

PERFORMANCE GARAGE ANNOUNCES 2023-2024 DANCEVISIONS RESIDENT ARTIST:

MEREDITH RAINEY



► Philadelphia, PA - July 18, 2023

Performance Garage is thrilled to announce the selection of **Meredith Rainey** as the Resident Artist for the 2023-2024 **DanceVisions** season. This esteemed residency program provides a platform for exceptional dancer-choreographers to further their artistic endeavors and innovate within the world of dance.

Meredith Rainey, a nationally celebrated former soloist with the Philadelphia Ballet, choreographer, and master teacher, brings a wealth of experience and an insightful perspective to the residency. Rainey's current inquiry is: *"Can the European art of classical ballet be transformed into a diasporic art, a space where dancers of color can freely express their heritage and inhabit a traditionally white space of practice?"*

Rainey's residency will span from October 2023 to May 2024, utilizing 100 hours of rehearsal time at the Performance Garage to create a new work. In addition, he will invite the community to engage with his work through a series of thought-provoking events culminating in May 2024 with a three-performance concert season at the Performance Garage.

On Thursday, October 5, 2023, **HubChats**, a panel discussion, will explore *"When Yesterday Meets Tomorrow: Being Black in Ballet Today & Asking Questions."* This **free** and public event will feature Rainey's Dramaturg, Theresa Ruth Howard, and Tommie-Waheed Evans, a queer

Black dance maker, 2021 Guggenheim Fellow and UArts faculty member.

On Friday January 12, 2024, Rainey will conduct a **MasterClass** for Dance Majors participating in Performance Garage's **YouthMoves** program at Franklin Learning Center High School.

On Thursday, March 21, 2024, Performance Garage and Meredith Rainey will host **DanceFilms**, with an introduction by Prof. Thomas DeFrantz, Professor at Northwestern University in the Performance Studies and Theater Department. A **free** and public event.

On Thursday, April 11, 2024, the public is invited to experience the creative process and witness Rainey's burgeoning new work by attending an **OpenRehearsal**. He will showcase his progress and discuss transforming his inquiry into a new choreographed work. A **free** event.

The residency will culminate in a concert season with talkbacks and archival video at the Performance Garage Theater from Thursday, May 16 - Saturday, May 18, 2024.

"I have watched Meredith Rainey evolve from an unforgettable elegant premier danseur to a passionately curious and innovative choreographer. We look forward to having Rainey's DanceVisions residency open the dialogue about race within the art form of ballet." said Jeanne Ruddy, Executive and Artistic Director, Co-Founder of the Performance Garage.

 **PERFORMANCE GARAGE**
A SPACE FOR DANCE

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