



LISS FAIN DANCE

Nov 11 & 12 | 8 pm

Nov 13 | 2 pm

Z Space

Here.
Take It

Liss Fain Dance presents the world premier of

Here. Take It

A performance installation

Choreography and Text

Liss Fain

Dancers/Collaborators

Allegra Bautista

Bethany Mitchell

Katherine Neumann

Moscelyne ParkeHarrison

Isabel Rosenstock

Isabel Umali

Music

Dan Wool

Installation, Video and Lighting Design

Matthew Antaky

Actor

Florentina Mocanu

Videography and Editing

Samir Arora

Costume Design

Tess Lane

Tonight's performance is 50 minutes, without intermission.

Cover photo: RJ Muna

Dancer: Bethany Mitchell

PROGRAM NOTES

In July 2020, I went to Pierce Point Ranch, Point Reyes, before dawn, to be in the fog and watch the sunrise. *Here.Take It* began that morning. I had rarely gone there, and never in the early morning. Alone in the dense fog and quiet, I felt an ongoingness, ineffable calm, vibrant stillness. Often I went before dawn; I started working on movement there; then, at home, writing the text. It was a difficult point in my life. I spent a long time working alone during the pandemic, defining why it was important to me to stand, watch, walk, listen, in the dark before first light.

Here.Take It is about crossing through internal boundaries, course corrections, landing in an unexpected place. There is a separation between the two sides of the performance space—a boundary, of translucent panels, the dancers cross through. How do you cross from one internal state to another?

The dancers are my invaluable collaborators. I want to thank them for their creative contributions to the work.

—Liss Fain

ABOUT LISS FAIN DANCE

Liss Fain Dance has performed nationally and internationally in Germany, Russia, Poland, Belarus and Scotland. Founded in Boston in 1988, LFD's projects include collaborations with video artists at MIT's Media Center and renowned photographer Karin Rosenthal. After moving to the Bay Area in 1990, Ms. Fain continued cross-disciplinary projects with video/film artists at Apple Multimedia Lab, Rapt Productions, Kikim Media and (Colossal) Pictures. Since 2010, Ms. Fain has created performance installations presented in non-proscenium theatrical venues, unusual architectural structures, art galleries and libraries where the audience is inside the set and immersive sound environment, walking around or seated, close to the performers. The installation environment amplifies the ideas and emotions underlying the text and the choreography. These evening-length works are hybrid performance events, with dance as the focal point, integrating the work of writers, installation, projection and costume designers, composers, and actors. LFD's installations have been presented in Germany (Tanzmesse, Amerika Haus/Beck & Eggling Gallery), NY (Powerhouse Arena and 3LD Art & Technology Center), and California (Z Space, YBCA, ODC Theater, the Brower Center, Mill Valley Library, and outdoor spaces). LFD's proscenium work has toured extensively in the US and Europe, including Festival Fringe Edinburgh, White Nights Festival (Russia), Royal Bath and Garden Theater (Warsaw), Silesian Dance Festival, Jacob's Pillow, Harvard University, MIT, U of Mass/Amherst, Colby College, Mobius Theater, First Night Boston, Downtown Dance Festival (NY). Ms. Fain is a two-time Izzie nominee.

Ms. Fain has developed an outreach program for kids, taught at 826 Valencia and Breakthrough SF, on the creation and integration of movement and writing. For pre-professional and professional dancers, the company teaches intensive choreography workshops.

Liss Fain Dance has received funding from Dance USA, USAI, Trust for Mutual Understanding, US Embassy in Poland, US Embassy in Belarus, Fulbright-Hayes Fellowship, Kenneth Rainin Foundation, Creative Capital Fund, San Francisco Arts Commission, the NEA, Zellerbach Family Foundation, the Fleishhacker Opportunity Fund, Performing Arts Assistance Program, W & F Hewlett Foundation, Walter A. Gerbode Foundation, Kellogg Foundation, East Bay Community Foundation, Polish Cultural Institute in NY, C.A.S.H., Fort Mason Foundation, Marin Arts Council, Tides Foundation, Massachusetts Council on the Arts & Humanities.

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ARTISTS BIOGRAPHIES

Matthew Antaky | Installation, Video and Lighting Design

While pursuing a degree in the fine arts in Southern California, Mr. Antaky turned his interests to the performing arts and in 1983 moved to San Francisco to study visual and theatrical design at San Francisco State University. Since then, and for over thirty years, he has created installations, scenic, lighting and video designs for all of the performing arts including theater, opera, dance, and music. His work has been presented throughout the United States and in many countries around the world. His extensive work in the dance world includes twenty years of designs and installations for Liss Fain Dance and many designs for companies such as ODC/SF, Flyaway Productions, Oklahoma City Ballet, Smuin Ballet, Robert Moses Kin, SJDanceCo, La Tania Flamenco, Lily Cai Dance, Chitresh Das Dance Company, Li Chaio Ping Dance, Mark Foehringer Dance Project, Caminos Flamenco and RAWdance, among many others. For opera and music, Mr. Antaky has designed multiple productions for Opera Parallèle, Utah Opera and Symphony, Opera San Jose, Opera Pacific, Festival Opera, San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Oakland Symphony, Dallas Symphony, Cabrillo Music Festival, and the San Francisco World Music Festival, to mention a few. Mr. Antaky is a nine-time nominee and four-time recipient of the Isadora Duncan Award for Outstanding Visual Design. matthewantakydesign.com

Dan Wool | Music

Originally from St. Louis Missouri, Dan Wool is a San Francisco, California based composer and sound designer who has worked in New York, Los Angeles, London, Mexico City and Anhui China creating scores and sound design for broadcast television projects, multichannel-audio theme park installations and more than 35 feature films, including seven films for celebrated cult filmmaker Alex Cox (director of *Repo Man*, *Sid & Nancy*). He is perhaps best known as the principal composer in the soundtrack-group Pray for Rain. Dan has also worked extensively creating sound and music for international and domestic advertising and sound branding and also as sound-designer for short films and documentaries, including

several for the BBC and Channel 4 (UK). As a music producer, and engineer, Dan has collaborated with international artists such as Bernie Worrell (Parliament-Funkadelic), Philip Chevron and James Fearnley (The Pogues); Debra Harry (Blondie); and many Bay-Area artists, including All My Pretty Ones, Meredith Axelrod, essence, The Glowing Stars, Indianna Hale, Joe Lewis, The Mermen and Kally Price.

In the arts, Dan has created scores and sound-design compositions for The Architecture and Design Museum (A+D Museum), Los Angeles, Amy Seiwert's Imagery Dance (Sketch Series), AXIS Dance Company, Liss Fain Dance, RAWdance, choreographer Sonsheree Giles, choreographer Alice Sheppard and Ballet de la Compasi3n. In 2018 his music and sound design work for Phil Tippett and Lucy Raven's experimental film *OUT THERE* screened at MoMA (NYC). He has also worked as a sound engineer and sound-designer on dance-compositions with composer Beth Custer (*Joe Goode, Jo Kreiter*), composer Rob Reich (*Circus Bella, Gaucho, Tin Hat*). Dan has performed in composer Jem Finer's "Longplayer" installation, sponsored by the Longnow Foundation at YBCA. For the years 2015 thru 2018 Dan was engaged by the U.S. Olympic Synchronized Swimming Team for ongoing composition and musical services.

Dan has twice been nominated for an Isadora Duncan Dance Award (Izzie Award) for Outstanding Achievement in Music/Sound/Text, in 2017 for his work with Liss Fain Dance and in 2013 for his work with AXIS Dance Company.

Florentina Mocanu | Actor

She began her career by writing, directing, performing for theatre and radio shows. By 18 she earned awards as best actress, entered the People's School of Art in Bucharest and the University of Theater Arts in Targu Mures graduating with a Diploma in Acting for theatre and film. In her native Romania she became part of the National Theatre, Comedy Theatre of Bucharest, and Romanian Film Studio ensembles. In the United States she continued her work in theatre and film while completing her education with an MA in Drama from San Francisco State University and a PhD in Theater and Performing Studies from Stanford University.

Presently she teaches Classical Dramatic Literature at University of San Francisco, and freelances as an actor, director, and writer.

Special Note: Florentina would like to thank David Schendel and Davia Mira Schendel for the constant love and support, Diane Frank and Liss Fain for this marvelous project.

Allegra Bautista | Dancer/Collaborator

Allegra, a San Francisco native, trained at San Francisco Ballet, City Ballet School and the SF Conservatory of Music Preparatory Division for classical guitar. She graduated from Saint Mary's College of California earning a BA in Liberal & Civic Studies and Performing Arts: Dance. She is honored to have performed in the works of Garrett + Moulton Productions, Amy Seiwert, Raissa Simpson, RAWdance, Epiphany Dance Theater, Tanya Bello's Project b, Natasha Adorlee's Concept o4, and ka-nei-see | collective. She is a certified yoga instructor. She also dances with Margaret Jenkins Dance Company, Kristin Damrow & Company and Alleluia Panis.

Bethany Mitchell | Dancer/Collaborator

Bethany was raised in Mission Viejo, California, where she studied dance from the age of four at the Ballet Conservatory under the direction of Alan McCarter. She began her professional career in 2004 with regional ballet companies in California including Ballet Pacifica, State Street Ballet, and City Ballet of San Diego. After moving to San Francisco in 2007, Bethany performed and toured internationally with Liss Fain Dance while on faculty at ODC and Blue Bear School of Music. She moved to New York City in 2012 to further her career, and danced with Battery Dance and Indelible Dance while teaching at the Mark Morris Dance Center and Harlem School of the Arts. She has toured to over forty countries as a professional dancer, and taught masterclasses and creative workshops in over twenty countries as a teaching artist with Battery Dance. She recently completed a Fulbright Scholar Award creating a new piece of choreography on the BFA students at the Escuela Profesional de Mazatlan in Mexico in May, 2022. She enjoys writing and

performing her own music around the city,
and is thrilled to be dancing with Liss Fain Dance once more.

Katherine Neumann | Dancer/Collaborator

Katherine is a dancer and choreographer based in San Francisco. She is a company member with FACT/SF and has worked professionally with Liss Fain Dance, Robert Moses' Kin, the Mari Meade Dance Collective, ka·nei·see | collective, Stephanie Unger & Artists, Alyssa Mitchel, Alex Law, Hannah Ayesse, and Hannah Young. Katherine holds a BFA in contemporary dance from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts.

Moscelyne ParkeHarrison | Dancer/Collaborator

Moscelyne grew up in The Berkshires, MA. She is a graduate of The Juilliard School where she received the Joseph W. Polisi Award for Artist as Citizen. Moscelyne pursued additional training at Hubbard Street Pro and Walnut Hill School for the Arts and summer workshops including b12, Banff Centre for the Arts, and Jacob's Pillow. Moscelyne's choreographic works have been performed at the Peter Jay Sharp Theater, Alice Tully Hall, the Hudson Guild Theater, The Studebaker Theater (Chicago), the Foundry West Stockbridge and Triskelion Arts. She has received support from the Anthony Quinn Foundation Fellowship, Berkshire Taconic Foundation, Lee Bank Foundation Arts Access Grant, and Metropolis Ensemble for her choreography. Moscelyne dances professionally on the East and West Coast with Post:ballet, David Michalek, Francesca Harper, Liz Gerring, Sharp & Fine, and Helen Simoneau. She is director of NEFA and MassCulturalCouncil award winning dance collective BODYSONNET. She moved to the Bay Area in early 2022 as a company artist with Post:ballet, and faculty member at Berkeley Ballet Theater. Her world premiere 'say i am you' was performed by Post:ballet at BAMPFA in March 2022. Shortly after Moscelyne was named Choreographer in Residence. She looks forward to dancing, teaching, and creating in the Bay Area with Post:ballet, and freelancing on the East and West coast, as well as presenting her solo series 'please come alone' with BODYSONNET.

Isabel Rosenstock | Dancer/Collaborator

Isabel, a native San Franciscan, is a dancer and Pilates instructor. She holds a BFA in Dance from California State University, Long Beach and received further training under Summer Lee Rhatigan at the San Francisco Conservatory of Dance. She has attended workshops throughout Israel, Europe and the U.S. and has freelanced with various companies in the Bay Area, including LEVYdance, James Graham Dance Theater, Alyce Finwall Dance Theater and FACT/SF. In addition to her work as a dancer, she owns a small Pilates studio where she helps folks reconnect to and heal their moving bodies.

Isabel Umali | Dancer/Collaborator

Isabel is a New York City based dance artist. She has worked with dance companies such as LeeSaar the Company, the Francesca Harper Project, Gallim Dance, et al. creating work, originating roles and touring nationally and internationally. Isabel performed for Punch Drunk's internationally acclaimed show, *Sleep No More* (2015-2019), and has appeared in various TV/print commercials and music videos. As a creator, Isabel has collaborated with musicians and visual artists, with work presented in venues such as BRIC, The Shed, The Ace Hotel, Triskelion Arts, galleries, and festivals nationally and internationally.

Isabel was a residency grantee of DSDT/Studio 210 in winter of 2022 which brought her back to the Bay Area as a bi-coastal artist. She is so happy to be joining Liss Fain in her newest creation. Isabel is now a craniosacral and massage therapist. She works to enmesh her rich dance training with the principles and techniques of somatic healing practices.

**Thank you to all of our friends
who make our performances
and outreach possible:**

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Mark Ashida & Lisbet Nilson
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a tax-deductible donation to Liss Fain Dance:

lissfaindance.org/support

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450 Florida Street,
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Please stay in touch with us.

We want to hear from you!

Write to us at:

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Send us a letter to:

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