



SPACE Rising showcase



September
27 & 28, 2024



*BalletCenter
Studios*



culture shock
SAN DIEGO

MALASHOCK
DANCE



SPACE Rising showcase

No flash photography,
please.

Total run time is
about 2 hours

There are two very short
intermissions between
each artists work.

There is an audience Q&A
at the end of the show!



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SPACE Rising Showcase

SPACE Rising Showcase
is the final presentation of the
10-week artist residency process
with (R)evolution Mentees

**Emily Sutherland,
Jenna Wu-Cardona,
Briele Melahn,
Giovanna Francisco,
Karina Wilson
& Patrick Li.**

These artists had space to research
and develop new works at our
community partner studios:

**Malashock Dance
BalletCenter Studios
& Culture Shock San Diego**



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S P A C E Rising Showcase

S P A C E Rising is a new iteration of our S P A C E Alliance Residency, designed specifically to support our (R)evolution Mentorship Mentees. This Showcase is the book end to their 10-month mentorship program.

The residency offers organized and mindful cohort-driven experience for creative inquiry, artistic development, networking, creative and cultural exchange, as well as a platform to share work. We are pleased to be able to facilitate this new residency program geared towards supporting emerging dance-makers in their pursuit to deepen their practice, and explore/develop new ideas and projects in collaboration with their (R)evolution cohort!

Thank you for joining us for the culminating event of the (R)evolution Mentorship Program and S P A C E Rising process to celebrate what their creative research, exploration, and mentorship has yielded.



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SPACE Rising Showcase

tide pulls

Through the crossover of site-specific dance film with stagework and projection, Emily Jane Sutherland & Jenna Wu-Cardona's piece will expand on common definitions and understandings of bodies. We question both how we can get more fully into and out of our queer, intersectional bodies in order to experience and bring about the most collective freedom.

An essential starting place of this piece's creation was the weight of privilege and awareness that, as Americans, our country has played a central role in the current genocide in Palestine, along with the present atrocities in Lebanon. We urge audience members to stay engaged in what is happening and how we can support with [Operation Olive Branch](#) as one collection of sources with ways to support and amplify Palestinians. From the River to the Sea, Palestine will be free.

Choreographers: Em Jane Sutherland (she/they) and Jenna Wu-Cardona (they/them/she)

Performers: Em Jane Sutherland (she/they) and Kelly Collejo (they/them)

Drone Operator: Casey Hall-Landers (they/them)

DP/Film and Music Editor: Em Jane Sutherland (she/they)

Music: Drakah Brakah, LionMilk & Charli XCX



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SPACE Rising showcase

tide pulls

Jenna Wu-Cardona

Jenna Wu-Cardona (they/them/she) is a queer and multiracial dancer and artist with roots in Los Angeles and San Diego. They studied education and dance at Scripps College and have since worked with Blue 13 Dance Company, DISCO RIOT's 2024 Queer Mvmnt Fest, and Dance the Yard.



Em Sutherland

Emily Jane Sutherland is a queer San Diego based artist who recently graduated from San Diego State with their Bachelors in Dance. Emily is a visual artist/ choreographer who uses various art mediums to transform spaces and elevate dance performance.





SPACE Rising Showcase

two crickets on a trail



Briele Melahn & Giovanna Francisco feel inclined to investigate pedestrian and performer boundaries within a live show context. We are questioning what it means to be authentic while simultaneously being on display in front of an audience. How can we merge performance and process?



Choreographer/Performers: Briele Melahn (she/her) and Giovanna Francisco (she/her)

Sound Designer: Ethan Eldred (he/him)

Paper composition device from the mentorship of Doug Varone



SPACE Rising Showcase

two crickets on a trail

Briele Melahn



Briele Melahn is a newly relocated San Diego artist. After receiving her BFA through the Conservatory of Dance at Purchase College she has performed and presented original works in NYC. Melahn works with dance, improvisation, and collaboration to explore the intersection of original movement and intuitive humanness.

Giovanna Francisco



Giovanna Francisco (she/her) is a San Diego-based movement artist. She graduated from UCSD with her BA in both dance and sociology with a minor in education studies. Giovanna has performed and created work in San Diego as both an independent artist and community dancer. Her movement practice centers dance as a tool for exploration and connection.



SPACE Rising Showcase

光

[click here for the
光 zine](#)



Karina and Patrick's work explores how individuals navigate diverse experiences, drawing a parallel between the journey to earth and the development of one's self.

Inspired by the character '光' (meaning 'lights'), the piece uses lights both literally and metaphorically to reflect these transitions, with each fragment highlighting a unique aspect of '光' as an anchor that grounds the exploration of self throughout existence.



Choreographers:

Patrick Li (he/him) and Karina Wilson (she/her)

Movement Collaborators/Performers: Julianna Lawscha (all pronouns), Lauren Lee (she/her), Karina Wilson (she/her)

Graphic Designer (Zine): Melissa Phan (she/her)

Video Editor (Dance Film "Color"): Maxfield

Music: Thrupence, Arcade Fire, Owen Pallett, Joviale, Vincent Peirani, Emile Parisien, Nicholas Britell, Andy Stott

Special thanks to Culture Shock San Diego for generously providing studio space for rehearsals, and heartfelt gratitude to the entire DISCO RIOT team for making this possible!



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Karina Wilson



Karina Wilson (she/her) is a San Diego-based mover with roots in LA. Trained in Balanchine and drawn to contemporary movement, she has explored her artistic style studying at Complexions Contemporary Ballet and Alonzo King LINES Ballet. Karina aspires to engage in diverse capacities, collaborating with others to play and innovate.

光

Patrick Li

Patrick Li (he/him) is an emerging dance artist who integrates movement with other disciplines. Growing up and training abroad, Patrick envisions uniting people from diverse backgrounds through the universal language of dance. His current movement practice integrates digital innovation with movement to transcend traditional performance boundaries.





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光 Performers

Lauren Lee (she/her) is a movement artist and dance maker currently based in San Diego. She recently graduated with a B.S. in Public Health and a minor in Dance from UC San Diego. Lauren is passionate about using movement as a mode of advocacy and community building; she strives to create and engage with work that explores authentic narratives and celebrates our common humanity.

Julianna C Lawscha (all pronouns) currently attends UCSD to study human development. Julianna strives to create connections and build community in all aspects of their life. They are very excited to have joined a new community with DISCO RIOT and are honored to be a part of the Residency.





DISCO RIOT Team

Founding Director: Zaquia Mahler Salinas (she/her)

SPACE Rising Producing Artists:

Aisha Reddick (she/her) & Alyssa Rose (they/them)

SPACE Rising Production Manager:

Casey Hall-Landers (they/them)

Technical Director & Resident Lighting Designer:

Taylor Olson (she/her)

Tech Support: Harper Justus (she/her)

Program Coordinator: Alyssa Rose (they/them)

Education & Outreach Coordinator:

Aisha Reddick (she/her)

Events & Communications Assistant:

Frankie Simone (they/them)

Queer Mvmnt Fest Producing Artists:

Trystan Merrick (they/them) & Desiree Cuizon (she/her)

Choreo & _____ Producing Artist:

Marty Dorado (he/him)

Lead Volunteer: Tina Carreras (she/her)

Board Members: Joyce Lien Kushner (she/her), Jennifer

Samore (she/her), Lavina Rich (she/her), Jane Blount (she/her), Zach Leffers (he/him), Erika Wexler (she/her)

Grant Committee: Elva Salinas (she/her),

Anna Rogers (she/her), Jane Blount (she/her), Marty Dorado (he/him)

(R)evolution Mentees:

Giovanna Francisco (she/her), Briele Melahn (she/her), Jenna Wu-Cardona (they/them/she), Emily Sutherland (she/they), Patrick Li (he/him), Karina Wilson (she/her)



2025

(R)EVOLUTION Artist Program

The **(R)evolution Artist Program** is a cohort-style paid internship focused on experiential learning for San Diego-Based Emerging/Rising Artists. We will provide a small group of Rising Artists (ages 20-26) a curated immersive experience in DISCO RIOT's inner workings for a full programming season.

The program includes free dance classes, monthly professional development workshops and cohort meetings, a monthly check in with a uniquely designated DISCO RIOT mentor, and a 10-week S P A C E Residency as part of a culminating artistic project. Additional personalized assignments include performance and event production, teaching, and other professional opportunities in partnership with Malashock Dance Company.

[click here to](#)

[APPLY NOW](#)

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DISCO RIOT in our dreams for
creative youth development

& to

FAR SOUTH
BORDER
NORTH 

for supporting our
Mentorship Program
through the funding of
our Move American
Campaign



DISCO RIOT is a budding grassroots non-profit with blooming impact.

If you are able, please consider making a tax-deductible donation to support this sustainable, equitable, and flourishing San Diego dance community.

**Donate via
Paypal**

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via Venmo**

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with a card**

Upcoming DISCO RIOT Opportunities:

Ongoing Weekly Classes

Monday / Friday

Drop In Spiral Out

at BalletCenter Studios

2025 Artist Applications

Queer Mvmnt Fest

(R)evolution Artist Program

& S P A C E Pro Residency

Open on September 30

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More information at discoriot.org

