# BLAKE ZIDELL & ASSOCIATES The Kitchen

### THE KITCHEN PRESENTS HALF STRADDLE'S *HERE I* GO, PT. 2 OF YOU, MARCH 8 – 18

### Speakers include Jess Barbagallo, Claudia Rankine, Sarah Schulman and Branden Jacobs-Jenkins.

New York, NY, February 28, 2017– The reclamation of spaces, ideas, and paradigms by female-identified and informed bodies and queer bodies embodying feminist ethos must be made paramount at this moment in American Life. Led by Half Straddle's Artistic Director, Tina Satter, *Here I Go, pt. 2 of You* is a two week open work period and colloquy, encompassing rehearsals and showings of new theater and video work; the launch of an online journal of performance writing; public lectures; and communal zine-making activities that will act as accessible discussion periods.

The program will feature a series of lectures by some of today's key figures in the performance world, including Half Straddle writer / director Jess Barbagallo, novelist Sarah Schulman, poet Claudia Rankine, and playwright Branden Jacobs-Jenkins. At this crisis moment in leadership and freedom, where human rights are feeling under threat, speakers will touch on what performance means, why performances are made, and what the making of art means now. The series will also explore feminism in performance and trans identity politics, engaging company members, peers, and their artistic heroes to expand critical artistic discourse to interrogate and reflect on how we codify.

Half Straddle has spent the last ten years carving out a space for females and queer people in performance, challenging preconceptions on how performance can be thought of and experienced. As the non-performative lectures will invite artists to communicate a standpoint of clear ideas, the series will be framed with live music, and access to open rehearsals. Expanding on the themes that will be explored in the speaker series, these rehearsals will offer an additional viewpoint into the meaning of performance, and provide a unique exposure to the process of early work.

The zine-making workshop will be led by Half Straddle design collaborators, aimed at kids and teens to demonstrate the history of the zine as a mode of communication in the art world. The series will be running in conjunction with the launch of Half Straddle's online journal of New Writing on Performance and Art called *Here You Go 2* which will be available online at <u>www.halfstraddle.com</u>. This debut issue will feature writing from: Jess Barbagallo, Jim Fletcher, Ariel Goldberg, Julia May Jonas, Erin Markey, Jordan Martin and Michael Breslin.

This series is organized by Lumi Tan as part of The Kitchen L.A.B.

#### Speaker Schedule:

Wednesday, March 8 7 p.m. Janee Ojaiko + Isaiah Quinones 8 p.m. Ariel Goldberg

**Thursday, March 9** 6 p.m. Jennifer Krasinski 7 p.m. Jess Barbagallo

Friday, March 10 6 p.m. Talia Kwartler 7 p.m. Cecilia Gentili 8 p.m. Jeremy O. Harris

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**Saturday, March 11** 5 p.m. Lumi Tan

**Monday, March 13** 2 p.m. Tina Satter + Jess Barbagallo

**Tuesday, March 14** 5 p.m. Kaneza Schaal 6 p.m. Claudia Rankine + Casey Llewellyn 8 p.m. Jess Barbagallo

Wednesday, March 15 7 p.m. Branden Jacob-Jenkins

**Thursday, March 16** 7 p.m. Emily Davis

**Friday, March 17** 5:30 p.m. Heidi Hahn 6:15pm Karen Sherman

Saturday, March 18 1:30pm to 3:30pm Zine-Making Workshop with Enver Chakartash, Hanna Lea Novak, and Naomi Raddatz 4 p.m. Julia Jarcho 5 p.m. Sarah Schulman 6:30 p.m. James Sprang

#### **Open Rehearsals:**

Thursday, March 9, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (New work by Half Straddle) Friday, March 10, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (Dance rehearsal) Tuesday, March 14, 11a.m. to 1 p.m. (New work by Half Straddle) Wednesday, March 15, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (Dance rehearsal) Saturday, March 18, 11 to 1 p.m (New work by Half Straddle)

*Here I Go, pt. 2 of You* will be on view **March 9–18**, at The Kitchen (512 West 19<sup>th</sup> Street). Exhibit hours are **Tuesday–Saturday**, **11 am–6 pm**. All programs are free and reservations can be made online at thekitchen.org or by phone at 212.255.5793 x11.

#### About Half Straddle

Half Straddle is an Obie-winning, Brooklyn-based ensemble of performers and designers that makes plays, performances, videos, and music led by Artistic Director Tina Satter. Recent include *Ghost Rings, Ancient Lives, House of Dance, Seagull (Thinking of you)*, and *In the Pony Palace/FOOTBALL*. The critically acclaimed company began in 2008, and has toured shows and work throughout the U.S., Europe, Australia, and Asia. In New York City, the company's work has been presented at The Kitchen, New York Live Arts, New Museum, Danspace, Abrons Art Center, PS122, Bushwick Starr, Dixon Place, American Realness, COIL Festival, and PRELUDE Festival.

**Tina Satter** is a Brooklyn-based writer and director who makes plays, performances, and videos. She is Artistic Director of the Obie Award-winning theater company Half Straddle founded in 2008, recipient of a 2016 Foundation for Contemporary Arts Award, and a 2014 Doris Duke Impact Award recipient. Her most recent show, Ancient Lives, premiered at The Kitchen in New York City in January 2015. Her show House of Dance opened in 2013 commissioned by Richard Maxwell's New York City Players. Seagull (Thinking of you) premiered at PS122's 2013 COIL Festival. In addition to upcoming theater commissions (with Soho Rep and New York Live Arts), Tina is co-writing and directing a web series, loosely based on her theater company. Tina as recently visiting playwright and teacher at University of

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Michigan, and has been a guest artist at Princeton University, Reed College, and Fordham University. She attended Mac Wellman's graduate playwriting program at Brooklyn College. Her first collection of plays, Seagull (Thinking of you), was published by 53rd State Press in 2014.

#### **Funding Credits**

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Ace Hotel New York is The Kitchen's Winter Season Hotel Partner. Use promo code KITCHEN at booking for friendly room rates for a limited time.



#### About The Kitchen

The Kitchen is one of New York City's most forward-looking nonprofit spaces, showing innovative work by emerging and established artists across disciplines. Our programs range from dance, music, performance, and theater to video, film, and art, in addition to literary events, artists' talks, and lecture series. Since its inception in 1971, The Kitchen has been a powerful force in shaping the cultural landscape of this country, and has helped launch the careers of many artists who have gone on to worldwide prominence.

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