

## KST PRESENTS

PERFORMANCE | THEATER

# FRESHWORKS: B KLEYMAYER

**I'M NOT DONE WITH THIS BODY  
(AND I NEVER WILL BE)**

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY, MAY 5 - 6  
8:00PM**

KST PRESENTS  
WINTER | SPRING 23

# THE SOUL OF EAST LIBERTY



*What you want.  
Baby, I got  
What you need.  
Do you know I got it?  
All I'm askin'  
Is for a little respect when you come home.*

*– Aretha Franklin*

The Winter/Spring 2023 KST Presents season continues to be a home for celebrating the **Soul of East Liberty**. Guided by our recently released strategic direction, “**Owning Our Future. Thriving Where We Live.**” KST is welcoming the new year with bold programming and renewed vision. We are determined to own our future and remain a home where artists and Pittsburgh residents of all backgrounds can thrive.

This Winter/Spring season, KST mutual Aid resident **PearlArts** is looking forward to bringing **CIRCLES: going in**, a work debuted with KST at the August Wilson African American Cultural Center, Pittsburgh, on tour to The Dance Center at Columbia College Chicago on February 23. At home at KST's Alloy Studios, PearlArts brings a full class season, with **Open Company Dance Classes** on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings. For experienced dancers, 20-weeks of **Adult Dance Clubs** will begin on January 18 and run through the end of May. PearlArts hosts two **Synchronized with Soy Sos** events, February 25 and April 28. **PearlWatch/charrette** is back on March 24, showcasing new and unseen dance-for-camera and live choreography in different stages of development. Finally, on May 12, PearlArts shares an evening of multi-disciplinary and collaborative explorations with **INTERIM: Props Prompts Play**.

KST begins the Winter/Spring Season with two staples of **Youth & Family Programming**: On January 16, **The Audacity to Believe**, an **MLK day Celebration** reflects joyfully on the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Then, **The Alloy School** Open House kicks off February 4 with a free survey of KST's weekly dance classes, followed by an eight week class session and celebratory Let's Move! Family Dance Party!

Our **Community Partnerships** include a workshop from writers **Dorothy R. Santos & Adrian Jones** with The **Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry**. Boundary-pushing new **Freshworks** performances will come to KST's Alloy Studios in April and May. Choreographer **Nick M. Daniels** presents the globally-inspired *Nonsensical search for truth and understanding*, while **B Kleymeyer** uplifts Pittsburgh's trans community and celebrates every part of transition with *i'm not done with this body (and i never will be)*.

Our **Local & Global Performance** offerings include contemporary works of music, dance, and theater—something for everyone! **Dwayne Fulton** returns to KST on February 11 with **R.E.S.P.E.C.T. An Aretha Franklin Tribute Concert**, featuring **Anita Levels**. Carrying on this musical momentum, on March 18 KST presents the annual **Sunstar Festival: Women & Music**, this year co-curated by the **SCALE Fellowship Program**.

From April 12-15, KST welcomes choreographer and 2020 Guggenheim fellow **Shamel Pitts** back to Pittsburgh with a Welcome Dinner and Artist Talk, Gaga Dance Workshop, and the Pittsburgh premiere of **BLACK HOLE: Trilogy And Triathlon**, an evening-length multi-media performance work that is a journey in movement through an evocative soundscape. Our Local & Global Performance program closes with **Or Forever Hold Your Peace**, a performance from Pittsburgh's **Big Storm** with big dance numbers and even bigger laughs.

Finally, throughout this season, visit the KST lobby for a new visual art exhibition for the **BOOM Gallery: Neighbor to Neighbor**, featuring **Takara Canty, Sophia Fang, atiya jones, Maggie Negrete, Jameelah Platt, and Danielle Robinson**, which will run from February 11 through May 27.

**JOSEPH HALL**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**TO SEE MORE OF THE FALL SEASON, VISIT  
[KELLY-STRAYHORN.ORG/THE-SOUL-OF-EAST-LIBERTY-WINTERSPRING-2023/](https://kelly-strayhorn.org/the-soul-of-east-liberty-winterspring-2023/)**

# ABOUT KELLY STRAYHORN THEATER

**Kelly Strayhorn Theater** is a non-profit community performing arts center in East Liberty, with two venues running along historic Penn Avenue. KST's Alloy Studios is a cultural hub in the heart of East Liberty, and the historic Kelly Strayhorn Theater is located in the thriving business district. More than 20 years after its founding, KST is a home for creative experimentation, community dialogue, and collective action rooted in the liberation of Black and queer people.

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## PERFORMANCE | THEATER

# B. KLEYMAYER

## I'M NOT DONE WITH THIS BODY (AND I NEVER WILL BE)

### ABOUT THE SHOW

Part archive, part resource guide, and part celebration, *i'm not done with this body* is a multimedia performance about trans women and the sex hormone estrogen. *i'm not done with this body* uplifts Pittsburgh's trans community and celebrates every part of transition, preserving our collective knowledge and experience of hormones toward understanding and access to life-giving care.

### CREDITS

**B Kleymeyer:** Director

**Natalya Chorba:** Performer

**Jazmine Butterfly:** Performer

**Moire del Carmen Día:** Performer

**Kari Womack:** Lighting

**Brit Pierce:** Sound

**Jon Hartwell, Parker Stephens:** Camera

**Kolton Cotton:** Video

**Ari Artemus:** Music

(Find more of Ari's music on [Sound Cloud](#) and [Spotify](#))

### FROM THE ARTIST

*i'm not done with this body (and i never will be)* is a **celebration of trans women** and the **magic of transition**. We know the basic ways in which hormones might change your physical appearance, but in my experience, there is so much more. The way you experience the world around you shifts drastically, but so slowly that it's hard to tell when it happens. Transition is a long, slow, never ending, journey. **How do you celebrate and mark something that doesn't happen in a moment?** When I would ask other trans women to reflect on their transition, they shared so many small beautiful, scary, gross, confusing, sexy, sensual, and sad moments that have become their markers of change along the way. Today we are celebrating all these points in our transition and the hope that they never end, that we never stop being surprised by our capacity to transform.

**Gender affirming care is life-changing and should be available to everyone.** Below are organizations in Pittsburgh trying to make this a reality. Please give them your support:

[SisTers PGH](#)

[Trans YOUning](#)

**If you are looking for more information on Hormone Replacement Therapy in Pittsburgh check out:**

[Central Outreach](#)

[Persad Center](#)

[Allies for Health and Wellbeing](#)

Nationally, trans people are under attack. Call your [representatives](#) at all levels and demand Trans Justice. Support the efforts of the Trans Lifeline, For the Gwolds, and the Transgender Legal Defense.

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

**B Kleymeyer** is a transgender director of theatre, performance, and film. She is currently a **John Wells Directing Fellow** at Carnegie Mellon University. Her work focuses on creating harmony from contradiction: the mechanical and the human, the infinitesimal and the gigantic, the beautiful and the grotesque. Her productions have been produced at **Carnegie Mellon University, Single Carrot Theatre, Rochester Fringe Festival**, and (upcoming) **Project Y Theatre**. B's work is a collective prayer, a model of the world we wish to build, and a place of transformation.



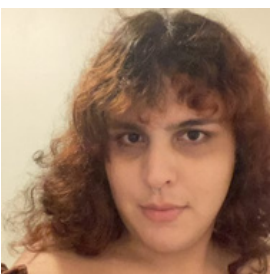
**Natalya Chorba** is a trans woman who moved to Pittsburgh, PA relatively recently. She is currently working as a software engineer at a medical games company. Finding **new methods of expressing art** is a constant search Natalya undergoes, but **acting and experiencing games** are constant passions. Now comfortable in Pittsburgh, Natalya was looking for an opportunity to get back into acting. A friend mentioned B's project and it sounded like an awesome opportunity!



**Jazmine Butterfly** is a 50 something year old trans woman of color who was one of the **most talented entertainers** to ever perform the art form of female impersonation in Pittsburgh, PA. A budding writer, Jazmine is currently working on her autobiography, which will include a few chapters of what it was like being **HIV positive** and staying alive while attempting to transition and **battling a severe drug addiction** during the AIDS epidemic in the late 80s and 90s. Jazmine is a Trans, Black Lives Matter, and HIV activist.



**Moire del Carmen Día** is an Actress, Draper-Tailor and Interdisciplinary Artist from Santa Isabel, Puerto Rico. An alumna of the **University of Puerto Rico, Recinto de Río Piedras**, Moira is currently pursuing her graduate degree in Costume Production at Carnegie Mellon University. Moire's work centers around authenticity, resilience, and aesthetic bliss as defiance in a increasingly troubling world.



## ABOUT FRESHWORKS

**Freshworks** is KST's creative residency for artists and collaborators based in the greater Pittsburgh region. The program supports playful exploration in performance through interdisciplinary work in contemporary dance, theater, music, and multimedia, and provides artists with planning support and guidance, studio space, production staff, and encouragement for creative risk taking. **Freshworks** artists are provided a \$1,000 honorarium and \$1,500 resource budget during the residency. Artists are invited to apply either as an individual or as a collaborative group. Learn more at [Kelly-Strayhorn.org](http://Kelly-Strayhorn.org)

## SPECIAL THANKS

This project is supported in part by funding from the Carnegie Mellon University Frank-Ratchye Fund For Art @ the Frontier

Special Thanks to:

Ciora Thomas

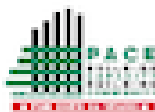
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# THANK YOU!

We thank the generous individual donors, corporate sponsors, foundations and agencies that provide vital support for our programs and allow us to thrive in our community. This list reflects donations and commitments made between September 1, 2020 and August 31, 2021.

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