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BASE

ANNOUNCES 2017 RESIDENCY AWARDS + BASE SUBSIDY PROGRAM

Prioritizing Risk and Experimentation in Seattle's Art Landscape



Tyisha Nedd in residency at Base in Sept. 2016 with Base Resident Artist Jessica Jobaris. Photo: Jens Wazel Photography.

(Seattle, WA) [Base](#) Co-Founders **Dayna Hanson**, **Peggy Piacenza** and **Dave Proscia** are pleased to announce the **2017 Base Resident Artists** and the launch of the **Base Subsidy Program**.

2017 BASE RESIDENT ARTISTS

Background: Base is a new, nonprofit organization dedicated to elevating risk and invention in dance, performance and multidisciplinary art. Base opened its doors in July 2016 as a new tenant at Equinox Studios' Creative Industrial Complex in Seattle's Georgetown neighborhood. Base operates a 2,000 square foot room in Equinox' Factory building with a sprung floor, 20-foot-high ceiling, light and sound systems, natural light and a seating capacity of 99.

2017 Base Residencies: Each year, Base awards creative residencies to Seattle artists experimenting in disciplines of dance, theater, hybrid performance and multidisciplinary art. Unprecedented in the Seattle arts landscape, these residencies aim to help build a climate in which artists feel free to take risks and experiment, even as Seattle's rising cost of living makes it more challenging for artists to sustain their practices.

2017 Base Residency Awards go to **Frank Boyd** (theater), **ilvs strauss** (dance) and **Markeith Wiley** (dance)—three Seattle artists representing distinct aesthetic approaches and concerns. Each resident will receive a residency at Base, where they can work immersively for two or four weeks on current projects and practices, with the option to incorporate visual and technical elements into their creative process as well. Residents can also take advantage of Base's light and sound systems and 99-seat capacity to share their work with the community.

FRANK BOYD, March 5 – April 2, 2017



Frank Boyd, photo by Maria Baranova

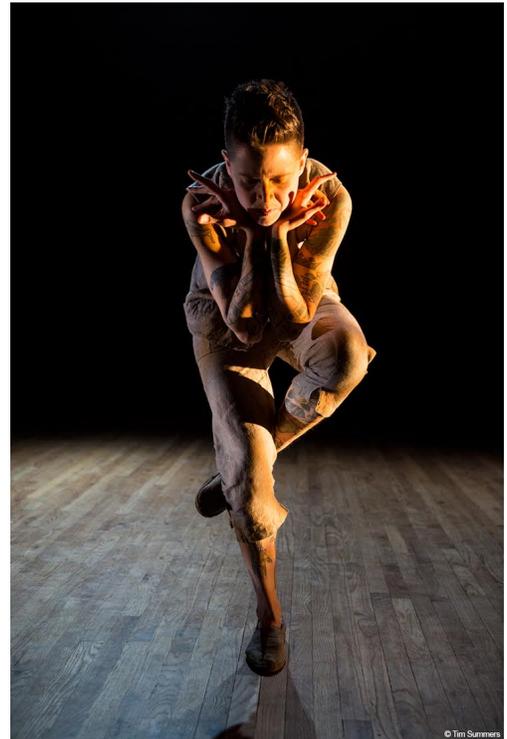
Frank Boyd is a Seattle based performer and writer. He is the creator of *The Holler Sessions*, a theater piece about jazz that premiered in Seattle at *On the Boards* in 2015 and in New York at PS122's 2016 COIL Festival. *The Holler Sessions* will travel next to The Detroit Public Theatre and to the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis. Frank is a member of New York-based ensembles Elevator Repair Service and the TEAM, with whom

he has performed in *Gatz*, *The Select*, *Architecting* and *Particularly in the Heartland*. Frank also recently performed on tour with Young Jean Lee's Theater Company in *Straight White Men*. Boyd will spend his Base residency—March 5 – April 2, 2017—with his San Francisco-based collaborator Libby King (*RoosevElvis*, *Mission Drift*), in their first major development period for a currently untitled theater/dance piece about *Waiting For Godot*, tent cities and

the experience of being left behind by technology. Details about Boyd's showings of this new work will be announced in early 2017.

ilvs strauss: Oct. 24 – Nov. 7, 2017

ilvs strauss is an analytical chemist turned multidisciplinary performance artist. Based in Seattle, her art ranges from dance narrative performance to anamorphic outdoor sculptures, illustrated storytelling to haiku poetry. She also leads workshops on writing, movement, performance and combinations thereof. Her solo piece, *Manifesto*, was listed in *Dance Magazine's* "Best of 2014" list. She's currently writing a queer sci-fi play to premiere in April 2017. During her Base Residency, scheduled for Oct. 24 – Nov. 7, 2017, strauss will explore the intersection of video, dance and narrative, taking inspiration from music videos, silent films, and bold swaths of color.



MARKEITH WILEY: Nov. 9 – 22, 2017

Markeith Wiley is a dance maker, performer and instructor across a range of movement styles. Originally from California, Wiley holds a BFA in Dance from Cornish College of the Arts and has performed with Keith Hennessey, Kitten n' Lou, The Dance Cartel, Lingo and more. His movement vocabulary spans a lifetime of influences, from breakdancing and hip-hop to contemporary and theatre dance. Wiley was featured on the 2014 City Arts Future



List; he's danced at venues all over Seattle, including Spectrum, Velocity and On the Boards, and choreographed for theatre groups WET and the Satori Group. Wiley's residency is scheduled for Nov. 9-22, 2017, and will tentatively culminate in a showing by his new performance group, The NogoodDoers.

More about the Base Artist Residency

Base exists to elevate risk and invention in dance, performance and multidisciplinary art. A platform for developing and publicly sharing original work, Base is committed to addressing experimental artists' needs for time, space, creative freedom and critical discourse. Currently awarded to Seattle-based artists by invitation, the Base Residency includes a combination of 40-hour and exclusive access to Base's space, along with:

- Freedom to transform the space with visual, scenic and technical design elements
- Technical consultation with Base Technical Director Dave Proscia
- Creative and professional consultation and mentorship from Base Co-directors Dayna Hanson and/or Peggy Piacenza
- The opportunity to share new work with audiences, either informally or formally—from open rehearsals and showings to exhibitions and performances

The Base Residency offers the rare opportunity to work in an unrestricted way in a well-appointed space. Without pressure to deliver a finished piece, Base Resident Artists are free to work on specific projects or aspects of their creative practice. The 2017 Base Resident Artists join permanent Resident Artists, co-founders Dayna Hanson, Peggy Piacenza and Dave Proscia, in implementing a visionary model in an inspiring new space.

"Having uninterrupted time & space to explore, play and generate allows for what's going on in the inside, collectively and individually, to find its way out into this world. We are really so grateful for this residency at Base to live in this work. Also, we are grateful to contribute to the creative energy at Base, and to foster the connection between this incredible new venue with our community and audiences."

- Jessica Jobaris, 2016 Base Resident Artist

BASE SUBSIDY PROGRAM

Base is excited to launch an initiative aimed at countering the pressure artists currently feel as a result of Seattle's record-breaking development. In 2017, **Base will make 400 hours available to artists in 2017 at a subsidized rate of \$8/hour for rehearsals through the Base Subsidy Program.** By providing below-market rates to a rotating roster of artists, Base helps ensure that affordable creative workspace is still available in Seattle. The subsidy will be offered to Seattle artists experimenting in dance, theater, hybrid performance and multidisciplinary art. Applications for the Base Subsidy Program are available at thisisbase.org/base-subsidy-program.

Other rental opportunities at Base: To ensure that Seattle artists can still find and book affordable space, Base's regular hourly rental rate for rehearsals is \$10. Base also offers an affordable weekly rental rate for self-productions. More information on renting space at Base is available at thisisbase.org or by emailing info@thisisbase.org.

Why Base Now?

Seattle's rampant development has unintended consequences for artists. Rising rents and miles of new construction make the city unrecognizable—and inhospitable—to middle- and low-income people. Against this backdrop, new support structures like Base can help dance and experimental performing artists further their practices in the face of increased challenge. With the intent of complementing the contributions of organizations like On the Boards and Velocity Dance Center, Base is designed to be a flexible and responsive hub for dance and multidisciplinary performance in South Seattle, serving as a place for dialogue, inquiry and community as well as art making.

Since July 2016, Base has been a hub of creative activity:

- 2016 Base Resident Artists Dylan Ward and Jessica Jobaris each spent four weeks working on current projects. Ward's residency culminated in *Lesser Evils*, an evening of works in progress by Ward and guest artists Kim Lusk and Laura Aschoff. Jobaris worked intensively with her ensemble, General Magic, on *A Great Hunger*, a new work premiering in March 2017 at On the Boards.
- Base Co-Founder Dayna Hanson held a four-week residency finishing her new dance, *28 problems*. The piece was presented at Base by *Nine Evenings Revisited (9e2)*, an art and technology festival commemorating the 50th anniversary of Robert Rauschenberg's *Nine Evenings: Theater and Engineering*.
- Base Co-Founder Peggy Piacenza held a four-week residency during Nov. 2016, working on a new, evening-length dance piece entitled *The Events*, featuring Ezra Dickinson, Kim Lusk, Wade Madsen and Amelia Reeber.

Support for Base

The innovative model of Base is possible through the generosity of the organization's Circle of Support: Nancy Guppy, Joan Hanna, Ahsan Kabir, Glenn Kawasaki, Heather Kravas, Nikolai Lesnikov, Wade Madsen, Steve Oliver, John and JoAnn Proscia, Sarah Rudinoff, Carlo Scandiuzzi, Bob Carver, Annette Toutonghi, Case Van Rij and anonymous donors. Additional financial support provided by Tom and Cyndy Israel, Sara Jinks and Jennifer Salk. 2016 Base Residencies are made possible with support from Bossak Heilbron Charitable Foundation.

Volunteer at Base

Base welcomes volunteers to help with events, build-out and ongoing operations. Email info@thisisbase.org to sign up.

Get to Base

Base is located on 5th Avenue South between Michigan and River Streets, in a place where the Duwamish River used to flow. A half-mile west of the restaurants, bars and shops of Georgetown's Airport Way, Base is situated within Equinox Studios/Creative Industrial Complex, a city block of studios and spaces where artists of all disciplines create, collaborate and cooperate.

[Directions](#)

Transit: 131, 132, 60, 124, 106

About the Founders

Base is the project of three veteran Seattle artists: choreographer, filmmaker and multidisciplinary artist Dayna Hanson; choreographer/performer Peggy Piacenza; and Dave Proscia, light designer, visual artist, performer and musician. Hanson, Piacenza and Proscia first worked together on *Dirty Work*, a dance theater piece by 33 Fainting Spells that was presented at On the Boards in 2001, during Dave's tenure as director of OtB's Studio Theater. For the last 15 years, the three artists have worked together on many projects, including the 2013 feature film, *Improvement Club*.

Hanson, Piacenza and Proscia formed Base to answer their need for a creative home that would support their ongoing artistic output, both as individual artists and collaborators. But the doors of this new home are open to

the community as well, at a time when the Seattle arts community's need for space is acute. The co-founders' core values as artists—freedom, experimentation, rigor and grit—pervade the space and, in turn, the Base residency experience.

Dayna Hanson, Co-director: Born and raised in the Pacific Northwest, [Dayna Hanson](#) is a choreographer, director, filmmaker and multidisciplinary artist. In Oct. 2016 Dayna's latest dance piece, *28 problems*, was presented at Base by 9e2. Her work has been presented by On the Boards, REDCAT, TBA Festival, Walker Art Center and many other dance and contemporary performance presenting organizations. Her debut feature film, *Improvement Club*, premiered in Narrative Competition at SXSW in 2013. Dayna is a Guggenheim Fellowship recipient in Dance as well as a United States Artists Foundation Oliver Fellow in Dance and an Artist Trust Arts Innovator awardee. She's been active in the Seattle dance and performance community since 1987; with Gaelen Hanson, she co-directed dance theater company 33 Fainting Spells from 1994 – 2006.

Peggy Piacenza, Co-director: [Peggy Piacenza](#) grew up outside Chicago and danced her way to North Carolina, New York and eventually Seattle, where she has lived and worked since 1990. As a choreographer and performer, she's toured nationally and internationally with Pat Graney, 33 Fainting Spells and Dayna Hanson, as well as with her own work. A veteran Seattle performing artist and choreographer whose work embodies a wide spectrum of experience, Peggy draws from explorations in improvisation, performance studies and interdisciplinary collaborations. She is a 2010 graduate of Smith College, where she was an Ada Comstock Scholar. Peggy was the inaugural recipient of Smith College's Helen Gurley Brown Magic Grant.

Dave Proscia, Technical Director: Dave Proscia is a native Long Islander who has been working in visual art, music, dance, theater and film in Seattle for more than 15 years. As light designer and technical director, Dave has collaborated with Deborah Hay, 33 Fainting Spells, Dayna Hanson, Peggy Piacenza, Mary Sheldon Scott and many others. He's served as technical director at venues including On the Boards and Village Theatre, and also works as a professional art handler. He's appeared on stage and screen in the work of Dayna Hanson and has played in several Seattle bands, including Today!, Cathouse and Asscomb. Proscia holds a B.A. in visual art from S.U.N.Y./New Paltz.

Base

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