

# NERVOUS/SYSTEM

Andrew Schneider  
& Company

DATES: DEC 12—15 at 7:30pm  
LOCATION: BAM Fisher (Fishman Space)  
RUN TIME: Approx 1hr 20min  
no intermission

#BAMNextWave

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# NERVOUS/SYSTEM

## Andrew Schneider & Company

### **Written, Directed & Designed by**

Andrew Schneider

### **Associate director/**

### **Community accountability coordinator**

Alicia ayo Ohs

### **Associate lighting designer**

Chu-hsuan Chang

### **Associate sound designer**

Sadah Espii Proctor

### **Sound engineer**

Duncan Woodbury

### **Directing assistant**

Kedian Keohan

### **Stage manager**

Marisa Blankier

### **Production manager**

Tim McEvoy

### **Producers**

Lucy Jackson  
Miranda Wright

### **Early content development by**

Lindsay Head  
Kedian Keohan  
Peter Musante  
Alicia ayo Ohs  
Ashley Marie Ortiz  
Jamie Roach

*NERVOUS/SYSTEM* is produced with and managed by Los Angeles Performance Practice/  
PerformancePractice.org.

### **Performed by**

T.L. Thompson (Pollster)  
Lindsay Head  
Antonio Irizarry  
Kedian Keohan  
Peter Musante  
Ashley Marie Ortiz  
Jamie Roach

### **and**

Kate Athol  
Chelsea Barker  
John Gutierrez  
Cecilia Lynn-Jacobs  
Talia Paulette Oliveras  
Kendall Cafaro (understudy)

Commissioned by LUMBERYARD  
Contemporary Performing Arts Center

*NERVOUS/SYSTEM* is commissioned and developed in part by BAM for the 2018 Next Wave Festival, Live Arts Bard at the Richard B. Fisher Center for the Performing Arts at Bard College, and the MIT Center for Art, Science & Technology.

*NERVOUS/SYSTEM* received significant development support from LUMBERYARD Contemporary Performing Arts and the LUMBERYARD residency program.

Additional development support provided by Harbourfront Centre. *NERVOUS/SYSTEM* was made possible with funding by the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Theater Project, with lead funding from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and additional support from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation.

## ABOUT *NERVOUS/SYSTEM*

In our rehearsal room in Gowanus, sometimes we say things like, “theater is just humans telling stories about each other to ourselves in order to be better at being human.” That’s a simple concept, but the making of the theater is complex. The work is technological and precise. The practice is rigorous. The machine of the show can be daunting for those inside of it and the logistics can distract us from our original intentions. To carry our belief in human growth further than just a concept while writing a play or staging an idea, we must remind ourselves to come back to the question: what makes us better humans? Theater is made to be an empathy machine, and we ask this question not as cogs in a wheel, but as living beings who learn from each other.

This has manifested in steps towards building an explicit dialogue around racial equity in our artistic process. We’ve been honored to begin this work with the People’s Institute for Survival and Beyond, and continue the discussion as a company around community accountability. We believe that starting with undoing racism, a conversation so often laden with shame and blame, pushes us to our growing edge and expands the potential for dialogue across areas of accessibility and equality.

The road has not been easy, nor without mistakes. What remains constant is our belief in the importance of this journey, the resilience of humans, and the understanding that it is our mistakes and what we do or do not learn from them, that will make us better at telling stories and ultimately—better at being human.

—Alicia ayo Ohs and Andrew Schneider

# Who's Who

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ANDREW SCHNEIDER  
Creator/Director/Designer

Andrew Schneider is an OBIE award-winning, Drama Desk-nominated performer, writer, and interactive/electronics artist creating original works for theater, video, and installation since 2003. Based in Brooklyn, Schneider creates and performs original performance works, builds interactive electronic art works and installations, and was a Wooster Group company member (video/performer) from 2007—14.

Rooted at the intersection of performance and technology, Schneider's work critically investigates our overdependence on being perpetually connected in an always-on world.

Schneider's original performance work in NYC includes *AFTER* (2018, Under the Radar festival); *YOUARENOWHERE* (2015, The Invisible Dog, OBIE award and 2016, 3LD, Drama Desk nomination); *DANCE/FIELD* (2014, Dance Roulette); *TIDAL* (2013, River to River festival); and *WOW+FLUTTER* (2010, The Chocolate Factory) among others. [andrewjs.com](http://andrewjs.com)

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LINDSAY HEAD  
Performer

Lindsay Head graduated from the University of Florida with a BFA in dance in 2014. *NERVOUS/SYSTEM*, is her second collaboration with Andrew Schneider, her first being *AFTER* at the 2018 Under the Radar festival at The Public. She is currently touring with Faye Driscoll's *Thank You For Coming: PLAY*, which had its NY premiere at the 2016 BAM Next Wave Festival. When she's not in rehearsal she can be found rock climbing, sleeping, or trying to hang out with your dog. [yeslikeyourhead.com](http://yeslikeyourhead.com).

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ANTONIO IRIZARRY  
Performer

Antonio Irizarry is an artist from the Bronx. Irizarry specializes in ensemble-generated performance work. He has been a collaborator to Geoff Sobelle's *HOME* (NWF 2017); Church of the Millennials' *AMERIKA!* series; and Julia Duray and Lukas Pappenfusskline's *Bottom Feeder*. Irizarry graduated from Bard College in 2016 with a degree in theater and performance and makes his living somewhere between acting gigs, sound design, helping friends move, and "are you gonna eat that?" He believes that live performance has the power to give shape to a collective identity. He is invested in shaping communities around love, diligence, and accountability. He is honored and grateful to be a part of *NERVOUS/SYSTEM*.

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KEDIAN KEOHAN  
Directing assistant/Performer

Kedian Keohan is a director and theatermaker. They are co-founder of the theater company Church of the Millennials, which is currently in residence at Ars Nova as part of Makers Lab 2018, and whose series *AMERIKA!* has been presented at Brooklyn Arts Exchange, Ars Nova's ANT FEST, and IRT Theater. Their original performance piece DAD DANCE!, created with Keenan Hurley, has been presented by Feast Performance Series, the Playwriting Collective, and at JACK. They recently worked with director Jordan Fein on *Singlet* (Bushwick Starr) and as the assistant director for *Rags Parkland Sings Songs of the Future* (Ars Nova). Selected performance credits include Stephanie Saywell's *Underbelly*; Eric Marlin's *Pastoral Play*; Amanda Palmer's *Bed Show* (The Kitchen, directed by Geoff Sobelle); Ashley Tata's *Guard*; *Bad News* by JoAnne Akalaitis (workshop); Erin Markey's *A Ride on the Irish Cream*; and John Heginbotham and Amy Trompeter's *Fantasque*. Keohan is a core collaborator, performer, and ensemble co-director for Andrew Schneider's *AFTER*.

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PETER MUSANTE  
Performer

Peter Musante creates interdisciplinary performances with a diverse group of artists. Previous works with Andrew Schneider include *AFTER* (Ensemble co-director/scenic coordinator/performer), *YOUARENOWHERE* (Co-creator/performer), and *FIELD* (treadmill

dancer). Other NYC credits include *Up and Away* (Lincoln Center Education, one-on-one experience director); Martha Clarke's *Angel Reapers*; a canary torsi's *The People to Come* (Trusty Sidekick Theater Company, Park Ave Armory); and *Blue Man Group*. As lead artist in the creation of original work, Musante's projects have been presented by Incubator Arts Project (St. Mark's Church), BLDG92/Brooklyn Navy Yard, and The Brick. This December he is producing the UP CLOSE Festival for family audiences at the New Ohio. He received his MFA from Brooklyn College's performance and interactive media arts program. [petermusante.com](http://petermusante.com)

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ALICIA AYO OHS  
Associate director/Community accountability coordinator/Performer

Alicia ayo Ohs is a performer, educator, and community organizer. She is a founding member of Movement Research's Artists of Color Council and teaches leadership development and yoga in schools, non-profits, and privately. She is lead performer and a core collaborator in Andrew Scheider's *AFTER* (The Public Theater). As a dancer, Ohs has performed internationally and throughout the US in Faye Driscoll's *Thank You for Coming: Attendance* (Dancespace) and *Play* (NWF 2016) and with Sally Silvers, Sondra Loring, and others. Ohs is a graduate of NYU Tisch (Experimental Theatre Wing) and lives in Brooklyn with her pitbull mix. [aliciaohs.com](http://aliciaohs.com)

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ASHLEY MARIE ORTIZ  
Performer

Ashley Marie Ortiz is a NY-based actor/artist. Credits include *Scissoring* (INTAR); *AFTER* (Under the Radar festival at The Public); The Fire This Time Festival, Meet Me At the Foundation (Lincoln Center Education); The Prizefighter of P.S. 217 (The New Victory Theater New Works Lab); *Malefactions* and *Patience, Fortitude, and Other Antidepressants* (LATC); *Marfa Lights* (INTAR); and *A Beautiful Star* (Triad Stage). Ortiz is a member of UNIT52 and Barefoot Theatre Company, a teaching artist for the Park Avenue Armory and Opening Act, and the associate producer of *Symphonics Live*, a monthly show at the Bowery Poetry Club which promotes generosity, love, and creativity through the continual exploration of humanity through performing and visual arts. She is also a proud volunteer at The 52nd Street Project.

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JAMIE ROACH  
Performer

Jamie Roach is an actor and playwright. Select acting collaborations include *AFTER* (2018 Under the Radar festival); *The Christians* (House Choir, Playwrights' Horizons); *Anansi* (New World Stages); *Beneath the Gavel* (Feinstein's/54 Below); and *Pagliacci* (clown/acrobat, Metropolitan Opera). As a playwright, Roach has had four plays produced, including *Secret to a Healthy Relationship* at Barrington Stage Company, and featured in *Play/Date*, the long-running immersive show heralded in *The New York Times* as "thoughtful

drama." A graduate of NYU and Circle In The Square, Roach also works as a teaching artist with Disney, Lincoln Center, Roundabout, NYTW, and The New Victory Theater. [jamieroach.com](http://jamieroach.com)

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T.L. THOMPSON  
Performer (Pollster)

T.L. Thompson is a Brooklyn-based performer. Select theater credits include Person in charge *STRAIGHT WHITE MEN* (Second Stage Theater); *AFTER* (Public Theater); Will Scarlett in *Marian or The True Tale of Robin Hood* (New Ohio Theater); Tailgate Lesbian in Taylor Mac's *24 Decade History of Popular Music* (St. Ann's Warehouse); and Messiah in *The Messiah Complex* (BRIC Arts Media). Podcasts include Bishop in *Adventures in New America* (Welcome to Night Vale Network). And soon to be released, Colonel in *Clown Zero* with Nicole Hill and Connor Sampson. Film work includes *Flu\$h* (Wrex, directed by Heather Acs, premiered at OutFest LA and NewFest NY 2018); *Separation/Celebration* (directed by Amanda Madde), and *Friday Afternoon* (directed by Paige Campbell). Thompson is also a NY Neo Futurist.

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CHU-HSUAN CHANG  
Associate lighting designer

Chu-hsuan Chang is a Los Angeles-based lighting artist working in theater, dance, music performance, and installation. As a lighting designer, Chang's notable collaborations include Janie Geiser's puppetry production *Fugitive Time* (On Edge Festival, Automata); Maria Hassabi's live performance installation *PLASTIC* (Hammer Museum); performing artist Takao Tamaguchi's *Touch of Others* (One Archive, REDCAT); theater director Becca Wolff's *The Antigone Project* (Getty Villa); choreographer Meryl Murman's *The Lipstick* (CAC). His latest works include *The White Album* (August Wilson Center and NWF 2018); *Sorry, Atlantis: Eden's Achin' Organ Seeks Revenge* (The Machine Project); and *The Other Side* (Gramercy Studio). Chang has also worked with Lars Jan on *The Institute of Memory* (REDCAT, TBA Festival, Under the Radar festival, Divine Comedy festival, On the Board, ICA Boston, YBCA) and *Slow-Moving Luminaries* (Art Basel Miami Beach). In addition to lighting, Chang's passions include puppeteering, model-making, and lighting instrument design. [chuhsuanchang.com](http://chuhsuanchang.com)

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TIM MCEVOY  
Production manager

Tim McEvoy is a production manager and technical director based in western Massachusetts. For years he has worked at the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art (MASS MoCA) as a member of the performing arts department. In his role there he has brought the work of Laurie Anderson, David Byrne, and Lucinda Childs to the stage. McEvoy currently serves as technical director for Mount Holyoke College's dance department, where he has worked to bring American Ballet Theatre, Bebe Miller, Bill T. Jones, and several student and faculty works to the stage. McEvoy is delighted to be a part of Andrew Schneider's *NERVOUS/SYSTEM*.

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SADAH ESPII PROCTOR  
Associate sound designer

Sadah Espii Proctor designs sound and visuals for theater, immersive experiences, and virtual reality. She began composing for spatial audio through her alma mater, Virginia Tech's Linux Laptop Orchestra. Since then, her work has been supported by JACK, Con Artist Collective, Bushwick Art Studios, NEW INC, Fresh Ground Pepper, and the European binaural consortium BINCI. She served as spatial sound designer on Wi-Moto Nyoka's play *El Otro Lado Del Destino*, and is developing her original spatial composition *Preface of a Gray*. Proctor is a graduate of Virginia Tech's theater program and Brooklyn College's MFA in performance and interactive media arts. [sadahespiiproctor](mailto:sadahespiiproctor).

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DUNCAN WOODBURY  
Sound engineer

Duncan Woodbury is a Los Angeles-based electronic musician and sound engineer applying a lifetime obsession with music towards a multitude of projects. Woodbury is president and founder of Lower Grand Records and Chief Operating Officer of 4th Street Bridge. He creates original music under the moniker Mayacamas (Lower Grand). Performance engineering credits include Live Arts Exchange Festival (Los Angeles Performance Practice, 2015, 2017—18); *The White Album* (2018 NWF); *Holoscenes* and *The Institute of Memory (TiME)* (Lars Jan/Early Morning Opera, 2017—18); *Group Therapy* (Poor Dog Group, 2018); and ANTHEM (Milka Djordjevich, 2017). Woodbury graduated from California Institute of the Arts with a BFA in music technology in 2011.

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LUCY JACKSON  
Producer

Lucy Jackson is an independent performing arts producer. Productions include *Seagullmachine* (Ellen Stewart Theatre, La MaMa ETC); *HOME/SICK* (Odyssey Theatre, LA and JACK, Brooklyn) and *I Will Look Forward to This Later* (New Ohio, NY) for The Assembly Theater Company; Heather Christian's *Animal Wisdom* (Bushwick Starr); *Cuddles* by Joseph Wilde (Ovalhouse, London & 59E59, NY); *Mudlarks* by Vickie Donoghue (HighTide, Theatre503, and Bush Theatre, London), and projects at the Edinburgh Fringe, VAULT, and Latitude

festivals in the UK. Line producing includes *Oh My Sweet Land* (PlayCo). Tour producing includes *Our Carnal Hearts* for Rachel Mars, Okwui Okpokwasili's *Poor People's TV Room*, and *RoosevElvis* for the TEAM. Jackson is a 2018—20 WP Lab Fellow.

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PERFORMANCE PRACTICE.ORG  
Producer/Manager

PerformancePractice.org is the national touring extension of Los Angeles Performance Practice, a non-profit organization devoted to the production and presentation of contemporary performance by artists whose work advances and challenges multi-disciplinary artistic practices. Founded by Miranda Wright in 2010, its mission is to support a unique and diverse constellation of artists and audiences through the active creation and presentation of groundbreaking experiences that use innovative approaches to collaboration, technology, and social engagement. Anchored in Los Angeles, its artists and projects have national and global reach.

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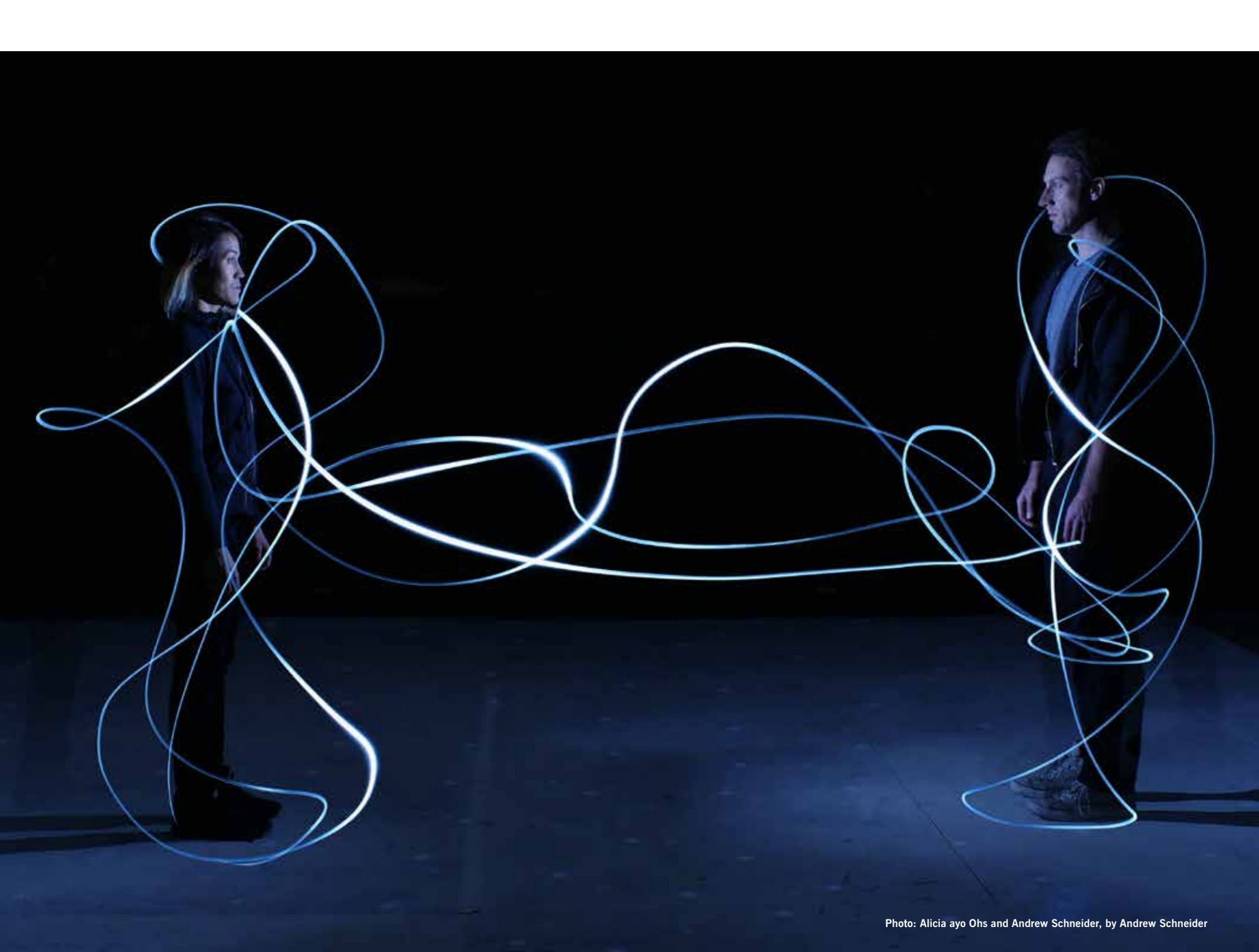


Photo: Alicia ayo Ohs and Andrew Schneider, by Andrew Schneider

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