

EMERGING
ARTISTS
THEATRE



SPARK
THEATRE FESTIVAL NYC

SPRING 2026



IS PROUD TO PRESENT THE

The logo for Spark Theatre Festival NYC features the word "SPARK" in a large, bold, blue, sans-serif font. The letter "A" is orange. Above the "A" are several yellow and orange starburst shapes. Below "SPARK" is the text "THEATRE FESTIVAL NYC" in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font, with "THEA" in blue and "TRE" in orange.

SPARK

THEATRE FESTIVAL NYC

The Spark Theatre Festival NYC supports artists in the development of new work by providing the opportunity to present works in progress before a live audience. A key part of the festival experience is the post-performance talkback, where artists, collaborators, and audience members engage in open conversation about the work. Produced by Emerging Artists Theatre, the festival is dedicated to fostering new work, supporting emerging talent, and amplifying diverse voices.

Founded in 1993 by Artistic Director Paul Adams, **EMERGING ARTISTS THEATRE** has been an incubator for new voices, from the page to the stage for 33 years.

This Spring, Emerging Artists Theatre brings you the Spark Theatre Festival NYC. Visit the theater any evening during this three-week event and you'll find yourself transported in a number of surprising ways: by a single performer embodying a whole host of characters; by a dance piece that mesmerizes and entertains; by a play that forces you to think or laugh; or perhaps by a bouncy new musical that will have you humming.

Emerging Artists has always been about new works and diverse voices. That's never been more evident than now. And you, the audience, are the vital ingredient to making this a success. Your presence and participation in the unique talkback with the artists provides the insight they need to move their work forward.

During our 33 year history, Emerging Artists has premiered over 2,000 new works and also garnered a Drama Desk Nomination, received the American Theatre Wing Grant Award for Consistent Commitment to Excellence in Theatre, and was named Best Off-Off Broadway Theatre Company in NYC for Actors to Work With by Backstage Magazine. In the last five years alone, Emerging Artists has provided opportunities for more than 5,000 diverse artists to see their work developed and premiered at no cost to the artists to submit or participate.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Emerging Artists Theatre acknowledges that this festival of new work is situated on the Lenape island of Manhattan (Mannahatta) and more broadly in Lenapehoking, the Lenape homeland. We pay respect to the Munsee Lenape ancestors and offer our care and gratitude.

28th Street Theatre

15 West 28th Street, 2nd floor,
between Broadway and 5th Avenue
New York, NY

APR
2026

SPARK
THEATRE FESTIVAL NYC

MON, APR 6

7Pm Old Fashioned Love Story

TUES, APR 7

7Pm Brain Rot!

7Pm The Keeper

7Pm Against the Void

7Pm EXERCISES IN CARE:

A Practice of Holding

WED, APR 8

7Pm Portrait of the Birthday Boy

THU, APR 9

7Pm Carmilla

FRI, APR 10

7Pm Callose

7Pm Mapping the Heart (Weaving)

7Pm GO TO SLEEP

7Pm HUMAN - Layers of Identity

9Pm Portrait of the Birthday Boy

SAT, APR 11

7Pm Passion Tango and
Arabian Night

9Pm June Moon

9Pm tremores & trillingen

9Pm A Leaf in the Wind

9Pm Golden Memories

SUN, APR 12

2Pm Subject to Change

2Pm Strength&Honor

2Pm 10:00 AM

2Pm Side Effects May Include...

2Pm Disappearances

5Pm MY WIDOWS

7Pm Chestnuts

MON, APR 13

7Pm Buzzkill

TUE, APR 14

7Pm Faim

7Pm EXACTLY AS GOOD
AS IT SEEMS

7Pm Canzoni Per Papa

WED, APR 15

7Pm A Gay Masseur's Guide
to Happy Endings

THU, APR 16

7Pm Into the Fire

FRI, APR 17

7Pm Ruth's Story

9Pm MY CIRCUS MY MONKEYS

SAT, APR 18

7Pm /'trôme/

7Pm Dance Monkey

7Pm The Museum of Claire

7Pm Bada Bing Baga Boom

9Pm Miss Magnolia Beaumont
Goes to Provincetown

SUN, APR 19

2Pm Motherhood & Other Shi**y
Responsibilities

2Pm Gut Feeling

2Pm Sandman

2Pm Mess

5Pm Maggot

5Pm i want to take a picture

5Pm Fight/Flight

5Pm HUMAN - Layers of Identity

7Pm The Jesus Hiccy

9Pm Sensitivity

MON, APR 20

7Pm Titanic, Jesus & Coca-Cola

TUE, APR 21

7Pm Oscar's Razor

WED, APR 22

7Pm Back Float: A Very Hard of
Hearing, Deaf-ish, Bluegrass-
Forward Solo Show

THU, APR 23

2Pm & 7Pm If I Could Go

FRI, APR 24

7Pm Cope

7Pm intermission

7Pm DNA Doesn't Lie But My
Mother Did!

9Pm Reunion

SAT, APR 25

7Pm Life According to Judith

7Pm it was always you

7Pm Embers of Becoming

9Pm The Scarlet Letter Musical

SUN, APR 26

2Pm And This One's True

5Pm Pause by Kafra Collective and
friends

5Pm Sniff my undies ;)

5Pm There but by Fortune

5Pm The Student

7Pm Apollo: The Man Who Built
the Moon

FESTIVAL PERFORMANCES

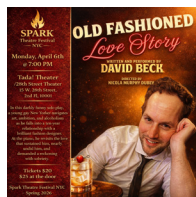
MON, APR 6, 7PM

Old Fashioned Love Story

Writer/Performer: David Beck

Director: Nicola Murphy Dubey

In this darkly funny solo play, a young gay New Yorker navigates art, ambition, and alcoholism as he falls into a ten-year relationship with a brilliant fashion designer. At the piano, he revisits the love that sustained him, nearly undid him, and demanded a reckoning with sobriety.



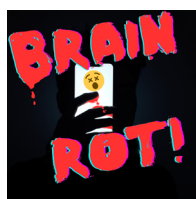
TUE, APR 7, 7PM

Brain Rot!

Book, Music, and Lyrics: Maxwell Carmel

Music Direction, Arrangements, and Additional Music: Sharon Ahn

Social media makes Mason feel like he's not as cool as his friends, but when a new BlinkBlock update causes the students of Rottingham university to have zombie-like symptoms, he might be the only one who can save his classmates from a terrible fate.



TUE, APR 7, 7PM

The Keeper

Book, Music and Lyrics: Maxwell Carmel

Music Direction, Arrangements, and Additional Music: Sharon Ahn

When strange voices come calling in the dark of night, a lonely young lighthouse keeper must find the quiet courage to keep his flame burning. This short musical folktale explores doubt, fear, and those who help us persevere.



PLAYS

MUSICALS

SOLO SHOW

DANCE

TICKETS \$20 - \$40 | EMERGINGARTISTSTHEATRE.ORG

TUE, APR 7, 7PM

Against the Void

Choreographer and Director: Jeanine Christine

When confronted with uncertainty, we respond in radically different ways. Through belief, resistance, withdrawal, or hope. This dance traces our emotional and mental strategies for surviving radical change. Each response both protects and limits us. Still, we move forward together, human in the face of the unknown.



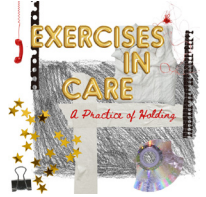
TUE, APR 7, 7PM

EXERCISES IN CARE: A Practice of Holding

Choreographer: Matt Gal with Gal Art Co.

Performer & Collaborator: Willa O'Connor

Exercises in Care approaches holding as a physical score shaped through embodied repetition. Guided by atmospheric music from Men I Trust's *Equus Caballus*, the work uses sustained physical tasks to explore care as endurance and attention toward oneself and others.



WED, APR 8, 7PM

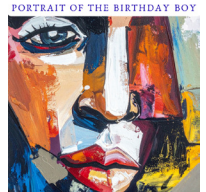
Portrait of the Birthday

Writer-Producer: Eugene Grygo

Director: Rachael Langton

Associate Producer: Alexandra Scordato

It is 1989, and Owen and three friends are in Vermont to celebrate his 30th birthday. Haunted by his past, Owen still risks a grand gesture to convince Max that they should be more than friends. At the same time, Owen's friends Reg and Jared, a couple, get devastating news.



PLAYS

MUSICALS

SOLO SHOW

DANCE

TICKETS \$20 - \$40 | EMERGINGARTISTSTHEATRE.ORG

THU, APR 9, 7PM

Carmilla

Choreographer & Creative Director: Danielle Davis

Choreographer & Costume Designer: Claire Pennington

Pangea Dance Collective's *Carmilla* recounts the love story between Laura, an isolated young noblewoman, and Carmilla, the vampiress disguised as her companion. By bringing their queer love story to the forefront, this contemporary ballet adapts Joseph Sheridan Le Fanu's classic gothic romance for modern audiences.



FRI, APR 10, 7PM

Callose

Choreographer: Dalit Ahava & Dancers

The brain needs to be able to integrate both hemispheres, so too the world needs dialogue across divides, empathy, and the ability to listen to multiple perspectives. *Callose* works to have that conversation to embody the bridges of communication, trust, and shared humanity.



FRI, APR 10, 7PM

Mapping the Heart (Weaving)

Choreographer: Kristen Mangione

Music: Steve Roach

Weaving is an intimate trio that unfolds through listening, proximity, and shared rhythm. Inspired by synchronicity and quantum thought, the dancers follow subtle cues and shifting alignments, allowing moments of connection to emerge naturally through timing, flow, and presence.

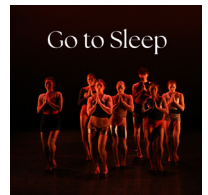


FRI, APR 10, 7PM

GO TO SLEEP

Choreographer: Louise Coleman

With recognizable images such as poshly wearing a crown, strutting in high-heels, and pleading on the knees, combined with raw human emotions such as hunger, surrender, and exhaustion, *GO TO SLEEP* reveals a world where elegance and struggle coexist.



PLAYS

MUSICALS

SOLO SHOW

DANCE

TICKETS \$20 - \$40 | EMERGINGARTISTSTHEATRE.ORG

FRI, APR 10, 7PM

HUMAN - Layers of Identity

Director/Choreographer: Charly Wenzel

“HUMAN-Layers of Identity” is a Dance Theatre piece directed by Charly Wenzel, created in collaboration with an international female cast. Weighing the divisive power of Identity against its potential to unite the piece serves as an interrogation of belonging and mutual understanding paying homage to the rich tapestry of human diversity.



FRI, APR 10, 9PM

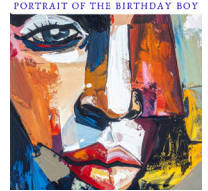
Portrait of the Birthday

Writer-Producer: Eugene Grygo

Director: Rachael Langton

Associate Producer: Alexandra Scordato

It is 1989, and Owen and three friends are in Vermont to celebrate his 30th birthday. Haunted by his past, Owen still risks a grand gesture to convince Max that they should be more than friends. At the same time, Owen's friends Reg and Jared, a couple, get devastating news.



SAT, APR 11, 7PM

Passion Tango and Arabian Night

Idea & Production: Analia Farfan

Directors: Analia Farfan, Fiorella Armando

Digital Artist: Alessandra Mattanza

“Tango Passion & Arabian Nights” journeys from Buenos Aires to the Sahara through tango, bellydance, and fusion. Culminating in Libertango, Piazzolla's anthem of freedom, both dances meet sensual, grounded, and liberated, revealing movement as rebellion and poetic transformation.

East and West united in a unique and extraordinary homage to Astor Piazzolla.



PLAYS

MUSICALS

SOLO SHOW

DANCE

TICKETS \$20 - \$40 | EMERGINGARTISTSTHEATRE.ORG

SAT, APR 11, 9PM

June Moon

Book & Lyrics: Jesse Ayala

Music & Lyrics: Justino Tesoro

Additional Lyrics: Isa Peña

Ramy, a tech-bro “fuckboy,” faces an ultimatum from his therapist: mature or lose her business. Ordered to show empathy, he accidentally meets Carolina when their AirPods swap. She hears Michelle Obama’s audiobook and thinks he’s “different.” Can one night change their views on love, and are they really compatible?



SAT, APR 11, 9PM

tremores & trillingen

Choreographers & Dancers: Leticia Cirne and Soraya Omtzigt

“tremores & trillingen,” choreographed by Letícia Cirne and Soraya Omtzigt, researches the physical sensations of anxiety through contemporary dance. Once isolated by fear, the dancers now learn to move through anxiety together, on this journey of self-acceptance, surrender, and release.



SAT, APR 11, 9PM

A Leaf in the Wind

Writer/Director: Jeffery Chen

Music Director: Cas Royalty

Production Coordinator: Amira Adarkwah

Riley is dead. But she has a script, a stage, and one more chance to tell her story—before it’s too late. A short musical about grief, mental health, and the people we leave behind.



SAT, APR 11, 9PM

Golden Memories

Choreographer: Bridget Ryan

Company: Bridget Ryan Dance Company

Golden Memories is a theatre jazz piece celebrating joyous times. In a world with such sadness, *Golden Memories* shows us how to appreciate every moment we can.



PLAYS

MUSICALS

SOLO SHOW

DANCE

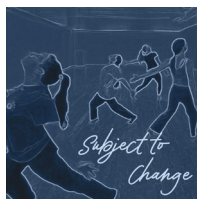
TICKETS \$20 – \$40 | EMERGINGARTISTSTHEATRE.ORG

SUN, APR 12, 2PM

Subject to Change

Choreography: Laura Ardner

This contemporary dance work reflects on inner workings of our minds and identities, how they are destined to change over time, and what certain shifts might look and feel like inside someone's mind.



SUN, APR 12, 2PM

Strength&Honor

Choreographer: Angela Joy

Two people struggle to be honest and transparent with each other in their relationship. In the aftermath they find themselves confronted with accepting the dignity of responsibility for their actions and realize the "right" choice is not always what it seems.



SUN, APR 12, 2PM

10:00 AM

Choreographers: Maia Virgil and Amanda Lindamood

Set over the span of an open ballet class, this work follows the busy and complex lives of four dancers as they navigate the various challenges of freelancing. While they have become good friends through this weekly class, their circumstances and motivations affect their identities as dancers in different ways.



SUN, APR 12, 2PM

Side Effects May Include...

Choreographer: Katherine Marotta

This piece explores the importance of FDA regulation in prescription medications, highlighting the 2012 shutdown of the New England Compounding Center after distributing 1,700 contaminated steroid vials that harmed 700 people and caused over 100 deaths, emphasizing why awareness is crucial to prevent future harm.



PLAYS

MUSICALS

SOLO SHOW

DANCE

TICKETS \$20 - \$40 | EMERGINGARTISTSTHEATRE.ORG

SUN, APR 12, 2PM

Disappearances

Writer: Christine Weiss

Director/Collaborator: James Hindman

As her marriage dissolves in the wake of her husband's transition, an actress portraying Agatha Christie investigates the author's infamous disappearance — only to confront the terrifying possibility that she is the one who has vanished.



SUN, APR 12, 5PM

MY WIDOWS

Playwright Dorothy Lyman

Five old friends meet to plan a fundraiser to save their church. What could go wrong? Husband and lovers come and go, but girlfriends are forever. Or are they?



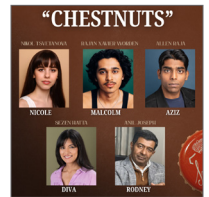
SUN, APR 12, 7PM

Chestnuts

Writer: Aladen Gulmohamad

Director: Katie Michelle Stahl

CHESTNUTS is a raw, darkly funny family drama set over the course of a single Christmas night, where unresolved grief, addiction, and love collide inside a fractured household.



MON, APR 13, 7PM

Buzzkill

Writer: Jordan Knitzer

Director: Nicholas Polonio**

Music Director: Nathan Beary Loughstein

Buzzkill is a darkly comic pop-rock musical anthology that zooms in on the creatures we overlook—mosquitos that spread disease, praying mantises at prom, and a cicada rock band screaming into extinction—asking what survival looks like when life is brutal, brief, and disposable.



*Appears courtesy of Actors' Equity Association

PLAYS

MUSICALS

SOLO SHOW

DANCE

TICKETS \$20 – \$40 | EMERGINGARTISTSTHEATRE.ORG

TUE, APR 14, 7PM

Faim

Choreographer/dancer: Rylan Joenk

“Faim” aims to explore Grief as an inherent partner to becoming yourself, through themes of symbolic auto-cannibalism and Death as transformation.

The work confronts mourning the version of self that the world would have celebrated for its adjacency to heteronormative ideals.

“Faim” displays the consumption of a past Self, and its replacement with a commitment to self expansion, and a fervent celebration of every future Self that emerges in its place.

This is eating and regrowing yourself over and over - it is death and birth.

In “Faim”, Death is cunning, clowning, and inevitable, they are the genesis of growing pains. Personified by two dancers in tandem, Death leads the Self to Change through a path of gothic abstraction, memory, and quiet metamorphosis.”



TUE, APR 14, 7PM

EXACTLY AS GOOD AS IT SEEMS

Director/Choreographer: Tor Breen

we chase a cracking open. already exhausted and rapidly approaching individual and communal collapse, we hurtle towards physical, vocal, and relational ends. audiences and performers encounter the collapse together, and in the moments just after, we find out what we rescue, what we feed, what we kill, what we follow.



TUE, APR 14, 7PM

Canzoni Per Papa

Choreographer: Taylor Gordon

A dance suite tracing inherited identity—from assimilation to awakening. Through kitsch, romance, memory, and resistance, this 20-minute work-in-progress honors the late Papa Mike Niro and reflects on immigration at a moment when belonging feels especially fragile.



*Appears courtesy of Actors' Equity Association

PLAYS

MUSICALS

SOLO SHOW

DANCE

TICKETS \$20 – \$40 | EMERGINGARTISTSTHEATRE.ORG

WED, APR 15, 7PM

A Gay Masseur's Guide to Happy Endings

Writer/Performer: Austin Jennings Boykin

Director: Joe DeStefano

Dramaturg/Producer: Anna Koppelman

A darkly funny solo show about a gay masseur navigating sex work, self-worth, and survival. When being wanted becomes your identity, desire turns into currency and boundaries erode. One spiraling night forces him to confront how much control he's willing to give up to feel valued—and what it takes to get out intact.



THU, APR 16, 7PM

Into the Fire

Writer/Performer: Barbara J Spence

Director: Lee Brock

Is it survival instincts, intuition or divine intervention? A story based on actual events.



FRI, APR 17, 7PM

Ruth's Story

Writer: Adina Bernstein

Director: Jessica Weygant

Surviving her troubled past has made her unbreakable, but can she accept the change of time; the happiness of a brighter future?



FRI, APR 17, 9PM

MY CIRCUS MY MONKEYS

Writer/Performer: Bobby Hedglin-Taylor

Stage Manager: Eva Senatore

Emotional Support Millennial/Stagehand: Remy Cucui

My Circus, My Monkeys is a fast, funny, and heartfelt solo show where standup comedy, personal storytelling, and singing impressions collide. Bobby Hedglin-Taylor reflects on GenX life & aging, queerness, and resilience, serving big laughs, unexpected warmth, and a few jaw-dropping vocal surprises along the way.



PLAYS

MUSICALS

SOLO SHOW

DANCE

TICKETS \$20 - \$40 | EMERGINGARTISTSTHEATRE.ORG

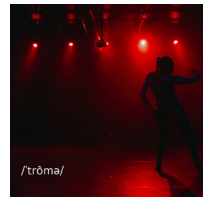
SAT, APR 18, 7PM

/'trômə/

Choreographer: Asmani Sanders

Music - Original score composed by Dylan Xu

/'trômə/ delves into the neurological and emotional responses to trauma, bringing to life the internal chaos that unfolds within the brain during a traumatic event. Through movement, the piece explores the various ways the body reacts under intense stress—highlighting states of freezing, dissociation, anxiety, agitation, and numbness. The work also portrays the numbing effect that often follows, as the body and mind attempt to protect themselves from overwhelming emotions. Through this exploration, the dance uncovers the complexity of trauma and the body's deeply ingrained survival mechanisms, fostering a deeper understanding of how we cope and heal in the aftermath of pain.



SAT, APR 18, 7PM

Dance Monkey

Choreographer: Alicia McDonald

The 7 women remaining, once artists full of life, continue to strive for the one thing they have always wanted more than anything else. Holding onto empty promises and stuck in an endless cycle, no one's aware of what their future may hold.



SAT, APR 18, 7PM

The Museum of Claire

Writer: Ruth Cashman

Director: John Carrafa

Claire returns to Wales after buying her childhood home, obsessed with restoring it to its 1970s glory and resurrecting happy memories of her father. But sharp-tongued sister Melissa is on hand to drag her back to reality — and gets more than she bargained for when a shattering secret is revealed.



PLAYS

MUSICALS

SOLO SHOW

DANCE

TICKETS \$20 – \$40 | EMERGINGARTISTSTHEATRE.ORG

SAT, APR 18, 7PM

Bada Bing Bada Boom

Writer/Director: Katie Casebolt

Vinny and Stan spend their morning standing guard at the city's Planned Parenthood office. As protesters try to amp up conversation to their own liking, the fellas impugn the rivals by calling out hypocrisy, resting on knowledge and observational humor to help the picket line to leave their clinic shaming days behind them.



SAT, APR 18, 9PM

Miss Magnolia Beaumont Goes to Provincetown

Writer/performer: Joe Hutcheson

Director: Dana Iannuzzi

After choking to death on a pork rib just before the Civil War, Miss Magnolia Beaumont, debutante, finds herself inhabiting the body of a middle-aged gay man on his way to Provincetown, Massachusetts for a birthday celebration. This solo play explores how two souls collide and celebrates the magic and beauty of P-town.



SUN, APR 19, 2PM

Motherhood & Other Shi**y Responsibilities

Writer & Performer: Venessa M. Diaz*

Guided by prophetic dreams and an unshakable knowing, a mother loses her singing voice but discovers something she's been ignoring her whole life. Following mystical signs from suburban suffocation to sacred journeys, she must decide: stay small and safe, or risk everything to become whole.



SUN, APR 19, 2PM

Gut Feeling

Artistic director/Choreographer: Leigha Bartko

This piece is addressing the need to be extremely aware and sensitive to our surroundings. Looking at how paranoia consumes women, and questions whether we're safe in America. Do you feel someone watching?



*Appears courtesy of Actors' Equity Association

PLAYS

MUSICALS

SOLO SHOW

DANCE

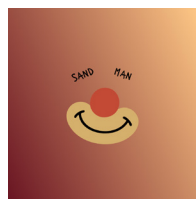
TICKETS \$20 - \$40 | EMERGINGARTISTSTHEATRE.ORG

SUN, APR 19, 2PM

Sandman

Creator: Erin Kei*

This is Sandman's first presentation. The piece lives within a larger body of work exploring themes of community and the way in which success can shape how we show up for one another.



SUN, APR 19, 2PM

Mess

Writer/Actor: John Malatesta

Director: Barri Montalvo

Max is the classic definition of a mess. After creating a big mess in New York, he returns to Pennsylvania to care for his aging mother. But his hometown is overflowing with messes. Join Max and a cavalcade of characters that may have you thinking we're all messes... or not.



SUN, APR 19, 5PM

Maggot

Choreographer/Performer: Dan Doran

The homophobia imposed onto me creates an internal landscape of conflict; femininity and masculinity are taught to contrast each other. My resulting identity becomes an overcompensation of both, portrayed through this work as hyper aggression and hyper sensitivity. This piece studies that relationship and the vessel they live inside of.

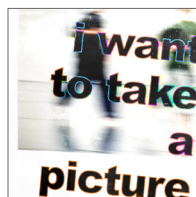


SUN, APR 19, 5PM

i want to take a picture

Choreographer: gem tantuico in collaboration with new name collective

Amidst confusion, "i want to take a picture" is a movement piece that makes stops of indulgence, fragility, discipline, destruction, and care. With sound exclusively from the performers, it drops into pockets of life that I only know on the tip of my tongue.



*Appears courtesy of Actors' Equity Association

PLAYS

MUSICALS

SOLO SHOW

DANCE

TICKETS \$20 - \$40 | EMERGINGARTISTSTHEATRE.ORG

SUN, APR 19, 5PM

Fight/Flight

Choreographer: Dominic Roberts
Visual Artist: Reese Windust
Editor: Isabella Ascoli

Fight/Flight is an attempt to embody the instinctual response we have facing something. Neither juxtaposed response is better than the other. How do we choose? When consistent fleeing causes buildup, when rebellion causes destruction. This sphere created on stage showcases the journey of choice.



SUN, APR 19, 5PM

HUMAN - Layers of Identity

Director/Choreographer: Charly Wenzel

“HUMAN-Layers of Identity” is a Dance Theatre piece directed by Charly Wenzel, created in collaboration with an international female cast. Weighing the divisive power of Identity against its potential to unite the piece serves as an interrogation of belonging and mutual understanding paying homage to the rich tapestry of human diversity.

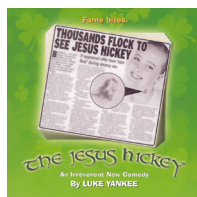


SUN, APR 19, 7PM

The Jesus Hickey

Playwright & Director: Luke Yankee
Producer: Don Hill
Featuring: Joyce Bulifant & Christopher Sieber

An innocent Irish lass gets a hickey from the village bad boy in the shape of Jesus. Suddenly, she's healing the sick. Dad turns her into a global sensation. Granny, foul-mouthed and fearless, teaches her that her sainthood is overrated and fame's a right pain in the arse.



SUN, APR 19, 9PM

Sensitivity

Playwright: Matthew Moore
Director: Billy Luce-Murray

Two men meet in a hotel room hoping for a brief fling. When a strange power outrage renders one of them blind, the strangers must learn to trust each other to navigate the mysteries of the night.



PLAYS

MUSICALS

SOLO SHOW

DANCE

TICKETS \$20 - \$40 | EMERGINGARTISTSTHEATRE.ORG

MON, APR 20, 7PM

Titanic, Jesus & Coca-Cola

Writer: Gena Oppenheim

Director: Millicent Cho

Lucy is a third-generation Titanic Fanatic who lives and breathes the history of the disaster. She may even be related to the man blamed for the tragedy. When she meets another descendant, sparks fly and a long-buried mystery surfaces. Woven with real testimony from the U.S. Senate hearings, this new play explores legacy and the stories we inherit.



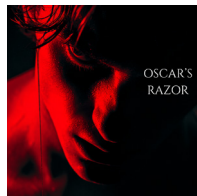
TUE, APR 21, 7PM

Oscar's Razor

Playwright: Brent Weaver

Director: Cooper Howell

Ten years after the infamous Ridgeway Razor Murders, a fresh wave of killings unravels the lives of four queer men. At the center is Oscar—the sole survivor of the original murders— who finds himself pulled back into a lethal game where intimacy becomes leverage, power turns erotic, and the line between victim and architect dissolves.



WED, APR 22, 7PM

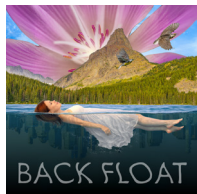
Back Float: A Very Hard of Hearing, Deaf-ish, Bluegrass-Forward Solo Show

Writer/Performer: Jo Brook*

Director: Lauren Jeanne Thomas*

Dramaturg: Megan Loomis*

Back Float is a daring, deeply human solo show about an actor and musician navigating hearing loss. Blending folk music, auditory soundscape, spoken English and ASL, the piece lives in the charged in-between: between sound and silence, labels and lived experience, isolation and belonging. Intimate, inventive, and witty, *Back Float* charts one woman's unapologetic reclamation of sound, memory, and identity.



*Appears courtesy of Actors' Equity Association

PLAYS

MUSICALS

SOLO SHOW

DANCE

TICKETS \$20 – \$40 | EMERGINGARTISTSTHEATRE.ORG

THU, APR 23, 2PM & 7PM

If I Could Go

Writer: Steve Engelbrecht

In the heart of modern Dublin lies a gateway to the mythical land of Tír na nÓg, a magical realm of eternal youth. When these worlds collide, an extraordinary journey begins in this new musical about love, loss, and finding the courage to rewrite your story.



FRI, APR 24, 7PM

Cope

Choreographer: Rosie Elliott

Musical Score: Nicolaus Gelin and Stephane Clement

Cope examines the human drive for aliveness. Through mundane actions of daily life, discrete archetypes—the cynic, the lovers, the dreamer, and the caretaker—emerge. The piece traces how individuals cope with disconnection while searching for meaning, presence, and shared humanity.



FRI, APR 24, 7PM

intermission

Creator/Performer: Meg Hasou

Succumbing to my fugue state, the work explores accepting disorder and submitting to distraction, flitting around and settling my tics.



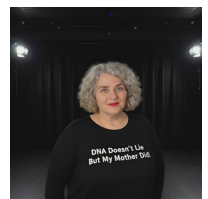
FRI, APR 24, 7PM

DNA Doesn't Lie But My Mother Did!

Writer & Performer: Christine McBurney

Director & Dramaturg: Lenny Pinna

An interrupted childhood in Brooklyn sends Christine to her grandparents in Ohio. She moves back to NYC, traipses around Europe, and lands back in Ohio, married with a child. Deciding to become an actress, a surprising DNA test leads her back to New York to claim the role of her life.



PLAYS

MUSICALS

SOLO SHOW

DANCE

TICKETS \$20 – \$40 | EMERGINGARTISTSTHEATRE.ORG

FRI, APR 24, 9PM

Reunion

Book and lyrics: Jay Baer

Music: Christie Chiles Twillie

Music director: Dea Thatcher Maglione

4 women friends get together at their 25th college reunion. Each has accomplished many things, yet feels like a failure thanks to pressures forced on women in our society. Events bolster their friendship and self-esteem over the course of the weekend. Lots of fun, with songs in many styles.



SAT, APR 25, 7PM

Life According to Judith

Judith Katz

Laura Zinn Fromm

A youthful earnest seeker finds self knowledge and transcendence in unexpected surprising ways when living in an ashram in India in 1976.



SAT, APR 25, 7PM

it was always you

Choreographer: Heather Downey

Artistic Director: Kaitlyn Esposito

Lighting Designer: E. Connor Goff

Falling in love with someone who doesn't reciprocate is risky, but what if they end up falling for you? This is a dance about seemingly unrequited love that has an unexpected ending.



SAT, APR 25, 7PM

Embers of Becoming

Creative Director: Teresa Fellion

Composer: Naz Kargoz

Costume Designer: Nina Katan

Through contemporary dance, Embers of Becoming explores the emotional and psychological journey of aging across challenges, losses, and the joy, resilience, and purpose that emerge through transformation.

Using movement, this story shows how we navigate hardship while holding onto connection, beauty, and the uninhibited freedom of childhood wonder.



PLAYS

MUSICALS

SOLO SHOW

DANCE

TICKETS \$20 - \$40 | EMERGINGARTISTSTHEATRE.ORG

SAT, APR 25, 9PM

The Scarlet Letter Musical

Writer: Kenady Sean

Writer: Christine Hand Jones

Director: Rebecca Lowrey

Her shame made her famous. Her strength made her revolutionary.

This bold musical adaptation of The Scarlet Letter tells the story of Hester Prynne as you've never seen her before. Branded by rigid Puritan society, she turns her scarlet letter into a badge of survival and a spark for rebellion.



SUN, APR 26, 2PM

And This One's True

Writer & Performer: Laura Hooper

Director: Emma Canalese

Join Mamie Rae on a wacky picaresque through her extraordinary life whilst death hovers... Regaling tales of a violent childhood in London, love affairs in WW2, and avoiding cow pats in New Zealand, Mamie has lived a life! Help her embrace her spirituality and move on to the other side. forward motion.



SUN, APR 26, 5PM

Pause by Kafra Collective and friends

Choreographer/Dancer: Francesca Antonacci

Choreographer/Dancer: Caroline Brethenoux

KAFRA Collective presents an evening of diverse choreographic voices exploring PAUSE. Through contrasting movement languages and perspectives, each piece interrogates stillness, interruption, and breath—the space between action and reflection. A multidisciplinary celebration of what emerges when we dare to stop, listen, and suspend the relentless forward motion.

PAUSE

**Appears courtesy of Actors' Equity Association*

PLAYS

MUSICALS

SOLO SHOW

DANCE

TICKETS \$20 – \$40 | EMERGINGARTISTSTHEATRE.ORG

SUN, APR 26, 5PM

Sniff my undies ;)

Director/choreographer/writer: Lulu Munteanu

Costume designer/writer: Lizzy Choi

Through maximalist alien movement three otherworldly bugs explore each other and themselves. Inspired by the aesthetic writing of Sianne Ngai these creatures explore through the aesthetics of the cute, zany, and interesting. Getting closer and more extreme in the hopes of gaining visibility and understanding from the world around them.



SUN, APR 26, 5PM

There but by Fortune

Concept and Direction: Beth Jucovy

Choreographers: Beth Jucovy, Louisa Armstrong-Harrison

Vocal Director: Farah Chandu

A theatrical dance work incorporating live song that explores emotional and moral complexities of dependence, power dynamics, and manipulation, buffeted by the inequities of fortune and circumstance. The work invites audiences to question success and systems enabling exploitation, both within personal relationships and a broader social and political context.

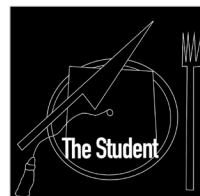


SUN, APR 26, 5PM

The Student

Writer/Director: Divya Khanna

A daughter visits home from college for a family dinner with her holy terror of a little sister and her mother, who never finished college. Tensions skyrocket and insecurities are revealed during this short play exploring generational conflict and resentment.



SUN, APR 26, 7PM

Apollo: The Man Who Built the Moon

Writers: Andrew Weiss & Sam Popkin

The Space Race is on, tune in with your TV dinner. Apollo Wilson, aspirational astronaut/ex-NASA physicist/current BBC set designer, unknowingly becomes an accomplice in staging the 1969 moon landing on live television. Once your integrity is ruined, how far are you willing to go to accomplish your dreams?



PLAYS

MUSICALS

SOLO SHOW

DANCE

TICKETS \$20 - \$40 | EMERGINGARTISTSTHEATRE.ORG

WHO WE ARE

EAT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair

Mark Barres

Vice Chair

Pamela Weiler Grayson

Treasurer

Roger Cooper

Founder

Paul Adams

Board Members

Cheryl Howard

Caytha Jentis

Spark Theatre Festival NYC Staff

Executive Director

Paul Adams

Managing Director, Spark Theatre Festival

Vanessa Shealy

Communications Director

Andrea Alton

Production Stage Manager

Abby Fry

Assistant Stage Manager/ Lighting Design

Adam Carrigan

Publicist

Alton PR

Website

Frank Coleman

Micah Logsdon

Talkback Moderators

Bambi Everson

Concessions

Bambi Everson

Program Design

Katherine Wu

House Manager

Mar Di Meglio

Vanessa Shealy

OUR SUPPORTERS

1st Chairs

Jane Altman	Deb Guston & Pat Nixon	Tim McMath	Nicola Sheara
Sarah Aziz	Jason & Jessica Hare	Lue McWilliams	Sally Sockwell
Matt Boethin	Larry Harris	Hershey Miller	Jon Spano
Donna Bungo	Janice Heinemann	Richard Ploetz	Matt Stapleton
Matt Casarino	Peter Herrick	Scott Raker	Staci Swedeen
Blanche Cholet	Sarah Hollister	Ellen Reilly	Kate Thaw
Brett Douglas	Rebecca Hoodwin	Jonathan Reuning	Kathleen Warnock
Erin & Mark Ginocchio	Scott Katzman	Yvonne Roen	Marie Wallace
Joe Godfrey	Kerri Kochanski	Maya Rosewood	Chris Widney
Ashley Green	Kurt Kingsley	Jack Rushen	
Tom & Sabrina Greenman	Mark Lambeck	Ronald & Martha Seib	

Thanks to Our Recent Donors

Ellen Abrams	Katie Casebolt	Barbara Grecki	Fredda Kaufman	Donna Moreau	Susan Steiger
Michelle Ackerman	Matt Casarino	Graydon Gund	Robin Kaufman	Daniel Moretti	Dean Streyle
Bruce & Jan Adams	Marc Castle	Dee Gustavson	Rasa Allan Kazlas	Arlene Moskowitz	Anne Stockton
Heather Adams	Eric Chase	Deb Guston	Nancy Davidoff Kelton	Douglas Moss	Curt Strickland
Paul Adams	Tracee Chimo-Pallero	Fadi H	Larry Kirwan	Elizabeth Murray	Aksel Tang
Sam Affoumado	James Chotas	Andrew Hall	Scott Klavan	Edward Musto	Melinda Tanner
Francisco Alameda	Nathan Christopher	Phillip Hall	Peter Klein	Laura Neese	Susan Taylor
Jacquelyn Alexander	Michael Cleeff	Bash Halow	Jill Knapp	Jim Nugent	Ken Thompson
Anne Alkema	Steven Cole	Fran Handman	Kerri Kochanski	Keiko Obremski	Ned Thorne
Andrea Alton	David Copeland	David Hansen	Irwin Kroot	Jason O'Connell	Henry Tieu
Dan Amboyer	Lynda Crawford	Jason & Jessica Hare	Mark Lambeck	Anand Pandya	Doris Toumarkine
Gabi Ammirato	Susan Crawford	Darnell Harker	Michael LaPolla	Lawrence Paone	Christopher Trindade
Wendy Ammirato	Danna Creager	Holli C. Harms	Melba LaRose	Brad Paris	Deborah Unger
Wynne Anders	William Crouch	Lawrence Harris	Susan Laubach	Gregg Pasternak	Vanda Wryter
Perry Dell'Aquila	Dominic Cullen	Steven Hauck	Anthony Lauria	Erin Person	David Virgil
Deb Armelino	Christian Curtis	Julie Hays	Kevin Lee	Mindy Pfeffer	Maia Virgil
Michael Aschner	Deniz Demirkurt	Janice Heineman	Lee Lee	Renee Philippi	Philip Vlahakis
Melissa Attebery	Roland Dib	Jamie Heindlen	Amanda Brook Lerner	Jess Phillips-Lorenz	Roy Walker Jr.
Sarah Aziz	Cheryl Donahue	Anne Henderson	Lauren Letellier	Linda Prickett	Edward Walters
Mark Barres	Brett Douglas	Wayne Henry	Michael Levine	Carol & Richard Ploetz	David Ward
Marina Barry	Denise Duellman	Christina Hemphill	Peter Levine	Gerald Quist	Stuart Warmflash
Monia Bauer	Desmond Dutcher	Billy Hipkins	Barry Levy	Scott Raker	Allen Warnock
Chantale Bayard	Ron Elisha	Therese Hipkins	Deena Levy	Jonathan Reuning	Morgana Kate Watson
Carrie Beehan	Bambi Everson	Marylou Lynn	Robert Locke	Charles Rice-Gonzalez	Janet Weakley
Elizabeth Bell	Godfrey Fandalian	Holewinski	Donald Loftus	Richard Rivera	Angela Weigel
Barbara Bellman	Chris Fauk	Rebecca Hoodwin	Natalie Long	Maya Rosewood	Adam Weinstock
Noah Berch	Julie Feltman	Cheryl Howard	John Major	Nick Ruggeri	Sean Welch
James Berry	Mark Finley	Terry Hueneke	John Malatesta	Nathan Samuel	Janice Williams
Kelly Blincoe	Emanuele Fiore	Josh Hyman	Kal Mansoor	Sylvia Scalia	David Wickland
Matt Boethin	Alexis Fishman	Neil Ioannou	Molly Maranik	Bruce Schaffer	Chris Widney
Tiffan Borelli	Natalie Fishman	Rach Ireland	Loribeth Marshall	Janelle Schittone	Lisa Yves Winner
Christopher Borg	Patty Fitzgerald	Derek Jamison/Tim Leavitt	Paulette Mattson	Jon Schuster	Zachary Wobensmith
James Bosley	Gregory Fletcher	Alice Jankell-Shatkin	John McCooe	Vanessa Shealy	Jonathan Wood
Laura Bosley	Shaun Fletcher	Kate Jansyn	Eileen McCormack	Steve Sherman	Dan Wooldridge
Bob Boulanger/ Liza O Keeffe	Lisa Flores	Esquire Jauchem	Steven McElroy	Don Shewey	Marcus Woolen
Broadway Cares	Joan Forster	Carl Jaynes	Patrick McEvoy	Marlene Shyer	Darci Wutz
Elena Brun	Jake Friedman	Caytha Jentis	Mary McGarry	Scott Sickles	Patricia Vogelsang
Christine Bruno	Michele Fulves	Beth Jucovy	Kate McLeod	David Simon	Benjamin Yarmolinsky
Miguel Burke	Jack Garrity	Laura Izuquierdo	Lue McWilliams	Shivinder Singh	RouRou Ye
Kristen Busalacchi	Erin Hadley Ginocchio	Jurado	Vivian Meisner	Jo & Michael Sirgado	Jonathan Zich
Richard Byrne	Irene Glezos	Ann Kahn	Craig Miller	Myra Slotnick	Alison Zima
Bridget Calzaretta	Joseph Godfrey	Greg Kalleres	Hershey Miller	Sally Sockwell	David Zinn
Lo Canale	Carl Gonzalez	Lee Kaplan	Bob Minikel	Jon Spano	
Hal Cantor	Pamela Weiler Grayson	Scott Katzman	Carol Monda	Michael Spara	
			Darlene Monda	Suzanne Sponsler	



IF YOU'D LIKE TO DONATE TO EMERGING ARTISTS THEATRE

HERE'S HOW:

Online at

EmergingArtistsTheatre.org

Check by mail to Emerging Artists Theatre
475 West 57th Street, Suite 9A2, New York, NY 10019



Spark Theatre Festival NYC

A home for emerging artists, a
playground for emerging work.

SUBMISSIONS OPEN MAY 1, 2026:

To submit your new play, musical, dance, solo show, or
other theatrical piece to the Spark Theatre Festival NYC
go to emergingartiststheatre.org.

WE WISH TO EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE TO THE PERFORMERS' UNIONS:

Actors' Equity Association, American Guild of Musical Artists, American Guild of Variety Artists, and SAG-AFTRA through Theatre Authority, Inc. for their cooperation in permitting the Artists to appear on this program.



Actors' Equity Association ("AEA" or "Equity"), founded in 1913, is the labor union that represents more than 49,000 Actors and Stage Managers in the United States. Equity seeks to advance, promote and foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of our society. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions and provides a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans, for its members. Actors' Equity is a member of the AFL-CIO, and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. The Equity Emblem is our mark of excellence. www.actorsequity.org



We gratefully acknowledge the following funders for their support.

This program is supported, in part, by the Blanchette Hooker Rockefeller Fund, and though public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council.

The Blanchette Hooker Rockefeller Fund





[@EmergingArtistsTheatre](#)

[#SparkFestNYC](#) [#EmergingArtistsTheatre](#)