



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 17, 2018



**A Winter Gathering of
New Music & Multimedia Performance**

Boston, Mass., January 17, 2018 – Experimental theatre company Sleeping Weazel is pleased to announce **A Winter Gathering of New Music & Multimedia Performance**. SW Managing Director/interdisciplinary writer Adara Meyers curated this evening, and the culminating piece, *Picture This*, marks her debut in performance via “selfie” video art, dance, and memories of childhood marred by a ruptured family history. Once again, installation artist Mirta Tocci is designing set and costumes. Thread Ensemble’s opening improvised musical performance will include a collaboration with the audience, and Romanian theatre artist Ioana B. Jucan has devised a ritual (with her international collaborators) that one does in the absence of a permanent home when confronted with the fleeting realization that home is a place existing primarily in one’s mind. Composer Kirsten Volness’ transcendent music rounds out this Salon-style show that highlights an exciting group of cutting edge New England-based artists. We want to

bring Boston's music and theatre lovers in from the February cold to socialize and experience new music and multimedia performance exploring notions of home, memory, and the human cost of involuntary migration. A blend of enchantment, melancholy, humor, and the tragic sublime make this evening one to remember. Warming refreshments will be served.

a conversational/musical interlude on home
performed by Thread Ensemble
Andria Nicodemou, Rachel Panitch, and Abigale Reisman

nostos//algos
devised and performed by Ioana B. Jucan with Amanda Andrei, Maurice Decaul,
Juwon Jun, and Jing Xu

River Rising and Alone Together
composed by Kirsten Volness
performed by Lilit Hartunian and EmmaLee Holmes-Hicks (on alternate weekends)

Picture This
created by Adara Meyers | directed by Natalya Baldyga
choreographed by Kimberleigh A. Holman
performed by Adara Meyers, Blair Nodelman, and Veronica Anastasio Wiseman

A Winter Gathering of New Music & Multimedia Performance will take place on February 15–17 and 22–24, 2018, 7:30 pm in the Plaza Black Box Theatre at Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont Street, Boston, MA.

Pay-what-you-choose tickets (\$5-\$25) may be purchased by calling [617.426.5000](tel:617.426.5000) or online at www.bostontheatrescene.com.

NATALYA BALDYGA is a director, educator, and theatre historian. Since moving to the Boston area, she has directed at Tufts University (*bobrauschenbergamerica*, *From Orchids to Octopi*, *The King Stag*), for Whistler in the Dark's Playwright Incubator Program (*Shadow Trees*), and at Opera House Arts (OHA) in Stonington, Maine (*Orlando*). Natalya is currently revising her adaptation of Henrik Ibsen's *The Lady from the Sea*, which was workshopped at OHA, as well as her original translation and adaptation of Carlo Gozzi's *King Stag*, which had its world premiere at Tufts. She is also collaborating on a theatrical adaptation of the short stories of Ruth Moore, which she will direct this summer for OHA. Natalya has taught theatre history, theory, literature, and performance at colleges and universities across the country, including the Savannah College of Art and Design, Gustavus Adolphus College, the Florida State University, and Tufts University. She is the editor of the new and complete translation of G. E. Lessing's *Hamburg Dramaturgy* and is a consultant for Digital Theatre+. Natalya holds theatre degrees from Middlebury College, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities.

KIMBERLEIGH A. HOLMAN is an Artistic Director of Luminarium Dance and an artist working interdisciplinarily in dance, theatre, and design. Her work gravitates to the exploration of human social interaction and behavior, both real and fictitious, miniscule instances or broad patterns, through comedic, dark, sensory or abstract narrative. Since co-founding Luminarium in 2010, Kimberleigh has shown work at venues including the Boston Center for the Arts, mobius, Mount Holyoke College, OBERON, Museum of Fine Arts, Gibney Dance (NYC), and many more, including the company's commission to open TEDxCambridge at the Boston Opera House. Holman has been awarded several grants for her community initiatives and artistic work with Luminarium, from agencies including the Boston and Massachusetts Cultural Councils. Recent work includes a new music collaboration, creating a music video screened in Bucharest, and a research/performance project that traveled through each state of the Eastern Seaboard. Learn more at kaholman.com.

IOANA B. JUCAN is a Romanian performance-maker, educator, and researcher working at the intersection of theatre and performance, philosophy, and new media. Her artistic practice spans theatre directing, devised and multimedia performance, writing for performance, sound and installation art. Her artistic and scholarly work has been presented both in the United States and internationally, in Romania, Finland, Sweden, Germany, Australia, and China. Her scholarly and creative writing has been featured in journals such as *TDR: The Drama Review*, *parallax*, *Liminalities*, *Nerve Lantern*, as well as in edited volumes such as *Adorno and Performance* (Palgrave 2014) and *This and That: Essays on Live Art and Performance Studies* (University of the Arts Helsinki, 2014). Several of her cross-genre performance texts are collected in her book, *Cosmology of Worlds Apart* (NY: O Balthazar Press), which moves between abstraction and sociality to explore and enact aspects of diasporic experience. Jucan holds a MA in Philosophy and has recently completed a PhD in Theatre and Performance Studies at Brown University. www.ioanajucan.com.

ADARA MEYERS is an interdisciplinary writer and Managing Director of Sleeping Weazel. Her plays, *Talk To At Me* and *Birds*, premiered at Boston Center for the Arts (Sleeping Weazel), and her new music collaboration, *Never Not*, with composer Leah Maria Villarreal, was commissioned by Wild Rumpus and later received its California premiere at the L.A. Philharmonic. Other plays and interdisciplinary projects have been developed or produced at Roulette, the Great Plains Theatre Conference, The Factory Theatre (Sleeping Weazel), and Perishable Theatre, among others. She is the recipient of a Rhode Island State Council on the Arts merit award for her play *Tryouts* and she has been a resident at Sedona Summer Colony. She recently completed an Interdisciplinary Arts MFA at Goddard College and holds a BA in English from Wheaton College (MA). For more information, please visit www.adarameyers.com.

THREAD ENSEMBLE surprises and delights listeners by involving them directly in the creative process. Through its annual series of varied interactive events, Thread Ensemble adapts to each unique audience and environment with original music created

in the moment. Thread Ensemble curates the connection between listeners' lived experiences and improvised music. Thread Ensemble is the convergence of three unique voices: Abigale Reisman and Rachel Panitch on violins, and Andria Nicodemou on vibraphone and percussion. Thread formed via an Ensemble Fellowship at New England Conservatory's Community Performances & Partnerships Department in 2012 where they performed at community centers and schools around Greater Boston. Thread has since been chosen to represent NEC's Contemporary Improvisation Department in a number of settings including a storytelling residency at Bridge Boston Charter School. Thread Ensemble has curated Happenings at Arnold Arboretum and Boston Public Market, and has performed at Boston Children's Museum, Make Music Boston and the Outside the Box Festival on Boston Common. www.threadensemble.com

MIRTA TOCCI is a visual artist, born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, living and working in Boston and Barcelona, Spain. Her installations have been shown in individual and collective exhibitions in galleries and museums in South America, Europe, and the United States. In Boston, she has designed scenery and multimedia works for the theatre, produced by ArtsEmerson, Sleeping Weazel, Theatre on Fire, The Theater Offensive, and Roxbury Repertory Theatre. This February 2018, her design for *Sugarcan* can be seen at Lumberyard Contemporary Arts Center in Chelsea, NYC. Her public sculpture *In the Light* is installed outside of Laconia Lofts on Harrison Avenue in Boston's South End. She is the 2015 recipient of the Oscar Williams and Gene Derwood Award for "significant contribution to the art world," granted by the New York Community Trust. She is currently Assistant Professor in the Institute for Liberal Arts & Interdisciplinary Studies at Emerson College. www.mirtatocci.com

KIRSTEN VOLNESS is a composer and pianist whose music is inspired by nature, myth, science, spirituality, and environmental and sociopolitical issues. When not writing electro/acoustic music, she plays piano for NYC-based Hotel Elefant and Providence-based Verdant Vibes, a new music ensemble and concert series she co-founded in 2015. Kirsten collaborates with Meridian Project on multimedia performances exploring astrophysics, writes and performs operas with homeless advocacy group Tenderloin Opera Company, serves as Secretary on the board of directors for the Friends of the Music Mansion, and is an affiliated artist of Sleeping Weazel. She was 2017 composer-in-residence at the Music Mansion launching the First Fridays concert series. She holds composition degrees from the Universities of Michigan (DMA, MM) and Minnesota (BA summa cum laude), and enjoys teaching both privately and at the University of Rhode Island. www.kirstenvolness.com

ABOUT SLEEPING WEAZEL

Sleeping Weazel is a Boston-based multimedia theatre company whose socially progressive, experimental work crosses and confounds the boundaries of "mainstream" and "avant-garde" as well as boundaries between art forms. Now in its sixth year, the company has presented more than a dozen productions of original works — at TheFactory Theatre, Boston Center for the Arts, Boston Playwrights' Theatre, for *Outside the Box Boston*, and

in ArtsEmerson's *Next Thing Festival*. Sleeping Weazel is currently a resident company at Boston Center for the Arts and a member of the Resident Lab at Charlestown Working Theatre.

Co-producers/playwrights Charlotte Meehan and Adara Meyers work from the premise that the best live theatre celebrates the ridiculous, the earth shattering, and the sublime. Our productions combine bold, experimental style with social justice ideals. The company motto, "Making Different Possible," means we dream awake without audiences and together we make life-changing art. www.sleepingweazel.com

Contact

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AT A GLANCE:

Sleeping Weazel presents
A Winter Gathering of New Music & Multimedia Performance

Press Nights

February 15 and 16, 2018

Dates

February 15–17 and 22–24, 2018 | 7:30 pm

Plaza Black Box Theatre
Boston Center for the Arts
539 Tremont Street
Boston, MA

Admission

\$5–\$25 (pay-what-you-choose)

For tickets:

www.bostontheatrescene.com

box office: [617.933.8600](tel:617.933.8600)

Info

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