THE SHED Press Release

THE BLOOMBERG BUILDING 545 West 30th Street
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Four New Works to Premiere as part of The Shed's Digital Commissioning Program *Up Close*

Online works by Julia Solomonoff, Madeline Hollander, Salome Asega and Keenan MacWilliam, and Fana Fraser to be presented at <u>TheShed.org</u> and on YouTube

New York, NY, July 13, 2021 — The Shed's digital commissioning program *Up Close* returns with four new works by NYC-based artists: Julia Solomonoff on August 3, Madeline Hollander on September 14, Salome Asega with collaborator Keenan MacWilliam on October 19, and Fana Fraser on November 16. Each commission will be accessible for free on The Shed's website (theshed.org/upclose) and The Shed's <u>YouTube channel</u>, and will remain available for viewing on demand.

"Especially as New York City begins to reopen it doors, the four *Up Close* commissions are powerful examinations of intimately personal accounts of lockdown, as well as ways of reimagining connectedness with each other," said Solana Chehtman, director of civic programs. "We're so thrilled to be working with each of these artists over the coming months."

First conceived as a response to the pandemic shutdown in March 2020, *Up Close* invites a series of artists and creative thinkers to contribute new artworks and discussions exploring what it means to think about the world and make art right now. *Up Close* continues to explore the valuable intimacy that artists and audiences can discover by connecting through digital means in presenting performances, spoken word, dance parties, multimedia experimentations, conversations, and other forms of original content.

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Past *Up Close* works are available to view at the-heat-org/upclose and feature presentations by: The HawtPlates; Reggie 'Regg Roc' Gray and the D.R.E.A.M. Ring; Troy Anthony and Jerome Ellis; Nova Cypress Black, Tasha Dougé, and Gabriel Ramirez; DJ April Hunt and Rashaad Newsome with Legendary Monster Mon_Teese and Precious; Justin Allen, Yulan Grant, and S*an D. Henry-Smith; Kiyan Williams; Tomás Saraceno with Harriet A. Washington, Oscar Oliver-Didier, Mychal Johnson, and Leslie Velasquez; Tony Cokes; Mariana Valencia; Ayesha Jordan with Justin Hicks; and Brothers Sick with Yo-Yo Lin and danilo machado.

Upcoming *Up Close* **works:**

August 3

Julia Solomonoff

hand, writing, a short film, is a casual and intimate exploration of lockdown and the unexpected consequences of our immediate conversion from physical to virtual life.

Julia Solomonoff is an Argentine filmmaker living in New York.

September 14

Madeline Hollander

52 Final Bows presents a collaboration between former American Ballet Theatre principal dancer **David Hallberg** and choreographer Madeline Hollander that spotlights 52 iconic bows that dancers take at the end of a performance and their unique, albeit subtle choreographies.

Madeline Hollander is a New York City-based artist who works with performance and video.

October 19

Salome Asega and Keenan MacWilliam

Hey Mary! explores the cultural significance of hand-clapping games through a short video that encourages viewer participation.

Salome Asega is an artist and researcher whose practice celebrates dissensus and multivocality.

Keenan MacWilliam is a director, creative director, and multidisciplinary artist based in New York. She has directed works for a wide range of musicians and brands.

November 16

Fana Fraser

mindsex is a multimedia personal account of Fraser's experience throughout the Covid-19 pandemic.

Fana Fraser is a performer and performance-maker living in New York City. Her work is rooted in a contemporary Caribbean aesthetic and framed by narratives of women's erotic agency, desire, and sexuality in the Caribbean.

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Support

Up Close is supported by M&T Bank, the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF), and public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.

The creation of new work at The Shed is generously supported by the Lizzie and Jonathan Tisch Commissioning Fund and the Shed Commissioners. The Shed is connected by Altice.

From Our Sponsor

M&T Bank is The Founding Bank of The Shed and has supported the organization since the beginning. M&T Bank is pleased to continue its support of The Shed with *Up Close*, a series of digital commissions born from The Shed's dedication to serving its communities during the Coronavirus pandemic and beyond.

About The Shed

The Shed is a new cultural institution of and for the 21st century. We produce and welcome innovative art and ideas, across all forms of creativity, to build a shared understanding of our rapidly changing world and a more equitable society. In our highly adaptable building on Manhattan's west side, The Shed brings together established and emerging artists to create new work in fields ranging from pop to classical music, painting to digital media, theater to literature, and sculpture to dance. We seek opportunities to collaborate with cultural peers and community organizations, work with like-minded partners, and provide unique spaces for private events. As an independent nonprofit that values invention, equity, and generosity, we are committed to advancing art forms, addressing the urgent issues of our time, and making our work impactful, sustainable, and relevant to the local community, the cultural sector, New York City, and beyond.

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