

**PERFORMA BIENNIAL 2023
OPENING NIGHT GALA**

Honoring

DERRICK ADAMS

GAETANO PESCE

JEANNE GREENBERG ROHATYN

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2023

52 MERCER ST NEW YORK CITY

GALA HONOREES



Photo Credit: Shaun Champion

DERRICK ADAMS

Derrick Adams (b. 1970, Baltimore, MD) is a multidisciplinary artist living and working in Brooklyn, New York. He received his BFA from Pratt University, New York, in 1996 and graduated with an MFA from Columbia University, New York, in 2003. Adams has held numerous teaching positions and is currently a tenured assistant professor in the School of Visual, Media and Performing Arts at CUNY Brooklyn College. He also holds an honorary doctorate from Maryland Institute College of Art. Adams celebrates and expands the dialogue around contemporary Black life and culture through scenes of normalcy and perseverance. He has developed an iconography of joy, leisure, and the pursuit of happiness within a practice that encompasses paintings, sculptures, collages, performances, videos, and public projects. Adams synthesizes representational imagery with planar Cubist geometry to produce multifaceted figures and faces that address the richness of the Black experience.

In 2022, Adams established Charm City Cultural Cultivation, an organization to support and encourage underserved communities in the city of Baltimore through events conducted by three entities: The Last Resort Artist Retreat, a residency program that subscribes to the concept of leisure as therapy for the Black creative; The Black Baltimore Digital Database, a collaborative counter-institutional space for collecting, storing, and safekeeping the data of local archival initiatives; and Zora's Den, an online community of Black women writers started in January 2017, which has since expanded into in-person writing workshops, a writers' circle, and a monthly reading series that strive to promote instruction, support, and social engagement. Adams has been the subject of solo exhibitions at institutions such as The Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland (2022); The Momentary, Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville (2021); Hudson River Museum, Yonkers (2020); and the Museum of Arts and Design, New York (2018). The artist has mounted public installations commissioned through Art at Amtrak at NYC Penn Station, New York (2023); MTA Arts & Design at the Nostrand Avenue LIRR Station, Brooklyn (2020-ongoing); and RxART at NYC Health + Hospitals/Harlem (2019-ongoing). His work has been featured in

notable group exhibitions including *The Culture: Hip Hop and Contemporary Art in the 21st Century*, Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore (2023); *Packaged Black: Derrick Adams & Barbara Earl Thomas*, Henry Art Gallery, Seattle (2022); *Textures: The History and Art of Black Hair*, Kent State University Museum (2021-2022); and *Performa*, New York (2015, 2013, 2005). His art resides in the collections of The Brooklyn Museum, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; The Studio Museum in Harlem; the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond; and the Birmingham Museum of Art, among many others.



Photo Credit: Photo by Luis Monteiro. Courtesy of Salon 94 Design.

JEANNE GREENBERG ROHATYN

Jeanne Greenberg Rohatyn, founder of Salon 94 and Salon94 Design is a gallerist, art advisor and curator. As a passionate exhibition maker, she has built special relationships with artists and colleagues worldwide. An activist, she believes in art and artists as catalysts for social change. With a career rooted in practicality, art history, and passion, Greenberg Rohatyn has garnered international acclaim for her keen eye and instinctual ability to identify and celebrate rare artistic talents that push culture to new and expanded spaces.

Almost 2 decades ago, Greenberg Rohatyn established Salon 94, the now iconic project space and gallery. She has championed a diverse range of artistic voices from Derrick Adams, Huma Bhabha, Karon Davis (on view now), Marilyn Minter, Niki de Saint Phalle, Laurie Simmons, Magdalene Odundo, and more. In January, she will present an exhibition of elder female Aboriginal masters - the largest gallery show in America to date.

In 2017, she founded Salon 94 Design, breaking hierarchies between design and high art showing radical designers such as Max Lamb, Jae Say Jung Oh, and Gaetano Pesce.

Expanding beyond the gallery as a white box, in 2019 Greenberg Rohatyn acquired and renovated a historic Ogden Codman building at 3 E 89th Street that now serves as her headquarters. In addition, she advises major figures on their private collections, and has an active art advisory arm to her business. She sits on the boards of White Columns and Performa, a non-profit organization dedicated to performance art.



Photo courtesy: Olga Antipina

GAETANO PESCE

In a career spanning fifty years, guided by a constant drive towards innovation and experimentation, Gaetano Pesce, architect, artist and designer, has created public and private projects in the United States, Europe, Latin America and Asia, in the fields of architecture, town planning, interior design, and industrial and exhibition design. Herbert Muschamp, the authoritative architecture critic, presented Pesce's multidisciplinary work as "the architectural equivalent of a brainstorm" and it is displayed in the permanent collections of the most important museums in the world, including the MOMA, the New York Metropolitan Museum, the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris, the Vitra Museum in Germany, the Montreal Museum of Art and various other museums in Japan, Portugal and Finland.

Pesce has been awarded diverse prizes, including the prestigious Chrysler Award for Innovation and Design in 1993, Architektur und Wohnen Designer of the Year in 2006 and the Lawrence J. Israel award from the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York in 2009. His approach to design has gone down in history and his works have been celebrated in exhibitions of outstanding importance, such as Italy: The New Domestic Landscape held at the Moma in 1972; the retrospective Gaetano Pesce: Le Temps des Questions, organised in 1996 in the Centre Georges Pompidou; Pushing the Limits, held in the Philadelphia Museum of Art. In 2005; GaetanoPesce: Il rumore del tempo, at the Milan Triennale, also in 2005; the retrospective Il Tempo della Diversità, at the MAXXI in Rome in 2014. Companies that have carried out his projects include Cassina, B&B Italia, Bernini, Knoll International, Venini, Swarovski, Meritalia and Zerodisegno. Born in La Spezia in 1939, Pesce studied architecture at Venice University and when he was young, wrote a manifesto defending the right to incoherence in art, the need for change, to be free, and not to repeat oneself. During the course of the following 28 years, Pesce taught at Institut d'Architecture et d'Etudes Urbaines in Strasbourg, Carnegie Mellon in Pittsburgh, the Accademia Domus in Milan, the Hong Kong Polytechnic, the School of Architecture in São Paulo and the Cooper Union in New York, where he moved in 1980 after having lived in Venice, London, Helsinki and Paris.

GALA PERFORMANCES

Derrick Adams and Dave Guy

Multidisciplinary artist, Derrick Adams, joins renowned trumpeter, Dave Guy, in presenting an excerpt titled, *Homecoming*, from their forthcoming project, *Soundtrack for their Lives*, a series of short films paired with live music.

The project is inspired by, and consists of, found 16mm silent film footage of a Black American couple as they travel on a cruise ship to the Caribbean, go site-seeing and visit friends, and while at an intimate house party. The home movies, which date to the mid-century, were recovered two decades ago by Adams from an abandoned brownstone in Clinton Hill, Brooklyn.

Guy's responsive original score guides us through each chapter, as we get to share in the joyous and special moments in their lives. Adams inserts animated circular sonics throughout scenes where both he and Guy would like the viewer to experience their interpretation of sound and image coming through this silent film footage.

Dave Guy studied trumpet at LaGuardia School of Performing Arts, the Manhattan School of Music, and graduated with a BA in Performance from The New School-Contemporary Music, in 2000. He's a member of the Grammy nominated group, Sharon Jones and the Dap-Kings, who collaborated with Amy Winehouse on her Grammy Award winning, multi-platinum record, *Back to Black*. He's a studio musician for artists such as Michael Buble, Bebel Gilberto, Al Green, Foreigner, The Heavy, Daniel Meriwether, Eric Clapton, and Quincy Jones. Working with producer Mark Ronson, he recorded trumpet for the Grammy winning song, *Uptown Funk* by Bruno Mars. Guy is also featured in the 2016 Grammy Award winner for Best Music Film, *Amy*, and is currently the trumpet player for the Roots on the *Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon*.

Trisha Brown

(Founding Artistic Director and Choreographer) was born and raised in Aberdeen, Washington, graduated from Mills College in Oakland, California, and studied with Anna Halprin before moving to New York City in 1961. Brown, along with like-minded artists, pushed the limits of choreography and changed modern dance forever. In 1970, Brown formed her company and explored the terrain of her adoptive SoHo. She engaged collaborators who are themselves leaders in music, theater, and the visual arts, including visual artists Robert Rauschenberg, Donald Judd, and Elizabeth Murray, and musicians Laurie Anderson, John Cage, and Alvin Curran, to name a few. With these partners, Brown has created an exceptionally varied body of over 100 dance works.

Brown is also an accomplished visual artist; her drawings have been seen in exhibitions, galleries and museums throughout the world, she is represented by Sikkema Jenkins & Co. in NYC.

Trisha Brown is the first woman choreographer to receive the coveted MacArthur Foundation Fellowship "Genius Award." She has been awarded many other honors including five fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, the NY 'Bessie' Lifetime Achievement Award, the Dorothy and Lillian Gish Prize, and the Dance/USA Honors Award. She has been named a Veuve Clicquot Grande Dame, Commandeur dans l'Ordre des Arts et Lettres by the government of France.

GALA LEADERSHIP

2023 OPENING NIGHT GALA LEADERSHIP

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Derrick Adams
Gaetano Pesce
Jeanne Greenberg Rohatyn

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