

For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Karla Quintero

karla@bridgelivearts.org

347-556-0741

BRIDGE LIVE ARTS

presents

EXPERIMENTS IN MOTION

Featuring premieres by choreographers
Rebecca Fitton, Cherie Hill, and Hope Mohr

MARCH 22 & 23, 8 PM

MARCH 24, 2 PM

SPACE 124 (401 Alabama Street, San Francisco)

Tickets \$10 - \$50, sliding scale

Available at: <https://www.bridgelivearts.org/event-details-registration/experiments-in-motion>



*Photo: (top L to R) Hope Mohr, Cherie Hill, Rebecca Fitton by Dale Dong;
(bottom L to R) Hope Mohr & Cherie Hill by Ulysses Ortega; Rebecca Fitton by Dale Dong*

SAN FRANCISCO, CA, February 20, 2024 – Bridge Live Arts (B.L.A.) announces the premiere of *Experiments in Motion*, an evening of dance featuring works by choreographers and arts leaders Rebecca Fitton, Cherie Hill and Hope Mohr on the theme of embodying shared leadership.

In 2020, the arts nonprofit [Bridge Live Arts](#) transitioned from a hierarchical, founder-led model to one grounded in distributed leadership. In 2022, B.L.A. launched the experimental project Dancing Distributed Leadership, a new project that explores shared leadership through choreography, performance, and community engagement. Since then, the leadership team has collaborated on finding ways to apply lessons learned in their administrative helms to the choreographic process and vice versa, creating an ongoing inquiry that connects administrative work and artistic practice.

“Dancing together taught us more about leading together. When you’re in a space together moving, you’re understanding each other on a biological level, a spiritual level, a physical level.” - Cherie Hill (choreographer)

From the New York Times article, [“Dance’s Communal Ethos Is Moving Into the Office and Boardroom”](#) by Margaret Fuhrer

For *Experiments in Motion*, each choreographer will premiere work that reflects deep commitments to equity, community building, and sharing power in their distinct dance styles. ***approval process*** directed by Rebecca Fitton ruminates on the interwoven intimacies of co-creating a shared budget. ***The Space In Between***, choreographed by Cherie Hill, is a multi-media dance piece that examines the challenges, intimacy, and societal repercussions of distance and how one reconciles historical and contemporary separation. ***Partial View***, directed by Hope Mohr, is an improvisation duet exploring sustained, shifting relationships and the tensions in honoring both somatic experience and the performance context.

In September 2023, Fitton, Hill, and Mohr participated in an artistic residency at the National Center for Choreography (Akron, OH), where they received mentorship from esteemed choreographers BeBe Miller and Paloma McGregor. Mohr shares, “...being in residency made it possible for us to take an embodied approach to exploring the nuances of co-authorship.” Fitton adds, “NCCAkrone was an imperative learning moment, and we carry the embodied practices into our choreographic practices with our collaborators.”

Experiments in Motion will occur **Friday, March 22**, and **Saturday, March 23**, at **8 PM**, and **Sunday, March 24**, at **2 PM**. The evening will feature performances by renowned Bay Area-based dancers Zoe Huey, Emily Hansel, Melissa Lewis Wong, Emma Tome, Andreína Maldonado, Rosemary Hannon, and Belinda He and video art and installation by Leslie Foster. The evening forms part of the ongoing, multi-year dancemaking initiative *Dancing Distributed*

Leadership, presented by Bridge Live Arts. All performances will take place inside Space 124, a project space of Project Artaud.

For tickets, visit:

<https://www.bridgelivearts.org/event-details-registration/experiments-in-motion>

For more information on Dancing Distributed Leadership, visit:

<https://www.bridgelivearts.org/dancing-distributed-leadership>

Experiments in Motion Promotional Photos:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1RCankMq8MgalttgTtn2J5xX_llysL3o9?usp=sharing

Funding Credits

Dancing Distributed Leadership is funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Kenneth Rainin Foundation's New & Experimental Works (NEW) Program, the New England Foundation for the Art's National Dance Project Finalist Award, and through a residency from the National Center for Choreography at The University of Akron.

ABOUT THE CHOREOGRAPHERS

Rebecca Fitton's (she/they) work in the dance field as an artist-scholar, producer, and advocate centers on shifting cultural policy, Asian American communities, and disability justice/accessibility. She has been an artist-in-residence at Center, The Croft, LEIMAY, EMERGENYC, and received a 2020 New Work Grant from Queens Council on the Arts. Fitton serves as the Studio Director for Will Rawls and as a co-director for Bridge Live Arts.

rebeccafittonprojects.com

Cherie Hill (she/her) is a choreographer, dance educator, performer, and writer whose art explores how human expression is conveyed through the body in collaboration with nature, music, & visual imagery. She has held artist residencies with Footloose, the Milk Bar, CounterPulse, & the David Brower Center. She has danced with BARD, Makomba West African Drum & Dance, David Dorfman, Kiandanda Dance, & Helander Dance Theater. She is an assistant professor in Dance Studies at CSUSM, Director of Arts Leadership at B.L.A., and an independent business owner in health and wellness. movedasoul.com

Hope Mohr (she/her) has made interdisciplinary performance for 30 years. A former co-director at B.L.A, Mohr makes performance that "conveys emotional and socio-political contents that ride just underneath the surface of a rigorous vocabulary" (*Dance View Times*). She was named to the YBCA 100 in 2015. Her book, *Shifting Cultural Power*, was published by the National Center for Choreography in 2020. Her work has been presented in gallery and theatrical contexts throughout the country, including at 18th Street Arts Center (LA), ICA San Francisco, Baltimore Museum of Art, di Rosa Center for Contemporary Art, Moody Center for the Arts (Houston) and SFMOMA. She teaches at California College of the Arts. hopemohr.org

ABOUT DANCING DISTRIBUTED LEADERSHIP

Dancing Distributed Leadership (“Dancing DL”) emerges from years of intentional work in B.L.A. to move away from a hierarchical, founder-led structure and toward an emerging new model grounded in a collective vision that included restructuring a solo director position into a shared co-directorship between three artists-administrators. As organizational leaders and choreographers, we are interested in how shared leadership in our administrative roles can apply to the choreographic and performative process and provide information on ways that artistic power can be shared within the organization

Dancing DL investigates how commitments to equity and shared power translate into the studio and onto the stage. This collaborative dance project explores shared leadership through choreography, performance, and community engagement. The work addresses balancing individual voice, deep listening, collective authorship, and an embodied study of different experiences.

ABOUT BRIDGE LIVE ARTS

Bridge Live Arts (B.L.A) creates and supports equity-driven live art that builds community and centers artists as agents of change. B.L.A. furthers this mission through arts and culture programming that deepens its core organizational values: cultural equity, anti-racism, exchange, artists as agents of change, the wisdom of the body, and putting dance in dialogue with the world. B.L.A.’s four-person artist-administrator staff operates within an evolving model of shared leadership. Learn more at bridgelivearts.org

FACT SHEET

WHAT

Bridge Live Arts presents *Experiments in Motion*

Featuring new works on the theme of shared leadership by choreographers-administrators Rebecca Fitton, Cherie Hill, and Hope Mohr

With performances by Bay Area-based artists Belinda He, Rosemary Hannon, Andreína Maldonado, Zoe Huey, Emily Hansel, Melissa Lewis Wong and Emma Tome

WHEN

Friday March 22, 8 PM

Saturday March 23, 8 PM

Sunday March 24, 2 PM

WHERE

SPACE 124

A project space in Project Artaud

401 Alabama Street, San Francisco, CA 94110

ACCESSIBILITY

Space 124 is a 0.5 mile uphill from the 16th St Mission BART. Buses (55, 22, 23) run from BART and drop passengers 0.3 miles from Space 124. There are five concrete steps or a gradual path that leads from the street to Space 124 which features two no-steps entries into the performance venue.

Rebecca Fitton's new work ***approval process*** will feature experimental audio description narrated by Fitton, an access practitioner for audio description. ASL and audio description will be provided one night each for all performances, date to be announced.

TICKETS

\$10 - \$50, sliding scale

Purchase online at:

<https://www.bridgelivearts.org/event-details-registration/experiments-in-motion>

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Project Website: <https://www.bridgelivearts.org/dancing-distributed-leadership>

For all press inquiries, contact karla@bridgelivearts.org

###