

BAM Peter Jay Sharp Building 30 Lafayette Avenue Brooklyn NY 11217—1486 Telephone: 718.636.4129

Fax: 718.857.2021 press@BAM.org

Publicity Department

Sandy Sawotka Joe Guttridge Adriana Leshko Sarah Garvey David Hsieh Monica Ortiz Rossi Lauren Morrow

BAM presents five adventurous productions in October at the new BAM Richard B. Fisher Building

Oct 3—7: Paris Commune: The Civilians recounts revolutionary history, sung and told through first-person accounts

Oct 11—13: Brooklyn Bred: Martha Wilson curates the world premiere of site-specific performance artworks by Coco Fusco, Jennifer Miller, and Dread Scott

Oct 17—20: ELSEWHERE: a "CelloOpera" created by Maya Beiser and Robert Woodruff melds music, theater, and dance

Oct 25—27: Out Cold / Zippo Songs: world premiere of two dramatic song cycles by Phil Kline featuring Theo Bleckmann and **ACME**

Oct 31—Nov 4: red, black & GREEN: a blues: A performed documentary with installation art, created by Marc Bamuthi Joseph/Living Word Project

BAM's 150th anniversary celebration continues through Dec 2012

American Express is the BAM 30th Next Wave Festival sponsor

Chase is the inaugural year sponsor of the BAM Fisher

Brooklyn, NY/Aug 29, 2012—The BAM presents five productions, including two world premieres in October at the new BAM Richard B. Fisher Building as part of the 30th Next Wave Festival. Strengthening BAM's mission to be the home of adventurous artists, audiences, and ideas, the five productions break genre boundaries to challenge audiences' expectations. All tickets are priced at an affordable \$20 (general admission).

October performances at the BAM Fisher

Paris Commune

New York Premiere

By Steven Cosson and Michael Friedman The Civilians

BAM Fishman Space (BAM Richard B. Fisher Building, 321 Ashland PI)

Oct 3—6 at 7:30pm; Oct 7 at 3pm

Tickets: \$20

Artist Talk with The Civilians Moderated by Simon Dove

Oct 5, post-show (free for same-day ticket holders)

In 1871, working-class Parisians overthrew the French government and declared Paris autonomous. With this musical play, co-authored by **The Civilians**' artistic director **Steven Cosson** and composer **Michael Friedman** (*Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*), the Brooklyn-based company brings these explosive events to life. The piece marks the first time The Civilians has brought its signature investigative theater approach—which includes in-depth interaction with topics via interviews and immersions—to a historical event. The resulting work incorporates primary sources such as journals, letters, and the music of the time, ranging from raucous popular songs to opera to "The Internationale," a future Communist anthem whose lyrics were written by uprising leader Eugène Pottier. During its short 70-day life the Commune attempted to reinvent every aspect of modern life—from the role of labor to the status of women—making it the perfect subject for this spirited and inquisitive company's BAM debut and a fitting continuation of its "Autumn of Revolution," which begins September 17 with a special one-night-only cabaret on the occasion of the first anniversary of Occupy Wall Street to be held at Joe's Pub.

Since its founding in 2001, The Civilians—the center for investigative theater led by artistic director Steve Cosson—has supported the creation of 13 original shows and received an Obie Award in 2004. The Civilians champions innovation by tackling complex and underexplored subjects, enabling artists to enrich their process via in-depth interaction with their topics, diversifying artistic voices and audiences, and integrating theater with new media. Development often involves community residencies, travel, and extensive research. This high degree of engagement with the public continues into performances: The Civilians encourages audiences to be active participants through ongoing channels of dialogue. The company provides a home for a multidisciplinary group of artists and partners with regional theater and arts presenters in New York, nationally, and internationally.

For press information contact Adriana Leshko, 718.724.8021 or aleshko@BAM.org.

Leadership support for *Paris Commune* provided by Steve Tisch, Laurie Tisch, and Lizzie and Jonathan Tisch, in memory of their father, Preston Robert Tisch.

Brooklyn Bred

World Premiere

Curated by Martha Wilson Featuring Coco Fusco Jennifer Miller Dread Scott

BAM Fishman Space (BAM Richard B. Fisher Building, 321 Ashland PI)

Oct 11—13 at 7:30pm

Oct 11 at 7:30pm—Dread Scott

Oct 12 at 7:30pm—Jennifer Miller

Oct 13 at 7:30pm—Coco Fusco

Tickets: \$20

Brooklyn Bred is a series of new, site-specific performance artworks by **Coco Fusco**, **Jennifer Miller**, and **Dread Scott**. The showcase is curated by **Martha Wilson**, founding director of the Franklin Furnace, an organization dedicated to supporting art that may be vulnerable due to institutional neglect, its ephemeral nature, or its politically volatile content.

Coco Fusco is a New York-based interdisciplinary artist and writer and the director of Intermedia Initiatives at Parsons The New School for Design. She has performed, lectured, exhibited, and curated around the world since 1988. Fusco's work combines electronic media and performance in a variety of formats, from staged multimedia performances incorporating large-scale projections and closed circuit television to live performances streamed to the Internet that invite audiences to chart the course of action through chat.

Jennifer Miller is a playwright, performer, and the director and founder of Circus Amok, New York's only one-ring, no-animal, queerly situated political circus spectacular. She has worked with alternative circus forms, theater, and dance for more than 20 years. As a dancer she has performed with Cathy Weis, Jeff Weiss, Jennifer Monson, John Jasperse, Johanna Boyce, and Doug Elkins, among others. She had a seven-year stint at Coney Island Sideshows by the Seashore and is an associate professor of performance at Pratt Institute.

Dread Scott makes revolutionary and, at times, controversial art to propel history forward. His work is in the collection of the Whitney Museum of American Art, the New Museum of Contemporary Art, and the Akron Art Museum. Scott works in a range of media including installation, photography, screen printing, video, and performance.

Founder and director of the Franklin Furnace Archive in New York, Martha Wilson is a feminist performance artist who explores female subjectivity through role-playing, costume transformation, and impersonating other people.

For press information contact Sarah Garvey, 718.724.8025 or sgarvey@BAM.org.

ELSEWHERE

New York Premiere

Maya Beiser
Directed by Robert Woodruff
Choreography by Brook Notary
Composed by Eve Beglarian, Michael Gordon, Missy Mazzoli with text by Henri Michaux and
Erin Cressida Wilson
Films by Peter Nigrini

Created by Maya Beiser and Robert Woodruff Scenic design by Riccardo Hernandez Costume design by Kasia Maimone Lighting design by Maruti Evans

BAM Fishman Space (BAM Richard B. Fisher Building, 321 Ashland PI)

Oct 17-20 at 7:30pm

Tickets: \$20

Artist Talk with Maya Beiser and Robert Woodruff Moderated by Terrance McKnight

Oct 19, post-show (free for same-day ticket holders)

ELSEWHERE, a "CelloOpera" featuring cellist **Maya Beiser** and vocalist Helga Davis, developed from a unique collaboration between Beiser and theater director **Robert Woodruff**. In addition to a triptych of adventurous compositions by Eve Beglarian, Michael Gordon, and Missy Mazzoli, *ELSEWHERE* incorporates sung and spoken text in tandem with amplified, distorted, and acoustic cello, film by Peter Nigrini, and choreography by Brook Notary. The work, presented in its New York premiere, is an imaginative and psychological retelling of the biblical story of Lot's wife through texts by Erin Cressida Wilson and Henri Michaux.

Through an eclectic repertoire and a quest to redefine her instrument's boundaries, Maya Beiser has attracted world renown. She has commissioned and performed many works written for her by leading composers, including Tan Dun, Brian Eno, Philip Glass, Osvaldo Golijov, and Steve Reich, among others. Beiser has conceived and performed in her own signature multimedia concerts, including *World To Come*, which premiered at Zankel Hall's inaugural season; *Almost Human*, a collaboration with visual artist Shirin Neshat; and *Provenance*, which premiered at Carnegie Hall in 2008 and forms the basis of her last recording, a top-selling classical and world music CD since its 2010 release. Highlights of Beiser's recent US tours include performances at the Kennedy Center in Washington DC, Royce Hall in LA, and the Kimmel Center in Philadelphia. She was also a featured speaker/performer at the 2011 TED conference. Beiser was the founding cellist of the Bang on a Can All-Stars.

Robert Woodruff has directed more than 60 productions at Lincoln Center Theater, Public Theater, BAM, Guthrie Theater, and Mark Taper Forum, among others. His recent work includes *Madame White Snake* for Opera Boston, *Notes from Underground* (Yale, La Jolla Playhouse, CA, and Baryshnikov Arts Center), and Philip Glass' *Appomattox* for San Francisco Opera. Internationally, Woodruff's work has been seen at Sydney Arts Festival, Edinburgh International Festival, and Hong Kong Festival of the Arts. His early work includes many premiere productions with Sam Shepard, including the Pulitzer Prize-winning work *Buried Child*. Woodruff is currently on the faculty of the Yale School of Drama.

For press information contact David Hsieh, 718.636.4129 x9 or dhsieh@BAM.org.

Produced by Beth Morrison Projects

Out Cold / Zippo Songs

World Premiere

Music and Lyrics by Phil Kline

Theo Bleckmann and American Contemporary Music Ensemble (ACME)

BAM Fishman Space (BAM Richard B. Fisher Building, 321 Ashland PI)

Oct 25—27 at 7:30pm

Tickets: \$20

Artist Talk with Phil Kline and Theo Bleckmann Moderated by Terrance McKnight

Oct 26, post-show (free for same-day ticket holders)

Out Cold is a song cycle with music and lyrics by **Phil Kline** featuring vocalist **Theo Bleckmann** and the **American Contemporary Music Ensemble** (ACME). It takes its cue from Schubert's great romantic song cycle *Winterreise* (winter journey) as seen through the filter of Frank Sinatra's great torch song album *Only the Lonely*. Here the winter landscape is replaced by a mythical bar at 2:45am, with a man haunted by the past and searching for something, singing sad and beautiful songs with a 10-piece lounge band from a dark corner of heaven.

Zippo Songs originated when Kline discovered the practice of scratching poems onto the sides of Zippo lighters by American GIs in Vietnam. These inscriptions contain a world of emotion that speak purely and without political commentary. The songs stream like a harrowing series of haikus, expressing the gamut of emotions young men feel in the throes of war.

A fixture of New York's downtown experimental scene, Phil Kline stands out for his range and unpredictability. He makes music in many genres and contexts, from experimental electronics and sound installations to songs, choral, theater, chamber and orchestral works. Early in his career he cofounded the rock band the Del-Byzanteens with Jim Jarmusch and James Nares, collaborated with Nan Goldin on the soundtrack to *The Ballad of Sexual Dependency*, and played guitar in the notorious Glenn Branca Ensemble. Some of his early work evolved from performance art and used large numbers of boom boxes, such as the Christmas cult classic *Unsilent Night*. Other diverse works include *John the Revelator*, a setting of the Latin mass written for early music specialists Lionheart, and *dreamcitynine*, which mixed 60 percussionists with hundreds of iPhones around the plaza of Lincoln Center. Kline is currently working with Jarmusch on an opera, *Tesla in New York*.

Theo Bleckmann is a Grammy-nominated and ECHO award-winning vocalist and composer whose work spans concerts, installations, theater, cabaret, and performance art. He currently tours with his acclaimed Kate Bush song project, *Hello Earth!* as well as with drummer-composer John Hollenbeck's Claudia Quintet and Large Ensemble. For over a decade he has performed with guitarist Ben Monder and in Meredith Monk's ensemble, and is a longtime student and mentee of vocalist and NEA Jazz Master Sheila Jordan. He has collaborated with artists such as Laurie Anderson, Philip Glass, Uri Caine, Julia Wolfe, John Zorn, and the Bang on a Can All-stars, among others. Bleckmann has garnered praise from *The New York Times*, NPR, *The Wall Street Journal*, *New York* magazine and *The Village Voice*.

Led by artistic director and cellist Clarice Jensen, the American Contemporary Music Ensemble (ACME) is dedicated to the performance of masterworks from the 20th and 21st centuries. The ensemble presents cutting-edge literature by living composers alongside the "classics" of the contemporary. Known for its work with the Wordless Music Series as well as indie music icons such as Grizzly Bear, ACME's dedication to new music extends across genres, and has earned them a reputation among both classical and rock crowds. ACME has performed at (Le) Poisson Rouge, Carnegie Hall, All Tomorrow's Parties in England, The Kitchen, Whitney Museum, Guggenheim, and Stanford Lively Arts in California, among others. ACME's instrumentation is flexible and includes some of New York's most sought-after musicians. Since its first New York concert season in 2004, the ensemble has performed works by Louis Andriessen, Elliott Carter, George Crumb, Philip Glass, Charles Ives, Olivier Messiaen, Nico Muhly, Steve Reich, Arnold Schoenberg, Charles Wuorinen, lannis Xenakis, and many more. For more information, visit acmemusic.org.

For press information contact Sarah Garvey, 718.724.8025 or sgarvey@BAM.org.

Co-commissioned and co-produced by American Opera Projects

red, black & GREEN: a blues

New York Premiere

Created by Marc Bamuthi Joseph/Living Word Project Directed by Michael John Garcés

Set/installation concept and design by Theaster Gates
Media design by David Szlasa
Lighting design by James Clotfelter
Choreography by Stacey Printz
Documentary films by Eli Jacobs-Fantauzzi
Music composed by Tommy Shepherd aka Emcee Soulati
Costume design by Mai-Lei Pecorari
Sound design by Gregory T. Kuhn

BAM Fishman Space (BAM Richard B. Fisher Building, 321 Ashland PI)

Oct 31—Nov 3 at 7:30pm; Nov 4 at 3pm

All tickets: \$20

Artist Talk with Marc Bamuthi Joseph, Theaster Gates, Traci Tolmaire, and Tommy Shepherd

Moderated by Simon Dove

Nov 2, post-show (free for same day ticket holders)

A performance work and multimedia installation, *red, black & GREEN: a blues* grew out of the three-year community-based civic and artistic process of creating **Marc Bamuthi Joseph**'s Life is Living Festivals. The piece takes place within a modular set of row houses created by visual artist Theaster Gates from repurposed materials to represent four American cities: Oakland, New York, Houston, and Chicago. Through poetry, monologue, song, and movement, personal stories emerge that reflect on poverty, violence, and racial consciousness. The piece is a call to celebrate life and recognize sustainable survival practices in urban America as a catalyst for cultural and creative engagement.

Marc Bamuthi Joseph is one of America's most vital voices in performance, arts education, and artistic curation. After appearing on Broadway as a young actor, Joseph developed several poetry-based works for the stage, including *Word Becomes Flesh, Scourge,* and *the break/s*, that have toured across the US, Europe, and Africa. Joseph's *Word Becomes Flesh* was re-mounted in December 2010 as part of the National Endowment for the Arts' American Masterpieces series, and will tour throughout the US and Canada. An acclaimed educator and essayist, Joseph has lectured at more than 200 colleges and universities, appeared as a commentator on NPR, and carried adjunct professorships at Stanford University, Lehigh University, Mills College, and the University of Wisconsin. He is the cofounder of Life is Living, a national series of one-day festivals designed to activate under-resourced parks and affirm peaceful urban life through hip-hop arts and focused environmental action. Joseph is also the artistic director of the seven-part HBO documentary *Russell Simmons presents Brave New Voices* and an inaugural recipient of the United States Artists Rockefeller Fellowship. He is the 2011 Alpert Award winner in Theater and in April 2012, he was one of 21 artists to be named to the inaugural class of Doris Duke Artists. He currently serves as Director of Performing Arts at Yerba Buena Center in San Francisco.

For press information contact Joe Guttridge, 718.636.4129 x4 or jguttridge@BAM.org.

Produced by MAPP International Productions

Credits

American Express is the BAM 30th Next Wave Festival sponsor.

Chase is the BAM 150th anniversary sponsor.

Leadership support for new commissions in the BAM Fisher provided by Steve Tisch, Laurie Tisch, and Lizzie and Jonathan Tisch, in memory of their father, Preston Robert Tisch.

Support for Paris Commune provided by Jon & NoraLee Sedmak, with additional support provided by The Laura Pels International Foundation for Theater.

Major support for dance at BAM provided by The Harkness Foundation for Dance; The SHS Foundation.

Major support for theater at BAM provided by Stephanie & Timothy Ingrassia; Donald R. Mullen Jr.; The SHS Foundation; The Shubert Foundation, Inc.

Support for new dance commissions and presentations in the BAM Fisher provided by the Mertz Gilmore Foundation.

New music presentations in the BAM Fisher made possible with endowment support from the BAM Fund to Support Emerging and Local Musicians.

Visual and performing arts collaborations in the BAM Fisher supported by the Robert Rauschenberg Foundation.

The Rolex Institute is the sponsor of emerging artists at BAM Fisher.

Leadership funding for construction of the BAM Fisher provided by The City of New York; The Borough of Brooklyn; Jeanne Donovan Fisher and the Fisher Family; The SHS Foundation; Judith R. & Alan H. Fishman; The Peter Jay Sharp Foundation; The Rita and Alex Hillman Foundation; Robin & Edgar Lampert; New York State Assembly and New York State Senate.

Endowment support for special programs, spaces, and access provided by the Brooklyn Community Foundation; Martha A. & Robert S. Rubin; Maribelle & Stephen Leavitt; The Geraldine Stutz Trust, Inc.

Leadership funding for the development of new education and community initiatives in the BAM Fisher provided by The Achelis Foundation; Altman Foundation; Booth Ferris Foundation; Brooklyn Community Foundation; Ford Foundation; The Leona M. & Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust; The New York Community Trust; The Rockefeller Foundation New York City Cultural Innovation Fund; The Skirball Foundation.

BAM 30th Next Wave Festival supporters: brigitte nyc; Con Edison; The Irene Diamond Fund; The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation; MetLife Foundation; The Shubert Foundation, Inc.; Alfred P. Sloan Foundation; The Delancey Foundation; The Starr Foundation; Time Warner Inc.; The Wall Street Journal; The Robert W. Wilson Charitable Trust; The Winston Foundation, Inc.

American Airlines is the Official airline of the BAM 30th Next Wave Festival. Sovereign Bank is the BAM Marquee sponsor. Yamaha is the official piano for BAM. R/GA is the BAM.org sponsor. New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge is the official hotel for BAM.

General Information

BAM Howard Gilman Opera House, BAM Rose Cinemas, and BAMcafé are located in the Peter Jay Sharp building at 30 Lafayette Avenue (between St Felix Street and Ashland Place) in the Fort Greene neighborhood of Brooklyn. BAM Harvey Theater is located two blocks from the main building at 651 Fulton Street (between Ashland and Rockwell Places). Both locations house Greenlight Bookstore at BAM kiosks. BAM Fisher, located at 321 Ashland Place, is the newest addition to the BAM campus and houses the Judith and Alan Fishman Space and Rita K. Hillman Studio. BAM Rose Cinemas is Brooklyn's only movie house dedicated to first-run independent and foreign film and repertory programming. BAMcafé, operated by Great Performances, is open for dining prior to BAM Howard Gilman Opera House evening performances. BAMcafé also features an eclectic mix of spoken word and live music for BAMcafé Live on Friday and Saturday nights with a special BAMcafé Live menu available starting at 6pm.

Subway: 2, 3, 4, 5, Q, B to Atlantic Avenue-Barclays Center (2, 3, 4, 5 to Nevins St for Harvey Theater)

D, N, R to Pacific Street; G to Fulton Street; C to Lafayette Avenue

Train: Long Island Railroad to Atlantic Terminal-Barclays Center

Bus: B25, B26, B41, B45, B52, B63, B67 all stop within three blocks of BAM

Car: Commercial parking lots are located adjacent to BAM

For ticket and BAMbus information, call BAM Ticket Services at 718.636.4100, or visit BAM.org.

##