performances called “*Shifting Contexts*.” “It is my hope that by removing the barrier of cost that educators in particular will be able to use this tool to continue their classes during this time public health crisis when so many schools are moving to entirely online system for the foreseeable future.”

Here’s how individuals may access free rentals:

- Choose a performance on <https://www.ontheboards.tv/>
- Pick the 48-hour rental option, then add to your cart (you can do this with as many films as you like)
- Go to Checkout
- Enter your name and email address
- Use the promo code **ARTATHOME20**

OntheBoards.TV welcomes new-to-online-teaching educators

As schools respond to COVID-19, and the numbers of courses going online increase, On the Boards is grateful they can offer this resource more widely. Free trial subscriptions for educators have always been accessible – but On the Boards hopes to make this resource more visible for educators, to help mitigate current challenges.

Since its launch ten years ago, OntheBoards.tv has been a resource for educators working in dance, art, and performance. Over 150 colleges and universities subscribe, and offer access to scholars in classrooms and through their libraries.

Recently, On the Boards.tv published *Shifting Contexts*, new essays and interviews around featured programs—created with scholars and educators in mind. *Shifting Contexts* was made possible through Building Demand for the Arts, an initiative of the Doris Duke Foundation for the Arts. *Shifting Contexts* was conceived by Claudia La Rocco, with significant contributions from Michelle Ellsworth. Additional contributions from Megan Metcalf, Thomas J. Lax, Katherine Profeta, cecilia lisa eliceche, Heather Kravas, Victoria Brooks, Ryan Jenkins, Siobhan Burke, Jennifer Krasinski, Alexandra Pappas, Maxe Crandall, Katy Dammers, Karinne Keithley Syers, Maggie Allesee National Center for Choreography, Carla Peterson, Chris Cameron, Jeffrey Gan, Noemie Solomon, Harmony Bench, Sima Belmar, Sydney Skybetter, Bailey Anderson,

Jennifer Salk, Lodi McCellan, Janice Ross, Thomas F. DeFrantz, Onye Ozuzu, Renée Archibald, Rebecca Rossen, Tonya Lockyer, and Rashaun Mitchell.

Educators, scholars, and art-curious individuals may view *Shifting Contexts* by visiting <http://bit.ly/ShiftingContextsOtB>.

About OntheBoards.tv

OntheBoards.tv is a first-of-its-kind portal for viewing full-length, high-quality performance films on your TV, desktop, or mobile device. It functions as a streaming subscription service and an archive for ground-breaking artistic projects and contemporary performances.

The films featured on the website include international and US-based contemporary artists, some of whom are rarely seen live stateside, with works that might not be performed again. We work with our hand-picked film crew to capture live performances, edit collaboratively with the artists, and deliver the best possible video performance straight to you. All proceeds are shared with the artist, so each time you buy or rent a film, you put money directly in an artist's pocket.

We reach audiences in all 50 states and 157 countries in the Americas, Europe, Africa, Asia and Australia. Over 103 higher education institutions in the US, Europe and Australia have purchased educational content for their campuses including Princeton, Yale, Ohio University, School of the Art Institute of Chicago and the University of Amsterdam. We have participated in 40 screenings of our films in venues across the US and Europe, such as the Prague Quadrennial (Czech Republic), Brooklyn Academy of Music (NYC), Oberlin Dance Center (San Francisco) and the PuSh Festival (Vancouver, BC). OntheBoards.tv gives art lovers access to a growing catalog of artists from around the world regardless of where they live or their busy schedules, at affordable prices.

Since 2014, we have been strategizing and building ways to support educators and students who use OntheBoards.tv in their curricula, and rethinking the site's potential as a historical and educational platform. Contemporary performance has evolved into a working method, a critical framework, and an artistic strategy, which creates the need for more background material to better contextualize and historicize each artist's practice. This fall, we'll begin testing our first set of contextual tools with a select pool of universities. These tools include artists interviews, essays by artists and celebrated writers, film commentary and peeks into artist notebooks.

To this day, we have launched 55 performance films by 51 different artists representing the Pacific Northwest, New York, Australia, Germany, France, Poland, Mexico, Argentina, Chile, Belgium, Montreal, and more. We have filmed performances in our Seattle home at On the Boards theater, in Portland with Portland Institute for Contemporary Art, in Austin with the Fusebox Festival and in New York with Performance Space 122.

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