

RAJA FEATHER KELLY

Founder & Artistic Director

Artistic Director

CONTACT

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BROOKLYN, NY 11215

ABOUT RAJA

BORN: FORT HOOD, TEXAS

FORMER COMPANY MEMBER

REGGIE WILSON/
FIST AND HEEL PERFORMANCE GROUP
KEELY GARFIELD
KOTA YAMAZAKI
DAVID DORFMAN DANCE
KYLE ABRAHAM/ ABRAHAM.IN.MOTION
CHRISTOPHER WILLIAMS DANCE
ZOE | JUNIPER

COMPANY MANAGEMENT

REGGIE WILSON (2011-2018)
ZOE | JUNIPER (2010-2013)
KYLE ABRAHAM/A.I.M (2009-2011)
RACE DANCE (2009-2011)

EDUCATION

CONNECTICUT COLLEGE
CLASS OF 2009
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN DANCE
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ENGLISH

SKILLS

DANCE EDUCATOR
PERFORMANCE ARTIST
MOVEMENT CONSULTANT
CHOREOGRAPHER/ DIRECTOR
VISUAL ARTIST/ GRAPHIC DESIGNER
WRITER/BLOGGER

&

THE FEATH3R THEORY NEW BROOKLYN THEATRE

ABOUT THE COMPANY

Founded in 2009, the feath3r theory is a New York City based multi-disciplinary, boundary-breaking dance-theatre-media company. In collaboration with dancers, actors, filmmakers, musicians, photographers, lighting and graphic designers, the feath3r theory exploits and excavates popular culture into humane, affecting dance-theatre experiences with the goal of spreading courage and empathy in our artists and our audiences.

New Brooklyn Theatre is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded in 2012. New Brooklyn Theatre shares the feath3r theory's ethos of broadening space in theatre for unheard voices and repressed histories.

In 2018, the feath3r theory merged with New Brooklyn Theatre where the new combined company will continue to create work that challenges its audience (and its creators) to collectively interrogate - and celebrate - their shared relationship to human empathy and personal ethics as expressed in (and distorted by) popular media.

AWARDS / GRANTS / FELLOWSHIPS

RANDJELOVIC/STRYKER RESIDENT COMMISSIONED ARTIST AT
NEW YORK LIVE ARTS - 2019-2020
CREATIVE CAPITAL AWARD - 2019
STAGE DIRECTORS AND CHOREOGRAPHERS FOUNDATION
BREAKOUT AWARD - 2018
INAUGURAL DANCE MAGAZINE HARKNESS PROMISE AWARD -
2018
PRINCESS GRACE SPECIAL PROJECTS AWARD - 2018
CENTER FOR BALLET AND THE ARTS AT NYU,
CHOREOGRAPHY FELLOW - 2018-2020
HERE ARTIST RESIDENCY PROGRAM - 2018-2020
CARTHORSE FELLOWSHIP AT THE BURAN THEATRE - 2018-19
PRINCESS GRACE CHOREOGRAPHY AWARD - 2017
BESSIE SCHONBERG FELLOW AT THE YARD - 2017
SOLANGE MACARTHUR AWARD FOR NEW CHOREOGRAPHY -
2016
NEW YORK FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS,
CHOREOGRAPHY FELLOW - 2016
DANCENOW JOE'S PUB COMMISSIONED ARTIST - 2016
JEROME ROBBINS FOUNDATION TRAVEL & STUDY GRANT-
2013
BATES DANCE FESTIVAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP -
2011, 2010, & 2008
NEW YORK DANCE PERFORMANCE "BESSIE" AWARD,
PERFORMER= KYLE ABRAHAM/A.I.M,
THE RADIO SHOW - 2010
DANCEWEB SCHOLAR - 2009

THE FEATH3R THEORY

the feath3r theory | **Works**

- 2020 *Wednesday [work in progress]* TBD
- 2020 *UGLY (Part 2: Queer Black Hysteria) [work in progress]* TBD
- 2019 *The McCarthy Era [work in progress]* TBD
- 2019 *Fantasia [work in progress]* Center for Ballet and the Arts at NYU, New York City
- 2019 *We May Never Dance Again [work in progress]* The Invisible Dog Art Center, Brooklyn, NY
- 2018 *UGLY (Black Queer Zoo)* The Bushwick Starr, Brooklyn, NY
- 2018 *Movement for the Red Shoes* DANCENOW Series, Joe's Pub at the Public Theater, New York City
- 2017 *Another Fucking Warhol Production or Who's Afraid of Andy Warhol (AKA The Love Episode)*
The Kitchen, New York City (Nominated Most Innovative Dance Performance of 2017 by Dance Magazine)
- 2016 *Andy Warhol's TROPICO* Danspace Project, New York City
- 2016 *Court Tropico* Gelsey Kirkland Arts Center and Palisades, Brooklyn, NY
- 2016 *DRELLA's BACK! ACE Hotel: ON THE FLOOR* party, New York City
- 2015 *DRELLA's BACK! Everybooty Festival, BAM, Brooklyn, NY and Lower Manhattan's Cultural Center's (LMCC)*
River To River Festival, New York City
- 2015 *Another 37 Reasons to Cry (Another Warholian Production)* JACK, Brooklyn, NY &
DANCENOW Series, Joe's Pub at the Public Theater, New York City
- 2015 *Andy Warhol's 15: (Color Me, Warhol)* Dixon Place, New York City
DANCENOW Series at Joe's Pub at the Public Theater and Dixon Place, New York City
- 2015 *COURT* Movement Research, New York City
- 2014 *Andy Warhol's DRELLA (I Love You Faye Driscoll) (Black By Popular Demand)*
The Invisible Dog Art Center, Brooklyn, NY
- 2013 *25 Cats Name SAM and One Blue Pussy, or Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth or How Can you Dance When Every 7 minutes Human Conversation Lapses into Silence*, The Kennedy Center, Washington, DC.
- 2013 *Andy Warhol's DRELLA (I Love You Faye Driscoll)* The Invisible Dog Art Center, Brooklyn, NY
- 2013 *Anne and Andy Stage a Film* TBA Festival, Portland, OR
- 2013 *Blind Acts (Film)* The Kennedy Center, Washington, DC.
- 2012 *FANMAIL* TBA Festival/Ten Tiny Dances, Portland, OR
- 2012 *25 Cats Name SAM and One Blue Pussy, or Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth or How Can you Dance When Every 7 minutes Human Conversation Lapses into Silence*,
Velocity Dance Center, Seattle, WA and University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
- 2011 *Blind Acts (Film)* The Construction Company, New York City (Presented by Dragon's Egg)
- 2011 *Anne and Andy Stage a Film* Triskelion Arts, Brooklyn, NY

the feath3r theory | **Commissions**

- 2019-20 *Title TBD*, New York Live Arts, New York City
Randjelovic/Stryker Resident Commissioned Artist
- 2019 *Title TBD, Agnes de Mille Legacy Commission*, "Mr. Abbott" Award Gala, French Institute Alliance Francaise (FIAF), New York City
Commissioned by the Stage Directors and Choreographers Foundation (SDCF)
- 2018 *Will The Real Slim-Shady Please Stand Up?, Nothing, or the 10 Most Hauntingly Beautiful Songs of 2017*
Performing Arts Center Bessie Schönberg Dance Studio at Sarah Lawrence College (SLC), Yonkers, NY, Commissioned by SLC
- 2017 *The Land of 1000 Dances* Edison Theatre at Washington University (WU),
Commissioned by WU as part of the Artist-in-Residence Program, St. Louis, MO
- 2017 *Pantheon* Jeanne Wagner Theatre in Rose Wagner Center for Performing Arts,
Commissioned by Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company, Salt Lake City, UT
- 2017 *Bleu Movie* BAM, Brooklyn, NY and Barshynikov Arts Center, New York City, Commissioned by 10 Hairy Legs
- 2015/16 *Another 7 Reasons to Cry* Hunter College, New York City
Commissioned by Harkness Choreographer in Residence Program
- 2014 *ANNE* University of Florida (UFL), Gainesville, FL
Commissioned by UFL Resident Choreographer Program
- 2014 *We need to talk about Jane* University of Florida (UFL), Gainesville, FL
Commissioned by UFL Resident Choreographer Program

the feath3r theory | Commissions (cont'd)

- 2013 Things fall down. People look up. When it rains, it pours University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT
MFA Thesis Commission
- 2013 The Firebombers University of Florida (UFL), Gainesville, FL
Commissioned by UFL Resident Choreographer Program
- 2013 Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth Princeton University, Princeton, NJ
Commissioned by Princeton University Resident Choreographer Program

the feath3r theory | Collaborations

- 2016 NATIONAL INTIMACY MONTH with BS Movement & Chelsea and Magda
DANCENOW Series, Joe's Pub at the Public Theater, New York City
- 2015 SuperWe with Tzveta Kassabova and Sara Pearson, Danspace Projects at St. Marks Church, New York City
- 2013 SuperWe and Be Still, My Heart with Tzveta Kassabova, The Kennedy Center, Washington, D.C.
- 2013 Show Stoppers with Paul Matteson, New Voices Concert at Bates Dance Festival, Lewiston, ME
- 2012 MUTT-____ (And other 4 letter words) with Ami Garmon, Uferstudio, Berlin, Germany & Triskelion Arts, Brooklyn, NY
- 2012 Flee on Your Donkey with Zoe Scofield, North West New Works Showcase, On the Board, Seattle, WA

Raja Feather Kelly's | Theatre Choreography

- 2019 A Strange Loop Written by Michael R. Jackson, Directed by Stephen Brackett, Playwrights Horizons, NYC
- 2019 Faust Directed by Lileana Blaine-Cruz, Opera Omaha, Omaha, NE
- 2019 If Pretty Hurts Ugly Must Be a Muhfucka Written by Tori Sampson, Directed by Leah C Gardiner,
Playwrights Horizons, NYC
- 2019 Hurricane Diane Written by Madeleine George, Directed by Leigh Silverman, New York Theatre Workshop, NYC
- 2019 Skittles Commercial: The Broadway Musical Written by Nathaniel Lawlor and Will Eno, Directed by Sarah Benson, Town Hall, NYC
- 2019 The Chronicles of Cardigan and Khente Written by Daaimah Mubashshir, Writer/Director LAB, Soho Rep, NYC
- 2018 The Good Swimmer Directed by Kevin Newbury, BAM Next Wave Festival, Brooklyn, NY
- 2018 Fireflies Written by Donja Love, Directed by Saheem Ali, Atlantic Theater Company, NYC
- 2018 The House That Will Not Stand Written by Marcus Gardley, Directed by Lileana Blain-Cruz,
New York Theatre Workshop, NYC
- 2018 Fairview Written by Jackie Sibbles-Drury, Directed by Sarah Benson, Soho Rep, NYC and Berkeley Rep, Berkeley, CA
- 2018 Lempicka, Written by Carson Kreitzer, Directed by Rachel Chavkin, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Williamstown, MA
- 2018 Electric Lucifer Written and Directed by Jim Findlay, The Kitchen, NYC
- 2017 GURLS Written by Branden Jacobs-Jenkins, Directed by Lileana Blain-Cruz, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ
- 2017 Freedom Riders, Written by Richard Allen and Taran Gray, Directed by Whitney White, Acorn Theatre, NYC
- 2017 EVERYBODY Written by Branden Jacobs-Jenkins, Directed by Lila Neugebauer, Signature Theatre, NYC
- 2016 The Death of the Last Black Man in the Whole Entire World Written by Suzan-Lori Parks, Directed by Lileana Blain-Cruz,
Signature Theatre, NYC (Received 2017 Lucille Lortel Award for Best Revival)
- 2016 Signature Plays: Edward Albee's "The Sandbox," María Irene Fornés's "Drowning," and Adrienne Kennedy's
"Funnyhouse of a Negro" Directed by Lila Neugebauer, Signature Theatre, NYC

RESIDENCIES

- Randjelovic/Stryker Resident Commissioned Artist
New York Live Arts, NYC – 2019-2020
- Center for Ballet and The Arts Fellow
New York University, NYC – 2019
- HERE Arts Residency Program (HARP)
HERE Arts, NYC – 2018-2020
- CSU Sacramento Teaching and Creation Residency
California State University Sacramento, CA – 2018
- Marble House Projects Artist in Residence
Marble House Project, VT – 2018
- Alan Kreigsman Residency
DancePlace, Washington D.C. – 2018
- Creator-In-Residence at Kickstarter
Kickstarter, NYC – 2018
- NYU Tisch School of the Arts Teaching Company in Residence
New York University, NYC – 2017
- Gibney Dance Boo- Koo Artist In Residence
Gibney Dance, NYC – 2016
- Harkness Choreographer in Residence
Hunter College, NYC – 2015
- Lower Manhattan Cultural Council (LMCC) Workspace Recipient – 2014
LMCC, NYC – 2014
- Dixon Place Artist-in-Residence
Dixon Place, NYC – 2014
- Princeton University Choreographer in Residence
Princeton University, Princeton, NJ – 2013
- REMEDY Berlin Choreographer in Residency
REMEDY Berlin, Germany – 2013
- Bates Dance Festival Emerging Choreographer in Residence
Bates College, Lewiston, ME – 2013