

Spring 2026 Season

## Movement Research at the Judson Church

Monday, April 13, 2026 7pm

Artist of Color Council Curation

**Movement Research at the Judson Church is a free forum for experimentation, emerging ideas & work-in-process.**

*Note that this performance is not open to review.*

### **Claude Cj Johnson**

#### **I Dressed Like Him**

Choreographed by Claude Cj Johnson

Performed by Jamaal Bowman and Kyle Sangil

Music by: Jacob Collier Improvises the National Symphony Orchestra (Live from the Kennedy Center), "Hot Honey Rag" From Chicago the musical, and Pau D'Arco by African American Sound Recordings

### **Dr. Ayo Walker**

#### **Jadine's Son**

Choreographed by: Dr. Ayo Walker and Company

Performed by: Justin Tinker and Mikhaila Ferguson

Sound by: Moses Sumney's "Doomed" and Little Dragon's "Twice"

Jadine's Son by Dr. Ayo Walker in collaboration with Justin Tinker and Mikhaila Ferguson is the second iteration of caricatureography performed as a duet representing yet another one of Morrison's strained romances between Jadine Childs and Son Green. This work is still in progress, currently performed in two sections, the first being the picnic scene when they get to know each other better by sharing their personal histories. The second section is the conflict of Jadine's interest in Son, she is refined and he, "wasn't manageable... Still, she hadn't been with anybody in two months." The accompaniment includes Moses Sumney's "Doomed" and Little Dragon's "Twice". The choreography does not fit neatly into any one genre or style. This work may always be in a state of unrest due to the nature of the research.

### **Zaquia Luisa Salinas**

#### **A Call to Prayer (excerpt)**

Choreographed and performed by: Zaquia Luisa Salinas

## Artist Biographies

A Chicago native, **Claude “CJ” Johnson** is a dancer, choreographer, and movement director based in Brooklyn NY. After completing his studies at The Chicago Academy for the Arts and SUNY Purchase College, where he was awarded the Adopt-A-Dancer Scholarship, Cj has had the opportunity to perform works by Merce Cunningham, Trisha Brown, Twyla Tharp, Mark Morris, Aszure Barton, Zoe|Juniper, Johannes Weiland, Kevin Wynn, Princess Madoki, and many more. He was also a full-time company dancer with A.I.M. by Kyle Abraham from 2017 to 2022, during which he became a 2021 Princess Grace nominee. Cj is currently a guest dancer for companies and choreographers such as Trisha Brown Dance Company, AIM By Kyle Abraham, NVA & Guess, Rashaun and Silas, Keerati Jinakunwiphat, and many others. He has also participated in his own choreographic residencies through the Baryshnikov Arts Center, The Joyce Theater, Motive Brooklyn, Cuny Dance Initiative, and many more. As a performer, choreographer, and Black queer artist, Cj dances to translate the human experience for audiences, recognizing dance as the most powerful catalyst for self-expression and social change. In any artistic space, he believes his responsibility is to expand the knowledge and perspective of his community’s vast experiences.

**Dr. Ayo Walker** is an Associate Professor of Critical Dance Studies at Columbia College Chicago. As an anti-racist educator, she centers culturally relevant and critical dance pedagogies that affirm the techniques, genealogies, and embodied knowledge of historically marginalized dance aesthetics in higher education. Her choreography highlights Africanist and Black dance principles—“blood memories,” the “aesthetic of the cool,” and the “get down”—to challenge reductive assumptions about Black embodiment. Through research, creative practice, and teaching, she advocates for expanded cultural dance literacy beyond dominant Eurocentric frameworks. Her company, Ayo & Company, has been commissioned by PUSHfest, Sacramento/Black Art of Dance, Rhythmically Speaking, and the Modern American Dance Company. Their acclaimed work *Jadine’s Son* toured the 2022 We Create Festival and BIG MUDDY Dance Festival before being commissioned by the International Association of Blacks in Dance. Her recent work *P-I-E-C-E-S* premiered at the 2023 Southeast ACDA 50th Anniversary Festival, later selected for both GALA and National concerts, praised for its “unexpected crisscrossing of movement cultures.” Dr. Walker’s scholarship on decolonizing the dancing body informs her roles as Resident Scholar, Editor, Researcher, and Consultant for the Rennie Harris American Street Dance Archive and Hip Hop Pedagogy instructor for Rennie Harris University, featured in *DANCE Magazine* for advancing codified, culturally grounded approaches to teaching Hip Hop.

**Zaquia Salinas** is a choreographer and dance artist working at the intersection of performance, community practice, and social inquiry. Her work engages diasporic memory, practices for collective liberation, and interdisciplinary form through live performance, film, and site-responsive installation. She shape-shifts as a performer, choreographer, educator, curator, administrator, producer, and organizer. Originally from San Diego, Zaquia is the founder of DISCO RIOT (est. 2018) – a nonprofit organization that supports creative possibilities for advancing the dance scene in her hometown. In 2023, Zaquia was a recipient of San Diego’s inaugural Far South/Border North award for artists working in socially engaged practice. Zaquia is currently serving as Resident Curator with ODC Theater in San Francisco, teaching in higher education, and developing creative and education offerings through her company, Ephemeral Artery. Her 200-hour yoga teacher training program, built specifically for dancers, welcomes its inaugural class in 2026. For more information about her and her work, visit [zaquiasalinas.com](http://zaquiasalinas.com)

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**MR@Judson Selection Committee Fall 2025/Winter 2026 - Spring 2026:**

Biba Bell, Miguel Alejandro Castillo, Justin Faircloth, Imani Gaudin, Opal Ingle, Shayla-Vie Jenkins, Iris McCloughan, Antonio Ramos, Shawn Rawls, Fabio Tavares

*Movement Research at the Judson Church* artists are selected through an application process reviewed by a rotating committee of peer artists, each season the Artists of Color Council (AoCC) invites a member of the community to curate three artists to participate. These artists are joined by Movement Research Artists-in-Residence and GPS/MRX exchange artists. To apply, visit [movementresearch.org](https://movementresearch.org)

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**MR Interns:** Moksha Akil, Estefania Castaño, Calie Champoux, Ruby Cullen, Alice Doré, Katia George, Ashlee Harcar, Hannah Herschend, Olive Kick, Maddie Luzarraga, Havi Millar, Nailah Murray, Ella Newgarden, Alma Reiss-Navarre, Ana Teresa Rodriguez, Amira Samiy, Annabelle Stern, Ally Wilson

**MR Artists-In-Residence:** Maxi Canion, Tess Dworman, Davalois Fearon, Edu Hernandez, Jerron Herman, Jordan Lloyd, Veronica Moniello

**MR AIR Artist Advisor:** mayfield brooks (2025-26)

**2026 Van Lier Emerging Artist of Color Fellows:** evan ray suzuki, Dahlia Qumhiyeh

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