

Virtual Edition: 2021 ISPA Congress, Imagine the Arts



Pitch Project 1: 32 Sounds (United States)

Produced by The Free History Project, ArKtype / Thomas O. Kriegsmann, Department of Motion Pictures / Josh Penn, and Evan Neff

Pitch Presenter: Sam Green (Director)

Creators/ Artists: Sam Green (Director/ Performer); JD Samson

(Composer/ Performer) **Discipline:** Multidisciplinary

Genre: Live documentary, Immersive, human Interest

Cast: 2

Touring Company: 5 (Domestic) / 6 (International)

Length: 75 minutes (no intermission)

Premiere: January 2022, Sundance Film Festival

Project Description: 32 Sounds is an immersive "live cinema" documentary by filmmaker Sam Green that explores the universal influence of sound. The film weaves 32 specific audio recordings into a cinematic meditation on the power of sound to bend time, cross borders, and profoundly shape our perception of the world around us.

Seeking: Commissioning funds, touring partners

Performance Fee: \$20,000 per show plus travel, accommodation, freight, and per diem

Project Contact: Tommy Kriegsmann, Producer, ArKtype at tommy@arktype.org or (1) (917) 386-5468



Pitch Project 2: Accommodating Lie (Colombia) Produced by Sankofa Danzafro

Pitch Presenters: Rafael Palacio

Pitch Presenters: Rafael Palacios (Artistic Director, Sankofa Danzafro) and Anna Amadei (Vice President, Elsie Management)

Creators/ Artists: Rafael Palacios and Sankofa Danzafro

Discipline: Dance

Genre: Afro-contemporary

Cast: 7 dancers and 3 musicians

Touring Company: 13 Length: 60 minutes

Premiere:

Project Description: Sankofa Danzafro's Accommodating Lie is a powerful call for awareness. Choreographer Rafael Palacios dismantles stereotypes and beliefs, denouncing the clichés and falsehoods around the Black body and what it means to be of African descent. Accommodating Lie addresses the sexualization and the "exotic" label western colonizing culture has assigned to Black bodies. In a series of emotional solos and duets, the Sankofa dancers embody decades of slavery and overt racism. Palacios utilizes a catwalk to provide a parade of black bodies on display. A 60 minute full-length work, Accommodating Lie is performed by 7 dancers and 3 musicians (drums/native flute, marimba, and voice).

Seeking: Presenter partners

Performance Fee: \$20,000 for a single weekend performance on a routed tour/ \$15,000 for a single

week day performance on a routed tour + housing + visa application fees for the US

Project Contact: Anna Amadei, Vice President, ELSIE MANAGEMENT at annaa@elsieman.org or (+1)

(718) 7974577



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Pitch Project 3: The Agreements (Canada/ United Kingdom) Produced by Volcano

Pitch Presenters: Ross Manson (Artistic Director, Volcano) and Debbie Patterson (Writer and Artistic Director, Sick + Twisted Theatre)

Creators/ Artists: Reza Jacobs (Composer);

Brian Baglow (Gamification Consultant and Founding Director of the Scottish Games Network); Rest of

team TBD

Discipline: Music, Multimedia

Genre: Classical Cast: 3 (all virtual)

Touring Company: Not applicable

Length: TBD
Premiere: TBD

Project Description: The Agreements is a gamified concert - a contemporary classical music project for a virtual performance space. At its centre is a song cycle being created in response to nine agreements crafted by Debbie Patterson, a Canadian theatre writer and leading disability activist. Debbie, also the librettist for the project, lives with multiple sclerosis. These songs collectively act as her ideal pathway towards a more ethical future. Each song takes place in an interactive game environment. Audience members will navigate their own path through the songs and around three singers in a variety of virtual settings. As someone embracing the disruptions of disability, Debbie writes: "We know something about what it is to be human that everybody else doesn't know yet."

Seeking: Co-commissioning funds, possible producing partners

Performance Fee: Not applicable

Project Contact: Steven Smits, Producer, Volcano at steven@volcano.ca or (+1) (416) 538 4436



Pitch Project 4: FORTUNE (India/ Netherlands)

Produced by Club Guy and Roni, Navdhara India Dance Theatre, Slagwerk Den Haag, Aaron Fernandes Entertainment

Pitch Presenters: Guy Weizman (Artistic Director, Club Guy and Roni) and

Aaron Fernandes (CEO, Aaron Fernandes Entertainment)

Creators/ Artists: Guy Weizman (Artistic Director, Club Guy and Roni);

Roni Haver (Artistic Director Dance, Club Guy and Roni); Ashley Lobo (Artistic Director, Navdhara India Dance Theatre); Fedor Teunisse (Artistic Director, Slagwerk Den Haag)

Discipline: Multidisciplinary **Genre:** Contemporary

Cast: 15 (11 dancers and 4 musicians) Touring Company: 20-22

Length: 60 to 75 min (no intermission)

Premiere: 16th October, 2021, Stadsschouwburg, Groningen, Netherlands **Project Description:** Fortune explores the universal question—if our successes in life are our own, or if they are pure luck? Not everyone defines

fortune the same way. Depending on where you live, your religion, socio-economic circumstances, it will mean different things. The recent pandemic has broadened fault lines that already existed, like the growing inequality in the world. The wealthy could sit out the pandemic because low earning workers still delivered food, worked in distribution centers, putting their lives on the line to feed their families. This interdisciplinary cross-cultural co-production between these artists will surely create some world class, thought provoking work.

Seeking: Co-commissioning funds, co-producers, touring partners

Performance Fee: USD 36,000 for 3 performances, USD 48,000 for 5 performances—exclusive of

taxes, travel, transport, housing, per diem, etc

Project Contact: Aaron Fernandes, CEO, Aaron Fernandes Entertainment at

aaron@afentertainment.net or (91) 9819264883



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Pitch Project 5: Mary Shelley's Frankenstein (United States)
Produced by Manual Cinema and Elsie Management
Pitch Presenters: Kyle Vegter (Co-Artistic Director, Manual
Cinema) and Sarah Fornace (Co-Artistic Director, Manual
Cinema)

Creators/ Artists: Adapted from the novel by Mary Shelley; Drew Dir (Concept); Drew Dir, Sarah Fornace and Julia Miller (Devised); Ben Kauffman and Kyle Vegter (Original Music); Drew Dir (Storyboards); Ben Kauffman and Kyle Vegter (Music and

Sound Design); Drew Dir with Lizi Breit (Shadow Puppet Design); Rasean Davonte Johnson (Projections and Scenic Design); Mieka van der Ploeg (Costume and Wig Design); Claire Chrzan (Lighting Design); Lizi Breit (3D Creature Puppet Design); Lara Musard (Prop Design)

Discipline: Multidisciplinary Theater, Music, Puppetry

Genre: Contemporary Cast: 9 Touring Company: 12 Length: 65 minutes (no intermission)

Premiere: November 2018, Court Theater, Chicago, USA

Project Description: Love, loss, and creation merge in unexpected ways in this thrilling classic gothic tale conceived by Manual Cinema. Stories of Victor Frankenstein, Mary Shelley and her Creature expose how the forces of family, community, and education shape personhood—or destroy it by their absence. Manual Cinema's Frankenstein is performed by 5 all-female puppeteer/actors, 4 musicians, with 3 crew. It was premiered at Chicago's Court Theatre in December, 2018 before being presented at The Public Theater's 2019 Under the Radar Festival.

Seeking: International touring partners, international bookings **Performance Fee:** \$25k+ ground, airfares, & hotels (weekly)

Project Contact: Laura Colby, President, Elsie Management at laurac@elsieman.org or (+1) (718) 797

4577



Pitch Project 6: Ghost Light - Between Fall and Flight (Canada)

Produced by Machine de Cirque

Pitch Presenters: Vincent Dubé (Artistic Director and CEO, Machine de Cirque) and Claire Thomas (International Touring and Development Manager, Machine de Cirque)

Creators/ Artists: Maxim Laurin & Ugo Dario (Co-Writers, Co-Stage Directors and Performers); Vincent Dubé (Artistic Director); Nico Lagarde (Head Artistic Advisor); Félix Boisvert (Composer); Bruno Matte (Lighting Designer)

Discipline: Circus Genre: Contemporary Cast: 2 Touring Company: 5

Length: 60 minutes (no intermission) **Premiere:** October 2020, Circa Festival, Auch, France **Project Description:** A teeterboard propels two men into the fertile play of flight with the relentless potential to fall. The acrobats set out to discover themselves and one another. Ghost Light uses a teeterboard as the focus of this full-length, one-hour show. Because this teeterboard rotates, it serves as both the central staging component and the dramatic focus, while demanding new dimensions of acrobatic expertise. Driven by powerful music, the performers conjugate the past and the future into the here and now. In an uncluttered circular space, this singular duo will carry you away with their light while dark acrobatic performance.

Seeking: Touring partners

Performance Fee: \$8,000 per show plus accommodation, per diems, travel and freight

Project Contact: Claire Thomas, International Touring and Development Manager, Machine de Cirque

at claire.t@machinedecirque.com or (+1) (418) 476-1725



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Pitch Project 7: Hand to Earth (Australia/ Korea) Produced by Australian Art Orchestra

Pitch Presenters: Sunny Kim (Vocalist and Composer) and Peter

Knight (Artistic Director, Australian Art Orchestra)

Creators/ Artists: Daniel Wilfred (Voice, Clapping Sticks), Sunny

Kim (Voice, Electronics), David Wilfred (Didgeridoo), Aviva Endean (Clarinets), Peter Knight (Trumpet, Electronics)

Discipline: Music

Genre: Contemporary Art Music, World Music

Cast: 5 Touring Company: 6

Length: 60 - 75 minutes (no intermission)

Premiere: February 2020, AsiaTOPA / Arts Centre Melbourne / Meeting Points Series (Melbourne,

Australia)

Project Description: First Nations Australian, Daniel Wilfred, is the keeper of Yolngu manikay (ceremonial songs) that can be traced back for over 40,000 years. He forms an effortless rapport with Korean singer, Sunny Kim, that spans continents and cultures and yet expresses a deeply human commonality. Their vocal approaches are melded into the electronic atmospheres created by trumpeter and composer, Peter Knight, who draws on the minimalism of Brian Eno and Jon Hassell to create a bed for these beautifully contrasting voices. Together they sing of the stars, of fire, and of the cooling rain, against Peter Knight's floating trumpet notes and electronic crackles.

Seeking: International touring opportunities

Performance Fee: Weekly fee 8,500-10,000 USD plus travel, hotel, visa, per diems, local transport **Project Contact:** Jerry Remkes, Executive Producer, Australian Art Orchestra at jerry@aao.com.au or (+61) (409) 797852



Pitch Project 8: The Just and The Blind (United States) Produced by Sozo Artists, Inc.

Pitch Presenters: Marc Bamuthi Joseph (Artist) and Ichun Yeh

(VP& Dir. of Sales, Sozo Artists)

Creators/ Artists: Marc Bamuthi Joseph (Conceived and Written); Daniel Bernard Roumain (Original Musical Score); Michael John Garcés (Director); Drew Dollaz (Choreographer/Dancer); David Szlasa (Projection Designer); Xia Gordon (Animator); Brittsense (Photographer); Lisa Armstrong (Journalist); Sozo Artists, Inc. (Producer and Management)

Discipline: Spoken word, Music, Dance, Multimedia

Genre: Contemporary Cast: 3-4 Touring Company: 4-5

Length: 65 minutes (no intermission)

Premiere: March 5, 2019, Carnegie Hall (New York, NY)

Project Description: Poignant and pressing, The Just and The Blind illuminates the unseen and underheard experiences of incarcerated youth and the realities their families face. Spoken word artist and activist Marc Bamuthi Joseph joins forces with long-time collaborator composer/violinist Daniel Bernard Roumain and street dance pioneer/choreographer Drew Dollaz to explore themes of racial profiling, sentencing and the prison-industrial complex from the perspective of fathers of Brown sons. Guided by a righteous rage demanding a reckoning, The Just and the Blind strives to humanize Black and Brown children who face this systematic oppression.

Seeking: Touring partners

Performance Fee: \$23,500 USD per performance plus airfare, hotel, local ground transportation, visa/work permit and per diem for 4-5 people. Inquire about virtual experience.

Project Contact: Ichun Yeh, VP& Dir. of Sales, Sozo Artists, Inc. at ichun@sozomedia.com or (1) (646)

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Pitch Project 9: Least Like The Other (Europe/ Ireland)
Produced by Irish National Opera

Pitch Presenters: Fergus Sheil (Artistic Director, Irish National Opera) and Netia Jones (Director, Least Like The Other)

Creators/ Artists: Brian Irvine (Composer); Netia Jones (Director/ Designer/ Video Designer); David Sheppard (Sound Designer);

Sinead Wallace (Lighting Designer)

Discipline: Opera Genre: Contemporary Cast: 4

Touring Company: 18 **Length:** 70 minutes (no intermission)

Premiere: July 2019, Galway International Arts Festival, Ireland

Project Description: "Least Like The Other: Searching for Rosemary Kennedy" is an explosive, thought-provoking work of experimental opera. It traces events in the life of Rosemary, sister of JFK, using redacted archive materials only recently pieced together by biographers and academics. The events in Rosemary's difficult life leading up to her disastrous lobotomy at 23 by the "kings of lobotomy" Walter Freeman and James Watts, create an exploration of definitions of intelligence, expectations of gender, medical showmanship, patriarchy, the impact of the media and the demands of this extraordinary family. Rosemary's tragic life constitutes a portrait of America in the 1940s and 1950s that still resonates today.

Seeking: International presenting partners

Performance Fee: 65,000 for 8 performances (1 week)

Project Contact: Fergus Sheil, Artistic Director, Irish National Opera at fergus@irishnationalopera.ie or

(353) (87) 2386207



Pitch Project 10: The mass man (Belgium)

Produced by Muziektheater Transparant with co-producers Concertgebouw Brugge, Nadar Ensemble, deSingel, and Perpodium

Pitch Presenter: Wouter Van Looy (Stage Director,

Muziektheater Transparant)

Creators/ Artists: Wouter Van Looy (Concept and Staging); Win Catrysse (Concept and Video); Peter Verhelst (Text); Mazen

Kerbaj, Nadar Ensemble (Music); Sofia Jernberg, Timo Tembuyser, Els Mondelaers (Vocals); Johanna Trudzinski (Costumes); Tobias Kokkelmans (Dramaturgical Advice); Peter Quasters (Lighting Design); Wannes Gonnissen (Sound Design)

Discipline: Music Theatre, Multimedia, Multidisciplinary

Genre: Music Theatre, Contemporary and Classical Cast: 9 Touring Company: 12

Length: 80 minutes (no intermission)

Premiere: 28 April 2021, Concertgebouw Brugge, Bruges (Belgium)

Project Description: Crowds mobilize and group themselves to fight injustice or for a better climate. They gather on social media or in a city center. They rise up, grow, seek release and fall apart again. With video images of a place of conflict and oppression, music that flows from improvisations or latches onto a distant past, 'The mass man' tells a timeless tale about what unites or divides us. Are you in, or out? And who has the power? With the book 'Crowds and Power' by Elias Canetti as a guide, Peter Verhelst as writer and Mazen Kerbaj and the Nadar Ensemble for the music, director Wouter Van Looy and video artist Wim Catrysse have created a contemporary sequel to 'Earth Diver'. (Ruhrtriënnale in 2016).

Seeking: Presenting organizations, touring partners

Performance Fee: 15,000 USD for 1 performance, exclusive of travel, fright, accommodation, catering, rights and taxes

Project Contact: Maja Lozic, International Relations & Tour Development, Muziektheater Transparant at maja@transparant.be or (+32) (3) 2251702