



JJJJEROME ELLIS: *THREE PSALMS*

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5pm

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JJJJEROME ELLIS: *THREE PSALMS*

Compositions, Saxophone, Flute, Piano, Vocals by JJJJerome Ellis

Additional Vocals by Catherine Brookman, Starr Busby

Flute, Vocals by Haruna Lee

Videography by Marcus Middleton

Piano, Percussion by James Harrison Monaco

Violin by Shu Wang

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

JJJJerome Ellis is a stuttering, Afro-Caribbean composer, performer, and writer. His current practice explores Blackness, music, and disabled speech as forces of refusal and healing. He is a 2019 MacDowell Colony Fellow, a writer in residence at Lincoln Center Theater, and a 2015 Fulbright Fellow.

Catherine Brookman (she/her) is a performer/composer based in Brooklyn and Los Angeles. Recent performances include Meredith Monk's *ATLAS* with the LA Philharmonic (Walt Disney Concert Hall), singing soprano solo with electronics on a piece by William Britelle with the Charlotte Symphony, an all-night drone concert with Grammy-nominated LA ensemble Wild Up, with jazz and pop acts Esperanza Spalding (Baltimore Symphony) and Lorde (Electric Lady), in Dave Malloy's *Natasha, Pierre & the Great Comet of 1812* (Off-Broadway) and *Hair* (Broadway). She composes music for theatre, film, and opera and her work has been seen/heard at Lincoln Center, The Public, Ars Nova, Nitehawk Cinema, HERE Arts, rooftops, galleries, apartments and more. As a composer/performer she has created full-length scores for William Burke's *Variations on the Main* (JACK), *PIONEERS#goforth* (JACK), *The Shes* (The Public), *La dérouté: A Water Opera* (3LD) with Helen Banner, *Rady&Bloom's The Upper Room* (NYTimes Critic's Pick, New Ohio) and *The Girl of the Golden West* (co-composer; ANT Fest, Ice Factory). Originally from Baltimore, she performs her art pop project under the name Sullivann and was recently featured live at The Greene Space on WNYC. She will release her debut visual EP, *Elements*, this Summer.

Starr Busby is an experimental artist who sings, acts, composes, educates and is dedicated to the liberation of All people. You may have seen Starr playing solo shows with their loop station, Francis, or fronting Brooklyn-based experimental soul band People's Champs (peopleschamps.com). Starr has also supported artists such as The Gorillaz, Esperanza Spalding, X Ambassadors, Kimbra and Alice Smith. Selected appearances include: *Moby Dick* (American Repertory Theatre; Starbuck); *Octet* (Signature Theatre; Paula – Drama Desk Award Winner); *where love lies fallow* (The Shed; Nia 1); *Apollo Cafe Live: Soul Cypher*; *#BlackGirlMagic Show* (Jack; composer/performer); *Mikrokosmos* (Steirischer Herbst, Graz and Nottingham Contemporary); *The Girl with the Incredible Feeling* (Spoleto Festival di Mondì) as well as various concerts. Starr also enjoys working as an arts educator through organizations such as Carnegie Hall's Lullaby Project and Long Island University's Post Theatre Company where they are a member of the musical theatre department's voice faculty. She is looking forward to continuing the development of (*pray*) with nicHi douglas and JJJJerome Ellis at Ars Nova. Their music is available via Bandcamp, Spotify and Apple Music.

Haruna Lee is a Taiwanese/Japanese/American theater maker, television writer, educator and community steward whose work is rooted in a liberation-based healing practice. They are committed to promoting arts activism and emergent strategies for the theater through ethical and process-based collaborations that challenge systems and legacies of power, while inviting the fullness of marginalized bodies and the complexity of lived experience to their practice. Recent plays include *Suicide Forest* published by 53rd State Press (Ma-Yi Theater Company and The Bushwick Starr), *plural (love)* (Soho Rep Writer/Director Lab; New Georges), and *Memory Retrograde* (UTR; Ars Nova; BAX). Lee is a recipient of an Obie Award for Playwriting and Conception of *Suicide Forest*, an FCA Grants to Artists Award, received the Mohr Visiting Artist Fellowship at Stanford University, a MacDowell Fellowship, the Map Fund Grant, and Lotos Foundation Prize for Directing. They were a member of the 2019 artEquity cohort, and are a co-founder and lead facilitator for the Women-Trans-Femme-Non Binary Asian Diasporic Performance Makers Potluck. They are currently writing for HBO Max *The Flight Attendant*. They received their M.F.A. from Brooklyn College under the tutelage of Mac Wellman and Erin Courtney, and a B.F.A. from NYU Experimental Theater Wing. | harunalee.com

Marcus Middleton is a Brooklyn-based photographer/videographer with a passion for performance, lifestyle, events, street life, etc. "The goal is to tell stories through images that convey a deep sense of intimacy along with the aliveness of the present moment. The audience should feel as if the whole thing exists just for them. They should feel intrigued and invited into the subject(s) of the work."

James Harrison Monaco is a storyteller, writer, performer, and composer. Along with Jerome Ellis, he is one half of the music and storytelling duo Jerome & James (jeromeandjames.org). Works by Jerome & James have been presented at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Public Theater's Under The Radar Festival, The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, and The Bushwick Starr, among others. His other storytelling works have appeared at such venues as Ars Nova, The New Ohio Theatre, and variety nights all over town. He's also a prose/fiction writer, a translator from Spanish and Italian, a dramaturg, a percussionist, and a writer in residence at Lincoln Center Theater.

Sophia Shu Wang: Modern Classical, Rock, Pop, Electronic Violinist/ Improvisor/ Music Therapist.

Ronald Peet is a Bahamian-born, Brooklyn-based artist, runner, meditator and humanist. FILM: *The Land of Owls*, *The Meyerowitz Stories*, *First Reformed*, *Nevada*. TV: *The I-Land*, *Dicktown*, *Tommy*, *The Good Fight*, *The Looming Tower*, *Bull*, *Blindspot & Girls*. OFF-BROADWAY: *DADDY* (New Group, Vineyard), *Spill* (EST), *Cute Activist* (Bushwick Starr), *Kentucky* (EST/Page 73), *Icarus in the LES* (Joe's Pub), *The World My Mama Raised* (Clubbed Thumb), *Debutante* (Ars Nova). REGIONAL: *The Lion In Winter* (Two River); *peerless* (Barrington Stage); *The Golem Of Havana* (Barrington Stage/Miami New Drama) & over 30 roles in 15 productions with the American Shakespeare Center. NEW PLAY DEVELOPMENT: Atlantic, Second Stage, Juilliard, Yale School of Drama, Roundabout, Public, MCC, MTC, NYU, LABYRINTH, Soho Rep, Playwrights Horizons. MUSIC: Mostly Mozart Festival at Lincoln Center, Joe's Pub, Town Hall, Live from Lincoln Center. Member of Ensemble Studio Theatre, Honors Graduate of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts & Emory University Alumnus. NY Cares Ambassador & Crisis Text Line Counselor.



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