

February 8-24, 2017

THEATER

The Fool

February 9-11

When Raúl De Nieves and Colin Self, the performance artists who made the surreal contemporary chamber opera *The Fool*, are onstage, it's hard to look at anything else. Both are bold interpreters of drag performance; De Nieves, also an installation artist, dons elaborate sculptural costumes bursting with color and texture, sometimes moving chaotically and at other times with agonizing slowness. Self has recently begun to explore contemporary dance after years of unsettling, deconstructionist lip-sync routines. He also has a clear, gorgeous voice that he loops and processes electronically. De Nieves, on the other hand, growls and screams like a heavy-metal singer. The pair co-created *The Fool* in 2014 at the Brooklyn performance-art incubator Issue Project Room, where De Nieves was an artist-in-residence. Its psychedelic sets (courtesy of De Nieves) and exploration of life, death, community, and beauty play to both artists' strengths. ZOE BEERY

At 8 each night, the Kitchen, 512 West 19th Street, 212-255-5793, thekitchen.org, \$15