

KST PRESENTS

BOOM GALLERY | VISUAL ART

ETERNAL MATERNAL

FRAN FLAHERTY & MEG FOLEY

Monday, September 18 -
Sunday, December 17

Opening Reception:
Monday, September 18
6:00pm



KST PRESENTS
FALL 2023

BRAVE ACTIONS BOLD VOICES

The function of art is to do more than tell it like it is – it's to imagine what is possible.

- bell hooks

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!

JOSEPH HALL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



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.

STAFF

Bianca Berdeguer, Box Office Coordinator

Sarah Gilmer, Programming Manager

Joseph Hall, Executive Director

Mingsi Ma, Marketing Specialist

Rebecca McNeil, Chief Financial Officer

Melanie Paglia, Deputy Director

Ben Pryor, Programming Director

Liz Rudnick, Marketing Manager

J.R. Shaw, Production Manager

Michael Uhrin, Development Manager

Matt Washil, Production Coordinator

FRONT OF HOUSE STAFF

Adam Davey, House Manager

Parker Stephens, Crew

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Adam Golden, Chair

Alyssa P. Lyon, Vice Chair

Joseph Decker, Treasurer

Richard C. Smith, Secretary

Tenecha Campbell

R. Yvonne Campos

Martell Covington

Stacey L. Jarrell

Alyssa P. Lyon

Badel Mbanga

Arthur Pang

Lisa B. Freeland

Caitlin Green

Kyle Crawford

Marita Garrett

Melinda Maloney

Cardell Veldez

DIRECTORS EMERITI

Stephanie Flom

Deborah Powell

Jamee Todd

ETERNAL MATERNAL

FRAN FLAHERTY & MEG FOLEY

ABOUT ETERNAL MATERNAL SHOW

Through **Fran Flaherty's *Anthropology of Motherhood*** and **Meg Foley's *Blood Baby, Eternal Maternal*** examines the **details and expressions that encompass the nature of motherhood**, acknowledging mothering as both an **active pursuit and a fundamental state of existence, irrespective of and subject to gender**. Flaherty and Foley delve into the realm of divine bodies, illuminating the inherent connection between mothering and the sacred. The works unveil the natural act of mothering intertwined with the profound forces of unconscious geology. *Eternal Maternal* serves as a **testament to the extraordinary beauty and complexity inherent in the act of mothering**, inviting contemplation, challenging preconceptions, and celebrating the diversity of maternal experiences.

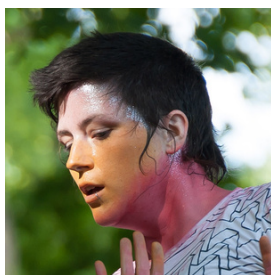
Curated by **DS Kinsel**.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Fran Flaherty is a Deaf artist, curator, and educator practicing in Pittsburgh, PA, and Rochester, NY. A first-generation immigrant from the Philippines, her work is centered in issues surrounding migrant family relations and assimilation, maternal feminism, & disability aesthetics. Flaherty is the founder of **Anthropology of Motherhood**, which engages the complex visual, material, emotional, corporeal and lived experiences of motherhood, care-giving, parenting, nurturing and maternal labor. She is also the Director of Dyer Arts Center for the **Advancement of Deaf Culture at RIT/NTID**, serves on the Advisory Board of the **Office of Public Art in Pittsburgh**, and is a proud member of the #notwhite collective.



Meg Foley is a queer dance artist, educator, and parent who creates performances and somatic-based events as self-affirming practices. She currently researches gay and trans families and how we are formed. Her improvisational practice builds detailed movement vocabularies out of scientifically-engaged research and lived experience. Artistic collaborations include co-curating **Tender Hotel**, a 24-hour virtual hotel hosting rooms facilitated by 100+ international artists within **Art Station Foundation's** and **CounterPulse's Grand reUnion**, and a **National Center for Choreography Akron Dancing Lab** exploring how artistic and parenting practices overlap with fellow artist parents. She grew up in the DC area, was a creative movement baby who grew up to do a lot of club dancing, studied visual art and dance, and now is a queerdo mama, based in Philadelphia.



ABOUT BOOM CONCEPTS

BOOM Concepts is a creative hub dedicated to the advancement of Black, Brown, queer and femme artists. BOOM Concepts is located in Pittsburgh and since 2014 has curated 50 exhibitions on-site, paid out over \$100k in artists fees and produced 200+ events across the country. BOOM Concepts serves as a space for field building, knowledge sharing, mentorship, and storytelling. In its 9th year, BOOM Concepts continues to work with creatives to find innovative strategies around entrepreneurship and artistic practice. In 2021, BOOM Concepts was selected to represent Pittsburgh for the Google Arts & Culture platform and was identified as an American Cultural Treasure through The Heinz Endowments and The Ford Foundation.

ABOUT THE CURATOR

DS Kinsel is an award winning creative entrepreneur and cultural agitator. He expresses his creativity through the mediums of painting, printmaking, collage, installation, curating, performance and public art. Kinsel's work puts focus on themes of space keeping, urban tradition, hip-hop, informalism and cultural re-appropriation. A former AmeriCorps Public Ally member, D.S. has also been recognized as an Awardee of the Pittsburgh Courier Fab 40, Pittsburgh Magazine PUMP 40 Under 40, Pgh Tech Council Creative of The Year, the Pittsburgh Post Gazette's "Top Ten People To Meet in 2016" and the Incline's "Who's Next" for 2018. D.S has served as a board member of Pittsburgh Center for Creative REuse and the Black Transformative Arts Network. Kinsel currently serves on the advisory board for Shady Lane School, PearlArts Studios, and the Artist Communities Alliance.

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 July 1, 2022 and April 15, 2023

FALL 2023 CORPORATE SPONSORS & FOUNDATIONS



INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Bilal Abbey
Kyle Abraham
Deborah L. Acklin
Jorunn W. Allersma
Peter Andersen
Scott Andrew, Ethan Jerrett
Joann & Martin Aurand
Rosa Averbach
Arthur Aviles
Valerie Baer
Esther Baker-Tarpaga
Nina Marie Barbuto
Norma Jean Barnes
lisa barr
Darrell Barrett
Heather Bartley
Beverly Bates
Leslie Begala
Jaclyn M Belczyk
Sue Bell
Dorothy Bellhouse
Linda Benedict-Jones
Nancy Bernstein & Rocky Schoen
Faith Berry
Gene Bertsch
Kurt Beschorner
Dana Bishop-Root
Susan Blackman
Brittany Blackwell
Hillary Bliss
Paul E Block
Mona Blountt
Lea Blumenfeld
Alyson Bonavoglia
Lisa Borghesi
Henry Boytim
Lauren Braun & Douglas Levine
Karen Brean
Norman Brown
Erica Brusselars
Julie Bubanovich
Elizabeth Burbano
Elizabeth Burnette
Catharyn Burton
Beth & Randy Bush
Regina Butler
R. Yvonne Campos
Alexis Canoy
Margaret Cantwell
Mike Capsambelis
Aidan Carney
Rebecca Carpenter
John Carson & Mary-Lou Arcscott
Lindsay Cashman
Alberta & Joe Certo
Etta Cetera
Cheryll M. Chakrabarti
Bruce Chan
Shirley Chapman
Ronnie G Charles
Elizabeth Chodos & Brian McNearney
Lynn Clarke & Erika Johnson
Jstn Clmn
Rosemary Coffey
Susan & William Cohen
Lisa Collier
Sister Juanita L Collins
Ebenezer Concepcion
Thomas & Carla Cords
Veronica Corpuz
Martell Covington
Karing Coyne
Rebecca Crane
Kyle Crawford & Jessica Mederbach
Jolita Crosland
Lisa Cunningham
Margo Cunningham
Rob Cunningham
Teena Marie Custer & Ron Chunn
Brian D'souza
Orlana Darkins Drewery & Darnell Drewery
Judith Davenport
Michele de la Reza & Peter Kope
Joseph Decker & Susan Ardisson
Jose Diaz
Emma Diehl
Tina Dillman
Phuong Dinh
Alex Dolnack
Joshua & Hallie Donner
Meg & Matt Dooley
Rita Drapkin
Clare Drobot
Dr Edmund & Mrs Edmund Effort
Kim El
Ellen Estomin
Tara Finegan
Fire Shorty
Donna Fisher
James Fitch
Stephanie Flom
Lee Fogarty
Angela Ford
Lisa Freeland & George Chaney
Molly B Frounfelter
Zheya Gai
Kathleen Gaines
Howard Gamble
Sandy Garcia
KA Garrett
Stephanie Garrison
Tiffany Gary-Webb
Mita Ghosal
Nancy Gippert
Dr. Cecilia Golden
Ronald Adam Golden
Erin Goldstein
Julie Gonzalez
Evlyn Gould
Lisa Grandstaff
Hannah Graves
Khadija Gray
Caitlin Green & Upendo Tookas
Kathleen & Christopher Green
Toby Greenwalt
Alexandra Gruskos & David Orenstein
Tim Gyves
Penn Hackney
Brandy Hadden
Julia Hagle
Nicole Hall
Jason Harchick
Elizabeth Hardin
Brittany Hargrove
Aurelie Harp
Cheryl Harrison
Ronald Hartman & Leslie Golomb
Susan Haugh & Jane Ramseyer Miller
Byronne Hearn
Jessica Heathcote
Michelle Heck
Divya Heffley
Wanda & Howard Henderson
Kelly Henderson
Holly Hickling
Teresa Hilario
Susan Hill
Alexandra Hiniker
Courtney Hobbs
Christopher Horwitz & Pamela Murray
Melanie Howard
Christiana Howell
Mac & Wren Howison
Karen Humphrey
Colin Hunt
Melisha Hutchins
L Hyun
Kathryn Isherwood
Jennifer Jabaut
Tacara Jackson
Stacey Jarrell
Deana Jirak
Amanda Johnson
Cecelia D Johnson
Diamond Johnson
Jenny Johnson
Alexandra Jones
atiya jones
Jennifer Joy
Katherine Kaemmerer
Janet Kafka
Caroline Kallos
Michael Kamin
Suzu Kawamoto
Carolyn Kazdin
Jennifer Keller
Erika Kellerman
Penelope Kemekenidou
Danielle Keyes
Venea King
Isaac Kivuva & Catherine Mutunga
Lynn & Milton Klein
Daniel Klein
Kluz-Allen Family
Kristin Komazec
Kathryn Krause
Erma Kuykendall
Anne & Vincent Lackner

Justin Laing
Alex Lake
Gail Langstroth
Kate Lasky
Nina Ledonne
Andrew & Desiree Lee
Michelle LeRoy
Nancy Levine
Claudette Lewis
Elsa Limbach & Plamen Karagyozov
Caldwell Linker
Leanne Longwill
Marina Lopez
Christine Lorenz
Kilolo Luckett & John Barbera Jr
Alyssa Lyon
Julie Mallis
Melinda A Maloney
Adil Mansoor
Beth Marcello & John Rodella
Laura Marin
Diana Marston Wood & David Wood
Heather Rae Martin
Naeem Martinez
Crystal Massie
Dita Mathew-Malik
Taylor Mayo
Badel Mbanga
Janet McCall
Erin McCrosky
Linsey McDaniel
Jan McMannis, Tony Buba
Kathleen Kelly Meade & David Meade
Eva Mergner
Muzz & Michelle Meyers
Michele Miller-Cox
Diane Milowicki
Gerard Minaya, Gerry Winfrey
Mark Minnerly
Christine Mondor
Ayanah Moor
Phyllis Moorman Goode
Ayisha A. Morgan-Lee, EdD & Eric A. Smith
Molly Morrill
Jay Moser
Steve & Gail Mosites
Jessica G. Moss
Briann Moyer
Clare Mulholland
John Musser
Greg Mutinelli
Maelene Myers
Shaun Myers
Scott Nelson
Celeste Neuhaus
Luke Niebler
Olivia O'Connor
Sean O'Donnell
Margaret Oates
Melanie Paglia
ariel pang
Arthur Pang
Lisa Parker & David Sogg
Richard Parsakian
Mariah Passarelli
Karla C Payne
Staycee & Herman Pearl
Cynthia "cyd" Pennington & C.W. Donohue
Meg Pereira & Patrick McArde
Erin Perry
Sandra Perry
Stephanie Petroski
Whitney Philipps
juliet phillips
Katie Phillips
Julz Picard
Oliver Pinder
Sarah Platt
Melanie Pliskin
SJ Porter
Deborah & Martin Powell
Lindsay Powell
Sadie Powers & Nicole Hall
Shannon Pryor
Andrew Ptaschinski
Barb Pugh
Christa Puskarich
Diana Ramsey
Cathy Raphael
Rachel Rearick
Joseph Reed
Ross Reilly
Kayla Reiman
Daniel & Lauren Resnick
Ryan Ricarte
Emily Rice
Martha Riecks & Christopher Tracey
Georgiana Riley
Ringold-Unangst Family
Laura Ristau
Shay Rivera
Maggie & Mathew Rosenblum
Nathaniel Rouse II
James Saal & Felicia Snead
Maria Teresa Saenz Robles
sarah sanford
Janet Sarbaugh
Anna Savage
Wayne Savage
Nancy Schaefer
Antonia Scheidel
Cait, Jack & Bee Schindler
Margaret M Schmidt
Rose Scilla
Doreen Scott
Roslyn & Herschel Segall
Kelly Seibel
John Seidman
Daniel Shaffer
Amit Shah
Sawyer Shaw & family
Dom Sheffey
Sean Shepherd & Jake Goodman
Megan Sigismund
Carol Sikov Gross
Yael Silk
Suzie Silver, Hilary Harp
Shana Simmons
Nichole M Sims
Luke Skurman
slowdancer
Richard C Smith
Felicia Snead, MD
Maryanne Sonick
Rick Soria, Dr. Scott Fech
Rayden Sorock & O.E. Zelmanovich
Sarah Anne & Chad Stacy
Lauryn Stalter
Rashni Stanford
Lyn Starr
Randi Starr
Toni Stowers
Chitra Subramanian
Irene Surmik
Xavier Szigethy
Zachariah Tabler
Aaron Tarnow
Anna Taylor & Thompson Knight
Keysha Taylor
Edward Terry
Mark Thomas
Emily Thurston
Arvid Tomayko & H. Gene Thompson
Lauren Turner
Dixie & John Tymitz
Michael Uhrin
Hana Uman
Elizabeth Urbaitis
Stewart Urist & Sara Packin
Rachel Vallozzi
Vicki Vargo & Chris Meklas
Amelia Wagner
Janine Walker
Dr. Tahirah Walker
Julie Waltz-Stalker
Dennis Washington
Jessica Wasserlauf
Nadine Wasserman, Guillermo Perez
Kim Weild
Robert & Arlene Weiner
Helene Weinraub & Geoff Clauss
Dan Weisberg
Sarah Wertheimer
Heather White
Peggy C Whitehurst
Michael E. Whitelock
Tiffany Wilhelm & Kyle Bostian
Mandee Williams
Rosia Williams
Randall Wilson
Lida Winfield
Heidi Wiren Bartlett
Scott Wolovich
Kelley Woodruff
Sarah Woodruff
Alecia D Young & Damon J Young
Amy Zhuang