

FORT MASON ART

Kim Ip, *Kindred Swell*

September 17, 2021

6:00 p.m.

Gather at the South entrance to Buildings B + C, near Goody Cafe

Kim Ip often works against the conventions of stage and video-based dance; her new commission for Fort Mason finds the choreographer working outside and in dialogue with the built terrain of this repurposed military site. In *Kindred Swell*, Ip nods to our bayfront location and to the relationship among the piece's five performers—Malia Byrne, Melissa Lewis, Nico Maimon, Ainsley Tharp, and Nina Wu—while using Thitiwat Phromratanapongse's corridor painting between Buildings B + C and Lawrence Weiner's hopscotch mural at Pier 2 as found environments.



Dancers: Kim Ip and Nina Wu. Photo: Robbie Sweeny

Ip's *Kindred Swell* marks the opening of Fort Mason's fall art program, and it precedes a sunset viewing of Shimon Attie's *Night Watch* barge-based video project. Ip's work will also mark the concluding weekend of these projects, during the FOG Design + Art Fair in January 2022.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Kim Ip received a B.A. in Dance from Mills College. Ip uses a highly physical dance vocabulary influenced by release floorwork, hip hop, and pop icons. She works to expand creative possibilities for Queer Asian femmes and to rethink what Asian-ness looks like in a Euro-Centric Dance World. She has performed throughout the Bay Area and has received dance residencies at Shawl-Anderson Dance Center, SafeHouse Arts, and CounterPulse. Her collaboration with drag performance artist Pseuda and multimedia artist Taurin Barerra, *are:era*, premiered at CounterPulse in April 2021. Upcoming works can be found here: www.krimmip.com.

DANCERS

Malia Byrne is a movement artist who centers her practice around ancestral lineage, body reclamation, collaboration, and storytelling. She uses her work to create spaces for dialogue, creation, and organizing in coalition with QTBIPOC. She is Associate Artistic Director of Skywatchers, a Tenderloin-based community arts ensemble.

Melissa Lewis Wong (she/they/他—a.k.a. Deuce Lee) is a queer, biracial Chinese American artist working with mixedness, mother tongues, tube tops, Bruce Lee and drag. Her physicality comes from a background of traditional Chinese folk arts, Western modern dance, and martial arts—with contemporary performance as a place for her intersections to breathe. Melissa is also a photographer, a drag cabaret regular, and an arts administrator.

Nico Maimon journeyed to the U.S. from Mexico with her family in 1997, and currently finds herself on unceded Ohlone Land (Bay Area.) She is a mover, artist, activist and political educator, with a focus on anti-capitalist education. She loves using movement to solidify her relationship with pleasure. She loves Kim and this team!

ainsley elizabeth tharp is a Bay Area (Ohlone territory) based alchemist+artist+activist. She works as a performer, projection designer, video editor, cinematographer, scenographer, and teacher. She loves eating seasonally, and thinks microwaves left out on the side of the road speak to her on a psychic level. More at www.aineliztharp.com.

For **Nina Wu**, home is sunshine, warm humid air that feels like a hug, and salt water. Her dad dreamt that her name would be 吴雪, although she wouldn't see her first snow until she was 18. She was raised on fish eyes, Lunchables, Celine Dion, Teresa Teng, Sabrina the Teenage Witch, and Dragonball Z.

MUSIC

Amma Ateria is an electroacoustic composer and sound artist born in Hong Kong, currently working in New York and California. Her work explores themes in coexistence of polarity, psychoacoustics with focus in binaural beats, and equal-loudness contour. With an immediacy of tension and release, her performances navigate between oppositions from one end to another through stark transitions, transforming deafening noise into meditative stance. Through cross-modal synesthetic influences from the contemporary moment, the notion of externalizing resonances acts in a form of questioning boundaries via brinks of breakage in the sonic spectrum. With memories of condensed cities, she gravitates to frequencies of close-ranged airplanes, polyrhythmic occurrences, out-of-body experiences, sustained harmonics intersected with musique concrète, distorted speech / lost speech.

COSTUME

Szygy is a drag performer and producer of "*Golden Hour*," a sunset drag show Saturdays and Sundays at Baker Beach.

SOME HISTORY

Kim Ip's piece joins a long dance history at Fort Mason, from the inaugural 1979 performance of the [Spiral Dance Samhain ritual](#) (created for the publication launch of Starhawk's book of the same name); to the 1994 premier of Anna Halprin's *The Grandfather Dance*, drawing from her grandfather's shul prayers; to [Maya Stovall's recently commissioned Theorem no. 1](#), a city-wide movement piece from Fort Mason's Pier 2 to the Tenderloin Museum, CounterPulse, and back again.

ON VIEW

September 17-January 30, 2022

Thitiwat Phromratanapongse:

Wat Walls

Corridor Gallery between Buildings B + C

Kim Ip: *Kindred Swell*

Closing performance January 2022

Lawrence Weiner: *OUT OF SIGHT*

Fort Mason Entrance + Pier 2

Also on view at:

The Exploratorium: Oct 10-Jan 8

McEvoy Foundation for the Arts

presentation at Minnesota Street

Project: Oct 16-Jan 22

(1275 Minnesota Street)

For more information about Fort Mason Art, visit: www.fortmason.org

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FOR ARTS & CULTURE

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