

DISCO RIOT Presents...

SPACE

Rising

Showcase

October 10 & 11
2025

works by

Milana Aernova

Niza Galindo

Ilyana Hughes

Lauren Ai Ling Lee

Erik Izaak



DISCO RIOT Presents...

SPACE *Rising* Showcase

This showcase is the final presentation of work from the 2025 (R)evolution Artist Interns. Through a 10-week artist residency process in collaboration with DISCO RIOT's community partner Malashock Dance, our selected Resident Artists incubated the creation of five original interdisciplinary performances.

We are so grateful for your presence here at the culminating live showcase to see what their creative research and exploration has yielded.



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**Thank you for being here!
We know how much effort
it takes to show up.**

No flash photography, please.

Total run time is
about 2 hours

There are very short pauses
between each artists' work
and a ten minute
intermission after the
third piece.

There is a very short Q&A at
the end of the show, and
then you can mingle
with the performers!



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SHOWCASE

Milana Aernova

SOUNDBODY



SOUNDBODY is the culmination of my 10-week research exploring cymatics—the study of making sound waves visible—within the body. Over time, this curiosity of how sound moves me evolved into the development of movement scores that recognize the body first as matter, second as a collection of moving particles and finally, as an expression of energy experiencing itself through sensation through a dance of space, sound, and time. At its core, this work is a study in experiential boundlessness and learning to expand the body and consciousness beyond the physical scope to recognize oneself as non-separate from the whole energetic ecosystem that we as alive beings move, breathe, and dream within.

Choreographer/Performer: **Milana Aernova** (she/her)

Live Music & Sound Score: **Jerry William** (he/him)

TouchDesigner Mentor: **Memo Akten** (he/him)

Movement Mentor: **Brianna Nicole Lopez** (she/her)

Production Mentor: **Casey Hall-Landers** (they/them)

A heartfelt thank you to Richie Villa, Tess Collins, Liza Beltykova, Lucia Contreras, Alyssa Rose, Marty Dorado, Aisha Reddick, Nicole Oga, Jane Blount, Eric Geiger, Sarah Clark, Nicholas Naylor-Leyland, Zuzzie Kapas, my boyfriend Cristian Alvarez, and my mother Yanina Sorenson for the unwavering support and for helping me deepen my movement practice and research in so many meaningful ways.



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Milana Aernova

Milana Aernova is an interdisciplinary artist and creative technologist who sculpts experiences at the intersection of movement, performance, and technology. With a foundation in diverse movement styles and computer science, she creates real-time environments using tools like TouchDesigner and camera-based interaction. Her work explores embodiment, the laws of physics, and humanity's evolving relationship with the modern world. She is particularly drawn to the juxtaposition between artificial and organic as well as mover and witness. She aims to dissolve boundaries between disciplines and interior/exterior worlds, inviting audiences to experience the unknowable complexity of being alive through the synthesis of digital and physical expression.



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Niza Galindo



inVERSEout

A personal reflection of
self-concept through
experiencing hardships
with others and
hardships on our own
and the growth that
came from it.

Choreographers/Performers:

Niza Galindo (she/her) & **Dennya Galindo** (she/her)

Mentor: **Keomi Tarver** (she/her)

Music: **Kristopher Apple** (he/him)



DISCO RIOT Presents...

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Niza Galindo

Niza Galindo (she/her) is a Chicana dancer and choreographer who is currently based on unceded Kumeyaay land in San Diego, California. She started her dance journey at TranscenDANCE Youth Art Project where she began as a young dancer and later returned as a seasoned professional after graduating from California State University, Long Beach with a B.A. in Dance. Niza returned to TranscenDANCE to work as a Substitute Teaching Artist, Apprentice Teaching Artist, Program Assistant, and Interim Assistant Manager and has since developed her contemporary modern practices alongside her administrative training. Niza is currently an Artist Intern within DISCO RIOT's (R)evolution Artist Program where she continues developing her programmatic and educational skills to better serve the dance community. As Niza works to complete her prerequisites to apply for physical therapy schools, she continues to work with physical therapists, and explores physical wellbeing and longevity through dance and movement. At the forefront of her journey, Niza leads with great compassion and interest in creating inclusive and accessible spaces for all those who share the same intentions.



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Ilyana Hughes

Imprinted



During this residency, Ilyana sought out to create a work exploring the relationship between art and artist by combining dance and paint. Inspired by Lyall Watson's idea of dance existing in both space and time, and that dance is unique in the sense that the art and the artist are one in the same, she and Iverson worked collaboratively to create a work together which explores this idea by painting a canvas through their movements, as well as working alongside painter, Bryttney Mischele.

This piece was brought to life using a combination of set choreography and improv.

Choreographers/dancers: **Ilyana Hughes** (she/her) & **Iverson "Nosrevi" Harding** (he/him)

Live Painter: **Bryttney-Mischele** (she/they)

Music: **Erykah Badu, Tarika Blue, & Piero Umiliani**

Music Edit: **Iverson "Nosrevi" Harding** (he/him)



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Ilyana Hughes

Originally from Dayton, Ohio, Ilyana Hughes is a performer, choreographer, and teacher in San Diego. Since a young age, she has trained at various studios and continued her training and choreographic exploration at Howard University, earning a BFA in Dance. Since moving to San Diego in 2023, she has trained at DISCO RIOT, Malashock, and San Diego Dance Theater, and has performed with DISCO RIOT, SDDT, and NACHMO. Currently, Ilyana is an intern in the DISCO RIOT (R)evolution Artist Program, and an instructor with Tippi Toes. Ilyana continues to choreograph and perform and is looking forward to upcoming projects.



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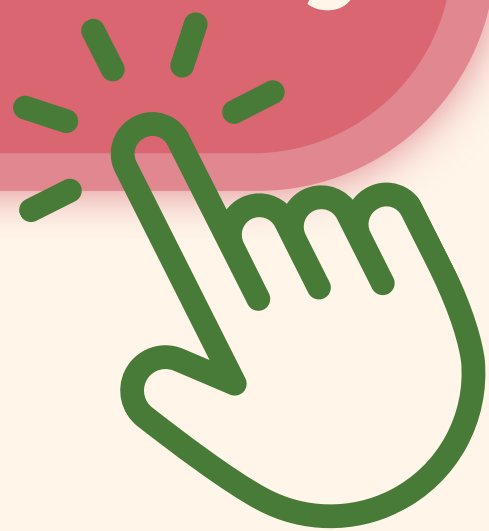
Rising

SHOWCASE

Intermission



Audience Survey



DISCO RIOT Presents...

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Showcase

Lauren Ai Ling Lee



learning to feel the things i push away

Drawing from Lauren's personal experiences with scoliosis and spinal-fusion surgery, *learning to feel the things i push away* is a tender exploration of connection, trust, and care. Created in collaboration with the performers and guided by a structured somatic score, the work is a trilogy of duets, each movement offering a nuanced reflection on what it means to live in a body in this world.

Choreographer: **Lauren Ai Ling Lee** (she/her)

Movement Collaborators/Performers: **Kelly Callejo** (they/them), **Patrick Li** (he/him), **Giovanna Francisco** (she/her)

Visual Artist/Performer: **Kimmie Kopp** (she/they)

A special thank you to visual artist **Woong Soak Teng**, whose work inspired the first iteration of this piece, and whose openness and generosity were a beacon of support.

Music: **Yusef Lateef, Okonski, FKJ, Fred again.., Angie McMahon, Reinúr Selson, & himood**, with narrative contributions by collaborative performers.



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Lauren Ai Ling Lee

Lauren Ai Ling Lee (she/her) is a San Diego-based movement artist and dance maker. Originally from Singapore, she graduated from UC San Diego, where she was a recipient of the Colleen Kendall Scholarship Endowment. Lauren has been fortunate to perform and present work within the San Diego dance ecosystem, and at the 2025 Keshet Makers Space Experience in Albuquerque, where she was a visiting artist-in-residence. Lauren's work is largely informed by somatic movement and improvisational practices. Drawing from her background in public health, she is interested in using movement as a mode of healing, and a tool for exploring human resilience and relationships.



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Erik Izaak



YOUiverse

They already felt like life was too much
— but now, everything is about to shift.

As they're pulled into the endless
possibilities of who they could have
been, the hardest part becomes making
sense of who they are right now.

They move with breathtaking strength,
trained to defend and fight.

Amidst chaos and despair, they must
find a different kind of power: one
rooted in love.

Choreographer: **Erik Izaak** (he/they)

Dancer & Collaborator: **Forest Lee** (they/them)

Projection Design: **Casey Hall Landers** (they/them)

Music: **Sigur Ros, Ricky Eat Acid,
Trent Reznor & Atticus Ross, & Son Lux**



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Erik Izaak

Erik Izaak, a Mexican American dancer and choreographer from unceded Kumeyaay land (San Diego), has explored dance for 10 years. Erik found his passion for the arts in his early teens but began a deeper exploration of dance and choreography during his time in university. While earning his BA in Dance at CSU Fullerton, Erik refined his artistry under the guidance of esteemed professors and guest artists like Brad Beakes, Jamila Glass, Yoshito Sakaruba, and Sadie Weinberg. Working with powerhouses pushed him to explore choreography in new ways that center around human expression and connection. Erik Izaak's movement and art is rooted in identity, community, and heritage. Notable highlights include performing at the 2023 DUMBO Festival and his work "Temiqui" receiving 2024 ACDA Gala recognition.



DISCO RIOT Presents...

S P A C E *Rising* S h o w c a s e

Production Team

S P A C E Rising Producing Artists:

Nicole Oga (she/her) & **Alyssa Rose** (they/them)

with supporting Producing Artist:

Aisha Reddick (she/her)

S P A C E Rising Production Manager:

Casey Hall-Landers (they/them)

S P A C E Rising Lighting Designer:

Taylor Olson (she/her)

S P A C E Rising Stage Management:

Bethany Maxwell (she/they)

S P A C E Rising Audio/Video Tech:

Casey Hall-Landers (they/them)

S P A C E Rising Front of House Lead:

Martin A. Dorado (he/him)



DISCO RIOT Presents...

SPACED *Rising* Showcase

This production was
made possible by:



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GROSSMONT
COLLEGE

& our season 7 donors!





Team DISCO RIOT

Operations Coordinator & Accessibility Specialist:

Alyssa Rose (they/them)

Education & Outreach Coordinator: Nicole Oga (she/her)

(R)evolution Artist Program Coordinator:

Aisha Reddick (she/her)

Choreo & Producing Artist: Marty Dorado (he/him)

Queer Mvmnt Fest Producing Artists:

Alyssa Rose (they/them) & Marty Dorado (he/him)

Resident Lighting Designer: Taylor Olson (she/her)

Teaching Artists:

Nicole Oga (she/her), Marty Dorado (he/him), Aisha Reddick (she/her), Lauren Christie (she/her), Alyssa Rose (they/them)

(R)evolution Artist Mentors:

Lauren Christie (she/her), Nicole Oga (she/her),
Joyce Lien Kushner (she/her), Marty Dorado (he/him)

Lead Volunteer: Tina Carreras (she/her)

Grant Committee: Elva Salinas (she/her),
Zaquia Mahler Salinas (she/her), Jane Blount (she/her),
Marty Dorado (he/him), Alyssa Rose (they/them)

(R)evolution Artist Interns:

Milana Aernova (she/her), Niza Galindo (she/her), Ilyana Hughes (she/her), Lauren Ai Ling Lee (she/her) & Erik Izaak (he/they)

Board of Directors:

Jane Blount (she/her) - *Board President*,
Lavina Rich (she/her) - *Board Treasurer*,
Lauren Dockweiler (she/her) - *Board Secretary*,
Joyce Lien Kushner (she/her), Erika Wexler (she/her),
Zach Leffers (he/him), Zaquia Mahler Salinas (she/her),
& Charles Slender-White (he/him)



Applications open for (R)evolution Artist Program 2026

Want to be a part of DISCO RIOT's (R)evolution Artist Program in 2026? We believe the next phase of building a truly sustainable dance ecosystem in San Diego hinges on the integration of young artist voices. This program is a cohort-style paid internship focused on experiential learning for San Diego-based rising dance 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 (January 1 - October 31, 2026). The program includes free dance classes, monthly professional development workshops and cohort meetings, a monthly check-in with a uniquely designated mentor, and a collaborative 10-week S P A C E residency with an opportunity to showcase original work as the culminating project of the program. Additional personalized assignments include performance and event production, administration support, an apprenticeship with Malashock Dance Company, and teaching opportunities.



photo by Sanchez Productions

All made possible by:



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San Diego
Creative Youth
Development Network



Applications open for (R)evolution Artist Program 2026



Apply NOW

discoriot.org



Upcoming Events

Ongoing Weekly Classes

Mondays 6:30pm - 8pm

Slow Flow

Mindful Movement for Everybody

at TranscenDANCE on El Cajon Blvd

Fridays 11:30am - 1pm

Drop In, Spiral Out

Advanced Contemporary Modern

at TranscenDANCE on El Cajon Blvd

POP IN / POP OUT with Jane Blount

open space long circle

Sunday, November 9 , 9:30am - 12pm

at 1100 Kettner Blvd

Application Cycle for 2026 Programs

open on Monday, October 13

discoriot.org





SHOUT OUT

to our generous community

donors

for your Season 7 support!



photo by Sanchez Productions

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

If you are able, please consider making a tax-deductible donation to support DISCO RIOT's mission of growing social consciousness & connection through collaborative, thought-provoking movement-based arts in San Diego.



SHOUT OUT

to our Season 7
Community Partners!!!

transcenDANCE
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