

**bloodymessysurprised**

**PRODUCERS CLUB 2020  
FEBRUARY 18 & 19**

**NEW  
OHIO**  
theatre

## **bloodymessysurprised**

Written by **Nia Farrell**

Created in collaboration with **Trevor Latez Hayes, Mariyea Jackson, TroyElan Richardson, and Maya Riley**

### **NOTE**

*"We are brilliant at survival, but brutal at it. We tend to slip out of togetherness the way we slip out of the womb, bloody and messy and surprised to be alone. And clever -- able to learn with our whole bodies the ways of this world."*

*-- adrienne maree brown*

Inspired by adrienne maree brown's "Spell for Grief and Letting Go," bloodymessysurprised is a celebration of the moments we choose freedom and the aunties, best friends, strangers, lovers, acquaintances, objects, and ancestors who lead us there. In the face of death that regularly and violently accents Black life, bloodymessysurprised invites us to remember the following: 1) Soul doesn't go down without a song, 2) Death might be the only freedom, and 3) Grief is a worthwhile use of your time.

We are deeply invested in the development of bloodymessysurprised and this workshop production is the first step. In our work we put equal value on the performance and the audiences experience, for our work is more than just plays; they are communal experiences. As members of our community we invite you all to feel free to reach out with any feedback you have about this piece.

Email: [downtownnegro@gmail.com](mailto:downtownnegro@gmail.com)

### **ABOUT THE ARTISTS**

**We (Nia Farrell and Trevor Latez Hayes, collectively, downtown negro)** are a theater-making duo building "for us, by us" theatrical events that reflect and celebrate Black existence. Our mission is to create complex and dynamic Black characters as well as worlds for them to live grand lives and quotidian lives. We consider our work 'events' instead of 'plays' because they are a space for audience members to engage in a re-imagining of our current world.

**Nia Farrell** is a creator, performer, and Afrofuturist who focused on new work that celebrates the stories of minoritized communities. She is a member of the 2019-21 Soho Rep Writer/ Director LAB. Recent project: Dreams in Black Major (Ars Nova ANT Fest 2019). BFA Drama (NYU) [niafarrell.com](http://niafarrell.com)

**Trevor Latez Hayes** is an Afro-Queer Actor, Playwright and Creative Entrepreneur deeply dedicated to creating theater for marginalized folk to explore their full humanity. He is a 2020 Sokoloff Creative Arts Fellow, 2019 Spring Movement Artist in Residence at CPR, and 2019 Fresh Ground Pepper Artist in Residence (selected).

**Mariyea Jackson** is a Brooklyn based artist, cultivating his passions for acting, singing and movement-based theatre. Empathic collaboration and a stimulating devised process are his artistic aphrodisiacs. Much love to his tribe, your encouragement and support is astounding.

**TroyElan Richardson** is a recent graduate of NYU Tisch, Atlantic Acting School and Experimental Theatre Wing. As an actress and comedian, her most recent credits include Cowboyy Face (Dixon

Place) and Euphoria (NY Summerfest). She is absolutely honored to perform with downtown negro and share meaningful, important, blackity black stories.

**Maya Riley** (They/She) is a Brooklyn-based theatrical, visual, musical, and literary artist/storyteller. They recently graduated NYU Tisch with a degree in Acting. They have since worked with the Brunch Theatre Company, Urban Stages, CUNY Creative Arts Team, and more. IG: @maya.riley.35 @artsy.mymy

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## WHAT IS PRODUCERS CLUB?

Producers Club is our free-floating, ad hoc, instant-gratification, impulse-driven pop-up program. We invite familiar and new-to-our-orbit companies into the New Ohio for a couple of days to flex their muscles, share their current thinking, and test their next great idea. The stakes are low, but the bar is high!

### Coming up:

Feb 22-23

### UNTITLED '54: A Title Has to Have A Meaning // Halevy & Gelb

Helen Frankenthaler's process is brought to life by performer/painter Sharone Halevy, set against the backdrop of Frankenthaler's crumbling relationship with critic Clem Greenberg.

## FOR PRODUCERS CLUB

Michelle Lane     Festival Production Manager  
Dmitri Barcomi     Festival Technician

## FOR NEW OHIO THEATRE

Artistic Director     Robert Lyons  
Producing Director     Marc Stuart Weitz  
Associate Producer     Jaclyn Biskup

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## ABOUT THE NEW OHIO

New Ohio Theatre serves Manhattan's most adventurous audiences by developing, curating and presenting bold work by New York's independent theatre community. We believe the best of this community, the small artistic ensembles and the daring producing companies who operate without a permanent theatrical home, are actively expanding the boundaries of what theatre is and what it can be. From our home in the West Village's historic Archive Building, the New Ohio strengthens,

nurtures, and promotes this community, providing a professional, high-profile platform for downtown's most mature, ridiculous, engaging, irreverent, gut-wrenching, frivolous, sophisticated, foolish, and profound theatrical endeavors.

## **BECOME A NEW OHIO LOCAL**

Think Globally. See theatre Locally.

As a Local, you'll be entitled to specially discounted tickets, a free drink every time you see a show, and exclusive invites to insider events. We'll even provide you with a special membership card to flash at the box office and bar.

Every time you visit New Ohio, you'll experience the VIP treatment you deserve. Just go to [newohiotheatre.org/local](http://newohiotheatre.org/local) and become a member. That's it. It's free.

*Become a New Ohio Local today!*

## **ARCHIVE RESIDENCY COMPANIES**

Byzantine Choral Project (2019-20)

Radical Evolution (2019-20)

Kareem M. Lucas (2020-21)

Levingston/Hare/Luckett (2020-21)

## **NEW OHIO THEATRE BOARD**

Scott Budlong

Chris Dickey

Margaret B. Grossman, Chair

Erich Jungwirth

Robert C. Lyons

Vanessa Sparling

Margaret Weber

## **JOIN THE CONVERSATION!**

Want to stay in touch? Follow us on Facebook at /newohiotheatre, and Twitter and Instagram @newohiotheatre

## **SUPPORT THE WORK**

New Ohio Theatre is funded, in part, by the New York State Council on the Arts, the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, Howard Gilman Foundation, and the Mental Insight Foundation. If you would like to help us in our mission to support the indie theatre community in NYC, please consider making a tax-deductible donation. Visit [newohiotheatre.org](http://newohiotheatre.org) and click Support.

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