

San Francisco's 15th Annual  
**KH FRESH FESTIVAL 2024**  
Festival of Experimental Dance, Music, Performance + Party

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Photo credit: Daniel Rosas, photo of enNingunlugar  
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**KH FRESH FESTIVAL** in association with CounterPulse + Dance Mission + YBCA Gardens  
+ Aunt Charlie's Lounge

**SAN FRANCISCO'S 15TH ANNUAL**

**FRESH FESTIVAL 2024**

**A FESTIVAL OF EXPERIMENTAL DANCE, MUSIC, PRACTICE, WORKSHOPS, PERFORMANCE,  
PARTIES**

**February 9–18, 2024**

[www.freshfestival.org](http://www.freshfestival.org)

**Featuring 1 week + 2 weekends of practices by artists:** gizeh muñiz vengel + Albert Mathias,  
enNingúnlugar, mayfield brooks, Amber Julian, Rama Hall, Sonja Pregrad

**Featuring 2 weekends of performances by:** Clarissa Rivera Dyas + ainsley elizabeth tharp,  
enNingúnlugar, Sara Shelton Mann, Jesse Zaritt, Niall Jones, mayfield brooks

## JOIN US FOR:

- **5 Practice workshops and two weekends of Performances at Dance Mission Theater**
- **Performance activations at YBCA Gardens**
- **A film screening**
- **RAW INTIMATE PERFORMANCE EXCHANGE at CounterPulse**
- **Night drag experience in collaboration with ANGEL'S at Aunt Charlie's Lounge**
- **Artist performance exchange with Croatian artist Sonja Pregrad**
- **Legacy talk about the history of KH FRESH FESTIVAL**
- **Parties!**
- **And so much more!!!**

For tickets, registration and information: [www.freshfestival.org](http://www.freshfestival.org)

*The Kathleen Hermesdorf FRESH FESTIVAL 2024 brings affordable experimental embodied arts to historic stages and outdoor spaces throughout San Francisco, with 9 days of performances, immersive training, drag and parties, and community events for all performing arts and audiences and movers.*

### **SAN FRANCISCO, CA - December 7, 2023:**

Back and bigger than ever, KH FRESH 2024 is an electrifying reckoning of body-based art, conversations, parties, practices, and more. Featuring **over 20 interdisciplinary dancers and practitioners** from the Bay Area and international community, FRESH 2024 brings radical embodied arts to San Francisco. This year, FRESH conjures the unparalleled power of the arts as a tool of resistance to subvert and heal and grow from ancestral and ongoing violence. FRESH is “Humble healing and self imagination.” Albert Mathias founding FRESH FESTIVAL artist.

KH FRESH 2024 takes place at 4 historic locations in San Francisco: CounterPulse and Dance Mission, with special performances at Yerba Buena Gardens and Aunt Charlie's Lounge. FRESH's practices are open to all curious, adventurous and serious bodies, offering multiple ways to experience cutting-edge live art alongside experimental movement and multimedia artists.

Performance tickets are \$25-35, NOTAFLOF, available online at <https://dancemissiontheater.org/shows-and-events/> and at venue doors. Registration for FRESH Practices and a full schedule of Performances and Exchanges are both available at [freshfestival.org](http://freshfestival.org).

## **ABOUT THE KATHLEEN HERMESDORF FRESH FESTIVAL:**

FRESH FESTIVAL was created in 2010 by dancer and master teacher Kathleen Hermesdorf (1967-2020), alongside musician Albert Mathias created to ensure that San Francisco continues to grow as a provocative center for contemporary dance, music and performance. FRESH is artist-oriented and artist-run, manifesting as an arena for research; an incubator for new work; a generator for sharing resources, and a platform for cross-pollinating communities. Rooted in the body, the Festival embodies Bay Area legacies of creative freedom, community collaboration, ground-breaking practice and performance tactics, multi-disciplinary sensibilities, and accessible, alternative Education. This year's KH FRESH TEAM is made up of Abby Crain, ainsley elizabeth tharp, Clarissa Rivera Dyas, Chibueze Crouch, gizeh muniz vengal, Kevin Lo, James Fleming, Justin Ebrahemi, and Juliet Paramor.

## **PHOTOS:**

For more photos and high-res, click [here](#).

## **FESTIVAL SCHEDULE:**

### **Weekend 1 performance at Dance Mission Theater:**

FEB 9-10 @8pm featuring:

#### ***forever failing((workinprogress#1)***

**Clarissa Rivera Dyas + ainsley elizabeth tharp**

*forever failing((workinprogress#1)* reimagines corporeality as failure, as explicit, as queer, as reverence for the past, and ways to uncover new futures in anti-colonial reimaginings. Together artists Clarissa Rivera Dyas + ainsley elizabeth tharp highlight failure as a form of protest, as a way to negate capitalism's obsession with the perfect product and uncover new mythologies of becoming.

#### ***CINÉTICA***

**enNingún lugar**

In a world ravaged by injustice and violence, Cinética, an unbeatable superheroine emerges. With unparalleled power and an innate sense of justice, Cinética has dedicated her life to fighting crime and protecting the innocent. However, as their consciousness awakens, Cinética is forced to question her own role in the cycles of violence that plagues the world.

This work examines the complexities of justice, morality and personal responsibility in a world filled with seemingly insurmountable challenges. Can Cinética find a way to combat violence without becoming part of the problem?

**Weekend 2 performance at Dance Mission Theater**

FEB 16-17 @8PM featuring

***within the heart / you get lost***

**Sara Shelton Mann, Jesse Zaritt, Niall Jones**

1. we take a trip
2. you get lost
- 3 we draw our way out

1. you have a dream
2. we get lost / it's a dead end
3. the water is rising / you draw your way out

**mayfield brooks**

**Whale Fall: laments**

Whale Fall is an ever evolving interdisciplinary work of film, installation and dance that was born from the sonic dissidence of Black grief. Do we give ourselves time to grieve? How can grief be decomposed and transformed? *Whale Fall* is a scientific term describing the process of a whale's decomposition after it dies and falls to the ocean floor while providing nutrients for thousands of sea creatures. For this project, the *Whale Fall* becomes the decomposed dance, the space of grief and regeneration, the lamentation, the ecstasy, the song and the sonic release. This excerpt is a live vocal and movement lament.

**Visit [www.freshfestival.org](http://www.freshfestival.org) for artist bios, practice descriptions and venue information.  
More festival information to be revealed.**

*The KH FRESH Festival 2024 is supported by Zellerbach Family Foundation, Grants for the Arts, and California Arts Council, Dance Mission Theater*

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