

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Kelly Strayhorn Theater Announces Fall 2023 Season Featuring Brave Actions and Bold Voices from slowdancer, Meg Foley, and More!

### MEDIA CONTACT

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July 31, 2023



**EAST LIBERTY, PA—** The KST Presents Fall 2023 season is about celebrating the brave actions and bold voices of the artists, audiences, and communities who call KST home. The season features new offerings from Mutual Aid Residents **Dreams of Hope** and **PearlArts**, a visual art exhibition in the **BOOM Gallery**, two **Freshworks** Performances in Progress, and premieres of **Local and Global Performances** from longtime Pittsburgh favorites and returning faces.

Our **Mutual Aid Residencies** continue to support Dreams of Hope and PearlArts with administrative facilities and space for ongoing classes and events. This fall, Dreams of Hope hosts the **theatriQ** educational workshop series, offering queer creatives ages 13 - 26 a space to learn, discuss, and connect through a plethora of topics pertaining to theater and the performing arts. PearlArts brings together **Soy Sos** and **Ali Berger**, and later Soy Sos, **James Johnson III**, and **Erik Lawrence** for two editions of the music and dance staple, **Synchronized with Soy Sos**. Later in the season, a dance-focused **PearlPRESENTS** will feature SPdp&SS founder **Staycee Pearl** alongside choreographers **Raphael Xavier** and **Chitra Subramanian**.

Curated by **DS Kinsel**, the BOOM Gallery, located in KST's historic 1914 lobby, presents **Eternal Maternal**. Featuring artworks from interdisciplinary artists **Fran Flaherty** and **Meg Foley**, the exhibition centers motherhood both as an active pursuit and a fundamental state of existence, irrespective of and subject to gender. Visit the gallery before performances from the opening on Monday, September 18 and Sunday, December 17 to experience the artists' unique interpretations of the sacred practice.

Our Fall 2023 **Freshworks** Residencies support exciting new performance works in process. On October 6 and 7, **Pria Dahiya** shares a “play-adjacent performance work” ***You and Me and The End of the World*** that touches on loneliness and coming of age through a pandemic. On December 1 and 2, **Andraya Rand-Mathis** presents dance, music, and drag in ***Diving Within***, part of a healing process from grief, heartbreak, and childhood trauma.

KST’s **Youth and Family** programs feature a revamped Halloween celebration. Bring the whole crew to join us for ***Pumpkin Palooza***, An East Liberty Halloween Adventure! There will be tricks, treats, performances, and crafts from community partners. Tune in August 10 for our complete Fall 2023 offerings from **The Alloy School**.

The KST Presents **Local and Global Performance** series welcomes ***Blood Baby*** from Detroit/Philadelphia-based artist **Meg Foley**, featuring four works from the series (*Primordial*, *Queer Parent Convening*, *Communion*, and *Touch Library*). Foley shares the performance *Communion* on Friday and Saturday, September 22 - 23. Don’t miss the Welcome Dinner & Artist Talk on September 18, where Foley will be in conversation with **Fran Flarety**; ***The Embodied Imaginary***, a workshop with Foley on September 20; and a ***Queer Parent Convening*** later that evening. On December 8 and 9, Pittsburgh’s own superduo **slowdanger** takes to the KST mainstage with ***SUPERCELL***, a new work addressing climate change and media sensitization. Join artists **anna thompson** and **taylor knight** for a Welcome Dinner & Artist Talk on December 4, and their workshop ***Demystifying the Box*** on December 6.

Finally, the Fall season wouldn’t be complete without ***Suite Life***, our annual celebration of KST namesakes **Billy Strayhorn** and **Gene Kelly**! Join us on Saturday, November 25 for a VIP reception and eclectic performance celebrating these Pittsburgh legends and artistic champions.

There is so much to be explored in the voices and actions of artists across the KST Presents programs. We hope you will add **your bravery and boldness** to the mix by coming out to share in the work!

For full details on Kelly Strayhorn Theater’s upcoming Fall 2023 programming, click [HERE](#).

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## EXPLORE THE SEASON

MUTUAL AID RESIDENCY | MUSIC | DANCE

**Synchronized with Soy Sos**

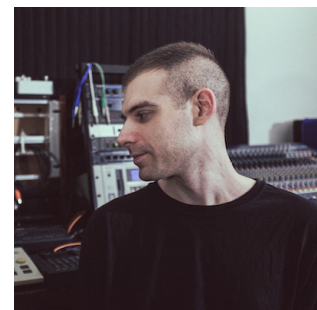
**Featuring Ali Berger**

Co-Presented with PearlArts

**Friday, September 15**  
**7:30pm**

KST’s Alloy Studios | 5530 Penn Ave.  
Pay What Moves You: \$10 – \$25

[Click here to learn more...](#)



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LOCAL & GLOBAL PERFORMANCE | COMMUNITY

## Welcome Dinner & Artist Talk

Fran Flaherty & Meg Foley

Monday, September 18\*

6:00pm

\*with ASL Interpretation

Kelly Strayhorn Theater | 5941 Penn Ave.

Pay What Moves You: \$0 - \$25

[Click here to learn more...](#)



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BOOM GALLERY | VISUAL ART

## Eternal Maternal

Fran Flaherty & Meg Foley

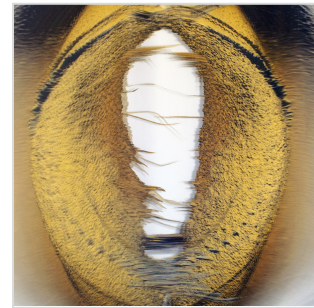
Monday, September 18 - Sunday, December 17

Opening Reception: Monday, September 18, 6:00pm

Kelly Strayhorn Theater | 5941 Penn Ave.

Pay What Moves You: \$0 - \$25

[Click here to learn more...](#)



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LOCAL & GLOBAL PERFORMANCE | WORKSHOP

## The Embodied Imaginary

with Meg Foley

Co-Presented with PearlArts

Wednesday, September 20

9:00am - 10:15am

KST's Alloy Studios | 5530 Penn Ave.

Pay What Moves You: \$10 - \$25

[Click here to learn more...](#)



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LOCAL & GLOBAL PERFORMANCE | COMMUNITY

## Queer Parent Convening

with Meg Foley

Wednesday, September 20

7:00pm

RSVP for Location

Pay What Moves You: \$0 - 25

[Click here to learn more...](#)



LOCAL & GLOBAL PERFORMANCE | DANCE

**Meg Foley**

**Blood Baby: Communion**

**Friday & Saturday, September 22\* - 23**

**7:30pm**

\*Post Performance Discussion with ASL Interpretation

Kelly Strayhorn Theater | 5941 Penn Ave.

Pay What Moves You: \$15 - \$35

[Click here to learn more...](#)



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MUTUAL AID RESIDENCY | THEATER

**THEATRIQ**

**Creative Sessions for Queer Youth**

Co-Presented with Dreams of Hope

**Wednesdays, October 4 - December 6\***

**5:30pm - 8:00pm**

\*No Class on Wednesday, November 22

KST's Alloy Studios | 5530 Penn Ave.

FREE

[Click here to learn more...](#)



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FRESHWORKS | THEATER

**Pria Dahiya**

**You and Me and The End of the World**

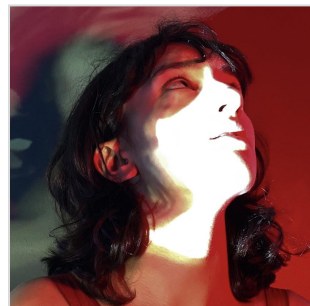
**Friday & Saturday, October 6 - 7**

**7:30pm**

KST's Alloy Studios | 5530 Penn Ave.

Pay What Moves You: \$10 - \$25

[Click here to learn more...](#)



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MUTUAL AID RESIDENCY | MUSIC | DANCE

**Synchronized with Soy Sos**

**Featuring James Johnson III and Erik Lawrence**

Co-Presented with PearlArts

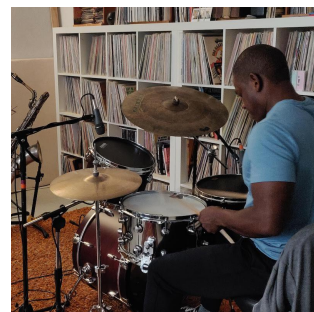
**Friday, October 20**

**7:30pm**

KST's Alloy Studios | 5530 Penn Ave.

Pay What Moves You: \$10 - \$25

[Click here to learn more...](#)



YOUTH & FAMILY | MUSIC | DANCE | THEATER

## **Pumpkin Palooza**

### **An East Liberty Halloween Adventure!**

**Saturday, October 28**

**1:00pm - 4:00pm**

Kelly Strayhorn Theater | 5941 Penn Ave.

Pay What Moves You: \$0 - \$25

[Click here to learn more...](#)



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MUTUAL AID RESIDENCY | DANCE

## **PearlPRESENTS**

### **Featuring SPdp&SS, Raphael Xavier and Chitra Subramanian**

Co-Presented with PearlArts

**Saturday, November 12**

**7:30pm**

Kelly Strayhorn Theater | 5941 Penn Ave.

Pay What Moves You: \$10 – \$25

[Click here to learn more...](#)



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BENEFIT | MUSIC | PARTY

## **Suite Life**

### **A Celebration of Billy Strayhorn & Gene Kelly**

**Saturday, November 25**

**5:30pm VIP Reception**

**7:30pm Concert**

Kelly Strayhorn Theater | 5941 Penn Ave.

Pay What Moves You: \$35 - \$200

[Click here to learn more...](#)



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FRESHWORKS | DANCE | THEATER

## **Andraya Rand-Mathis**

### **Diving Within**

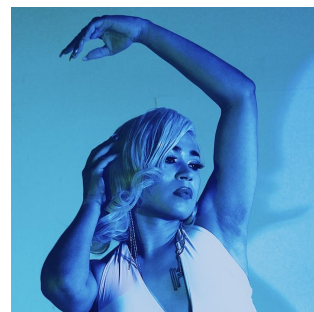
**Friday & Saturday, December 1 - 2**

**7:30pm**

KST's Alloy Studios | 5530 Penn Ave.

Pay What Moves You: \$10 - \$25

[Click here to learn more...](#)



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LOCAL & GLOBAL PERFORMANCE | COMMUNITY

## Welcome Dinner & Artist Talk

with anna thompson & taylor knight of slowdanger

Monday, December 4

6:00pm

KST's Alloy Studios | 5530 Penn Ave.

Pay What Moves You: \$0 - \$25

[Click here to learn more...](#)



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LOCAL & GLOBAL PERFORMANCE | WORKSHOP

## Demystifying the Box

with slowdanger

Co-Presented with PearlArts

Wednesday, December 6

9:00am - 10:15am

KST's Alloy Studios | 5530 Penn Ave.

Pay What Moves You: \$10 - \$25

[Click here to learn more...](#)



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LOCAL & GLOBAL PERFORMANCE | DANCE

## slowdanger

### SUPERCELL

Friday & Saturday, December 8\* - 9

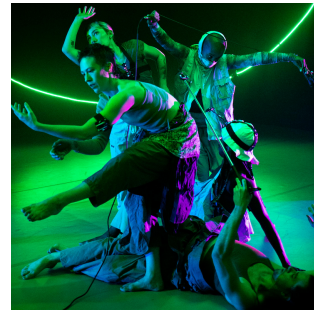
7:30pm

\*Post Performance Discussion

Kelly Strayhorn Theater | 5941 Penn Ave.

Pay What Moves You: \$15 - \$35

[Click here to learn more...](#)



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MUTUAL AID RESIDENCY | DANCE

## Adult Jazz / Heels Club

With Arnita Thompson

Co-Presented with PearlArts

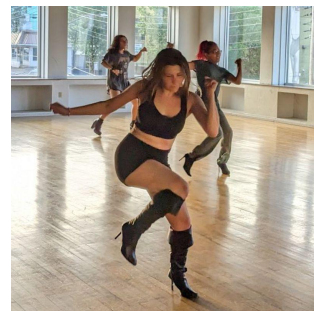
Tuesdays, August 8 - December 19

7:30pm - 8:30pm

KST's Alloy Studios | 5530 Penn Ave.

Pay What Moves You: \$10 - \$190

[Click here to learn more...](#)



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MUTUAL AID RESIDENCY | DANCE

## Adult Ballet Club

With Andrew Blight

Co-Presented with PearlArts

**Tuesdays, August 8 - December 19**  
**6:00pm - 7:00pm**

KST's Alloy Studios | 5530 Penn Ave.  
Pay What Moves You: \$10 - \$190

[Click here to learn more...](#)



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## ABOUT KELLY STRAYHORN THEATER

Named after 20th century entertainment legends **Gene Kelly** and **Billy Strayhorn**, both natives of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, **Kelly Strayhorn Theater** (KST) is reflective of the passion that its namesakes had for the arts. Today, KST carries their legacy by fostering bold and innovative artistry with a global perspective. **KST celebrates diversity in voice, thought, and expression**, and upholds a firm commitment to inclusion.

KST has a dynamic footprint in Pittsburgh, with two venues running along Penn Avenue. **KST's Alloy Studios** is a cultural hub in the heart of Friendship, and the historic **Kelly Strayhorn Theater** is located in the thriving business district of East Liberty. More than 20 years after the founding of the theater, KST continues to use its broad reach to impact the contemporary arts and the community.

PC: Delaney Greenberg, Staycee Pearl, Herman Pearl, Joshua Franzos, Courtesy of Raphael Xavier, Courtesy of Chitra Subermanian, Liz Rudnick, Fran Flaherty, Pria Dahiya, Andraya Rand-Mathis, Ada Bosonetto, Zielony Jazdow, Aaron Rickets, Johanna Austin, Anna Libick, Atanas Maev, MariahMiranda