



Queen Lili‘uokalani Trust

Summer Performing Arts Intensive

July 8-21, 2018

Artist Bios

ArtChangeUS: Arts in a Changing America is a five-year initiative based out of the California Institute of the Arts. Its mission is to reframe the national arts conversation by embracing the cultural assets of demographic change. ArtChangeUS is creating a vast network of artists, idea producers, and organizations that serves as an urgently needed catalyst to bring unheard leadership voices to the forefront of social discourse, arts production, and community change.

<https://artsinachangingamerica.org>



Roberta Uno - Curator/Artistic Director

Roberta Uno is a theater director, writer, and national arts leader. She is the Director of Arts in a Changing America, a national project on changing demographics and the arts based at the California Institute of the Arts. She was the Program Officer and then Senior Program Officer for Arts and Culture at the Ford Foundation 2002-2015. From 1979-2002, she was the founder and Artistic Director of the New WORLD Theater, a visionary theater dedicated to the work of artists of color, at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and a Professor of Directing and Dramaturgy in the University's Department of Theater. A member of the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers, she directed, produced, presented, or dramaturged over

200 works at New WORLD Theater. Born in Honolulu, HI, she is a haumana of Kumu Hula Vicky Holt Takamine and co-organizer of the NYC hālau extension, Pua Ali'i 'Ilima o Nuioka. Her publications include a new edition of the anthology, *Contemporary Plays by Women of Color* UK: Routledge.

TEACHING ARTISTS



Peter Espiritu - Contemporary Dance / Ballet

Peter Rockford Espiritu is the Founder & Artistic Director of Hawai'i's critically acclaimed Tau Dance Theater (TDT), which continues to respectfully honor the traditional art forms and ideals of the rich and diverse cultures of the Pacific while setting new standards for a modern Oceania. Utilizing indigenous traditions to anchor work while maintaining cultural identity in the face of globalization, the work functions as an artistic mirror that reflects the impact of what Hawaii and Oceania was, has become, and where it is headed. His professional works include: *Hanau Ka Moku: An Island is Born*, *NAUPAKA, a Hawaiian Opera*, *POLI 'AHU: Goddess of Maunakea!*, *MEN DANCING!*, *Waikīkī Nei*, and *Starlit Hui* at the Aulani Disney resort. He serves as Artistic Director

for ECHO, Education through Cultural and Historical Organizations, a contemporary oral traditions project with cultural partners Bishop Museum, Peabody Essex Museum, Alaska Native Heritage Center, The Inupiat Center, The New Bedford Whaling Museum, the Wamponoag Tribe at Martha's Vineyard, and the Mississippi Band of the

Choctaw Indians together with the Smithsonian Institute NYC and D.C. Recently he returned from a six-year appointment as Artistic Director at the Oceania Centre for Arts Culture and Pacific Studies at the University of the South Pacific (USP) in Suva, Fiji. Mr. Espiritu's formal dance training includes traditional 'ōlapa and 'auwana with na Kumu Hula, John Keanuenu Ka'imikaua, George Kananiokeakua Holokai and Ceci Akim, oli with Pualani Kanaka'ole and private tutelage with Ka'upena Wong for Poli'ahu chants. Scholarships for study at the School of American Ballet, the American Dance Festival at Duke University and the Colorado Dance Festival at Colorado State.



Ana "Rokafella" Garcia - Hip Hop

Ana "Rokafella" Garcia is a NYC native who has represented women in Hip-hop dance professionally over the past two decades. Referencing street and Latino culture, she co-founded Full Circle Prod Inc., NYC's only non profit Break Dance Theater company with her husband, veteran Bboy Kwikstep. Full Circle has performed on Broadway at the New Victory Theatre and has toured to numerous theaters including the New Jersey Performing Arts Center, Dance Theatre Workshop, Lincoln Center Out-of-Doors, the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and more. She directed a documentary highlighting the Bgirl lifestyle in Hip-Hop's Mecca entitled *All The Ladies Say..* She judges Break dance competitions internationally and teaches unique workshops

aimed at evolving and preserving its technical aspects. She has worked within the NYC public school system, exposing young students to the possibility of a career in dance. She is an artist in residence at the American Tap Dance Foundation, an adjunct professor at The New School, and a DANCE NYC Annual Symposium planning committee member. She has choreographed for diverse festivals/concerts such as the Oregon Shakespeare Festival and has been featured in pivotal Rap music videos, tours, films and commercials. She has received numerous accolades and will awarded, along with husband, Kwikstep, the Dance Teacher Award from the American Dance Festival in North Carolina in July.



Moses Goods - Theater

Moses Goods is one of Hawai'i's most prominent theatre artists. Originally from Maui and now based in Honolulu, he has traveled nationally and internationally performing his original work to a wide range of audiences. His body of work ranges from full length plays to theatrical storytelling pieces, most of which are strongly rooted in Native Hawaiian culture. Currently, his one-man show *DUKE* is touring throughout the Hawaiian Islands as well as the Continental U.S. Moses is also the founder and artistic director of 'Inamona Theatre Company, an organization dedicated to reintroducing the native stories of Hawai'i to the community. 'Inamona is a traditional Hawaiian relish sprinkled sparingly over mea 'ai (nourishing food) to gently

enhance the natural flavor. Moses believes that no matter how skilled the storyteller, his (or her) work is merely a condiment to the greater sustenance. The true "mea 'ai" are the stories that have come before us, the stories of our ancestors.



Kumu Hula Vicky Holt Takamine - Hula

Vicky Holt Takamine graduated as kumu hula through the 'ūniki rituals of hula from Ma'iki Aiu Lake in August, 1975. She established her hālau, Pua Ali'i 'Ilima in 1977 and is also the founder and kumu hula of Papa Lau'e O Makana, on Kaua'i island and Pua Ali'i 'Ilima o Nuioka, an extension of her hālau in New York City. Vicky received her BA and MA in Dance Ethnology from the University of Hawai'i. She is the co-founder and executive director of PA'I Foundation, an arts organization that is established to preserve and perpetuate Hawaiian cultural traditions for future generations. She is a 2016 United States Artist Doris Duke Fellow and has received the 'Ō'o, First Peoples

Fund, Native Arts and Culture Fund awards, among others. Kumu Vicky is the visionary behind MAMo, (Maoli Arts Month) which has brought visibility to the prolific visual and cultural arts of Native Hawaiian artists. In 2006, she launched the MAMo Wearable Arts Show which celebrates Native Hawaiian designers in fabric, clothing, and accessories, drawing inspiration from kapa, weaving, weaponry and tools, tattoo and adornment. She is the Director of FESTPAC which will be hosted in Hawai'i in 2020.



Toran Moore - Step

Toran Xavier Moore is a multidisciplinary artist from Montgomery, AL. Currently living in Los Angeles, this Southern native operates at the intersection of theater, arts management, and movement. He credits the Eclectic Dance Company of Alabama State University as his professional entry point into dance and choreography. Having been trained in Tap, Modern, and Hip Hop, Moore mainly explores movement through the more percussive form of stepping. Through a mix of hip-hop and stepping, Moore honors the histories of black Greek letter organizations, hip-hop pioneers, and ancestral rituals. He is currently working as choreographer for *Try/Step/Trip*, a new spoken word musical by Dahlak Brathwaite at the Center for New

Performance. In addition to his choreographic experience, Toran is a professional stage manager and producer. He has worked at theaters across the U.S. including the Los Angeles Theatre Center, The Blazer Theatre of Atlanta, the Walt E. Disney Modular Theater, and many others.



No'u Revilla - Spoken Word / Poetry

No'u Revilla is a queer Indigenous poet and educator of Hawaiian and Tahitian descent. Born and raised on the island of Maui, she has performed throughout Hawai'i as well as in Canada, Papua New Guinea, and at the United Nations. Read her work in *Poetry* magazine, *Black Renaissance Noire*, *The Missing Slate*, and *Poem of the Week* by Kore Press. Her chapbook *Say Throne* was published by Tinfish Press in 2011, and from 2013 to 2015 she was poetry editor of Hawai'i Review. In 2012, the Honolulu Museum of Art featured her poetry installation *Altering Papers*, inspired by archival aloha 'āina letters by Queen Lili'uokalani. She continues to honor Lili'uokalani's legacy in collaborations with the PA'I Foundation, facilitating poetry

workshops and performing in the 2017 Mo'olelo Festival. In 2017, she coordinated flash mob readings of

Lili'uokalani's letter of protest to the Provisional Government, one of which featured at the Women's March at the Hawai'i State Capitol. In May 2015, she also organized the first Aloha 'Āina Zine Workshop in solidarity with the Kia'i Mauna of Mauna Kea.



Alex Shaw - Percussion / Vocals

Alex Shaw is a curator, percussionist, vocalist, composer, and arts educator specializing in Brazilian music traditions. Alex directs an 11-piece Brazilian ensemble, Alô Brasil, and is a member of Philadelphia's award-winning Spoken Hand Percussion Orchestra. He has accompanied professional and collegiate dance companies including University of the Arts, Temple University, Swarthmore College, Bryn Mawr College, Muhlenberg College, and Eastern University, which has since led to a broad spectrum of opportunities to teach, lecture, collaborate, and perform at hundreds of schools, organizations, and institutions throughout the mid-Atlantic region, collaborating with artists from various disciplines. Alex has developed interactive educational performances for thousands of youth, and adults with physical and cognitive disabilities with LiveConnections. Currently the Curator for Intercultural Journeys in Philadelphia, PA, he promotes intercultural and interfaith peace and social consciousness through artistic performances, community engagement activities, and youth arts education. Alex is currently an MFA candidate in the World Percussion program at California Institute of the Arts, and expects to graduate in May, 2018.



Morgan Camper - Theater Assistant/Assistant Production Director

Morgan Danielle Camper grew up in Baltimore, Maryland where she has received dance training since the age of three. She graduated from The Baltimore School for the Arts with a concentration in theatre performance and continued her studies at Marymount Manhattan College in New York City, earning a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Theatre. Morgan has performed in many plays including *Bound and Gagged* (Washington DC) and *Waldy Street*, which toured in Atlanta, GA. Morgan has taught acting and dance to K-12 schools and was the competitive dance coach of Mergenthaler Vocational Technical High School. Morgan has also recently captured a feature role on TVone's *For My Woman*. She is an MFA 3 actress at CalArts and is currently appearing in *The Hendrix Project* directed by Roger Guinevere Smith. She currently teaches acting for the CAP CABLE program and has joined the cast of *Lets Talk Sex Work*. Recently, she played lead in *Gunshot Medley*, which was performed at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Scotland.