

**VISION RESIDENCY**

**JUNE 23 & 24 @ 7PM**

**WOMB!**  
**THERE IT IS**

**AROVA**

# WOMB! There it is

**JUNE 23 & 24 @ 7PM**

CURATED & CREATED BY

**LEGACY, A BLACK QUEER PRODUCTION COLLECTIVE  
(GARRETT ALLEN, KYLE CARRERO LOPEZ,  
ASHTON MUÑIZ, BASIT SHITTU)**

MUSIC DIRECTOR **ALZENA BELLE**

BAND **NAZARETH HASSAN & JOSHUA ALLEN**

CHOREOGRAPHER **CHRISTOFER MEDINA**

BALLROOM CONSULTANT **KEMAR JEWEL**

FEATURING THE VOICE OF **GABBY BEANS**

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## ABOUT VISION RESIDENCY

Designed to foreground Ars Nova's values through the creation of more equitable and power-sharing curatorial practices, the Vision Residency was launched in 2020 with the goal of expanding Ars Nova's artistic vision by inviting artist-curators to program our stages and digital platform with their own work as well as work by artists they champion and admire. Each Resident will be given broad support from Ars Nova's full staff in their curation, which will result in events and performances in-person at Ars Nova and online on Ars Nova Supra.

Each will be paid for their curation and administrative work, as well as a program budget to allocate towards the creation, development and presentation of work during their curated month. Vision Residents are encouraged to invite other artists they feel inspired by, want to collaborate with or simply wish to amplify, to make and share work using the budget and resources of the residency during their month of programming.

*The Vision Residency program at Ars Nova is made possible by the generous support of the Miranda Family, Diana DiMenna and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund.*

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# ABOUT THE ARTISTS

**GARRETT ALLEN** (they/them) is a Black, queer interdisciplinary artist and director working primarily in performance, video and installation. Their recent projects include directing *Everybody* by Branden Jacobs-Jenkins (Yale College), creating *body100* with collaborator Nazareth Hassan (Prelude Festival), co-creating *BLK MLK* (blackmilk) with poet Kyle Carrero Lopez (Spectrum NYC), directing *...When The World Is No Longer: by Dante Green* (Ars Nova ANTFFEST, Polyphone Festival) and devising/creating *We Were All Rooting For You* (Flamboyant). Their video and performance art works have been exhibited at The Invisible Dog, School of Visual Arts NYC, Harvard, Knockdown Center, Signal Gallery, The Deep End and You Are Here. They are currently pursuing their MFA in Directing at Yale School of Drama. [Garrett-Allen.com](http://Garrett-Allen.com)

**KYLE CARRERO LOPEZ** was born to Cuban parents in northern New Jersey. A writer, interdisciplinary artist and producer, he is the author of *MUSCLE MEMORY*, the winning chapbook of the 2020 [PANK] Books contest. His work is published and highlighted in The Nation, The Atlantic, Best New Poets 2021, W Magazine, office and elsewhere. He holds an MFA in Poetry from NYU, where he was a Goldwater Fellow. He is a 2022 Tin House Scholar and is represented by (but not related to) Ashley Lopez of Waxman Literary. Find him at [KyleCarreroLopez.com](http://KyleCarreroLopez.com).

**ASHTON MUÑIZ** (They/He) is an actor, performance artist, activist and emerging producer based in New York. Ashton's artistic goal is to instill joy into the world by embracing the realities of the present. Acting credits include *The Inheritance* on Broadway ('21 Tony Award winner), *Taylor Mac's 24-Decade History of Popular Music* (Edward Kennedy Prize for Drama) and has been seen Off-Broadway at New York Theatre Workshop, The Public Theatre, St. Anne's Warehouse and more. Recently, Ashton has collaborated with various artists and been featured in select works at The Guggenheim, Art Institute Chicago, Swiss Institute, New Museum, Lehmann Maupin and Pace Gallery. Additionally, Ashton has danced for Marc Jacobs FW 2020, A\$AP Rocky and Rihanna. Training: Ithaca College, Moscow Arts Theatre School, Shakespeare & Co, Hillman Grad Mentee '21.

**BASIT SHITTU** (they/them) is a Black queer Nigerian Brooklyn based Performance Artist, singer/songwriter, musician and multimedia producer. Basit earned their BFA in Musical Theatre from the University of Oklahoma and some of their professional theatrical credits include Mzz Erykah/Commercial Voice in *A Map to Nowhere* Soho Rep, Sam in *PILLOWTALK* Off-Broadway and Tribe in the European Tour of *Hair! The Musical*. Basit made their television debut in MTV's first queer dating show "Are You The One." As a recording artist Basit released their debut single Fluid in 2020 as a personal ode, love letter and celebration of the fluidity in gender and sexuality and followed that real ease with Crystal in the fall of 2021 as a self-empowerment anthem to remind us all that we have the magic within to win.

# A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS!

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underground  
railroad  
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KPOP

RAGS  
PARKLAND  
— SINGS THE —  
SONGS OF  
THE FUTURE

SMALL MOUTH SOUNDS



FUTURITY

Ars Nova is a nurturing home for early-career  
artists in theater, music & comedy with a mission to

**DISCOVER,  
DEVELOP  
& LAUNCH**

the brightest emerging talents. We uplift and center  
artists by paying them fair wages and providing resources  
to take big risks and create their most innovative work.



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### **DISCOVERING, DEVELOPING & LAUNCHING ARTISTS**

through year-round programs devised to support outside-the-box thinking from artists in the early stages of their careers.

### **MAKING THEATER ACCESSIBLE**

through the support of our TICKET SUBSIDY INITIATIVE, which ensures that price is not a barrier between our artists and their next-gen audiences.

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with our EMERGING LEADERS GROUP, which aims to break down the barriers of unpaid internships and create a more diverse pipeline of arts leaders.

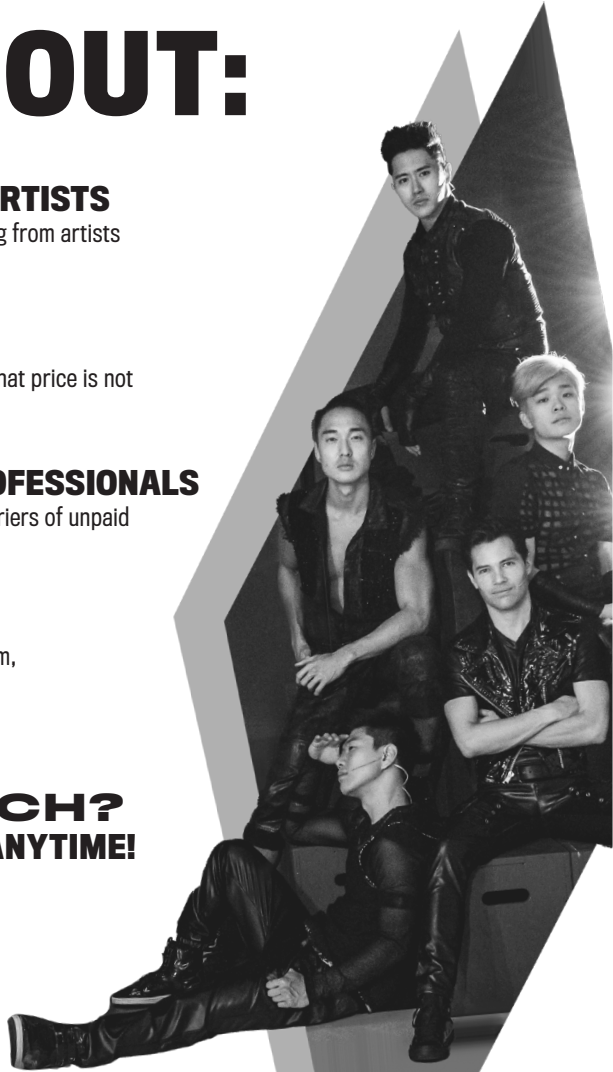
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through our FAIR PAY INITIATIVE, which ensures a living, not just minimum, wage for Ars Nova's artists and staff.

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# **ACKNOWLEDGING THE LAND**

Ars Nova operates on the unceded land of the Lenape peoples on the island of Manhahtaan (Mannahatta) in Lenapehoking, the Lenape Homeland.

We acknowledge the brutal history of this stolen land and the displacement and dispossession of its Indigenous people. We also acknowledge that after there were stolen lands, there were stolen people. We honor the generations of displaced and enslaved people that built, and continue to build, the country that we occupy today.

We invite you to join us in acknowledging all of this as well as our shared responsibility: to consider our way forward in reconciliation, decolonization, anti-racism and allyship. We commit ourselves to the daily practice of pursuing this work.

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