

# MARFA SOUNDING ANNA HALPRIN

MAY 26 – 28, 2017

Presented by Marfa Live Arts and Fieldwork Marfa



Sunday, May 28, 2017

Fieldwork Marfa Antelope Hills Land

7pm-Sunset

***RASHAUN MITCHELL & SILAS RIENER: new work  
with PHILLIP GREENLIEF***

Performed in the open landscape at sunset with live accompaniment by saxophonist Phillip Greenlief, dancers Rashaun Mitchell and Silas Riener premiere a new work inspired by architect, writer, and philosopher Claude Bragdon. Bragdon's ideas regarding progressive architecture modeled after forms found in nature influenced his belief regarding the individual's role as one in service to the group. In other words, he examined geometry and organic architecture in pursuit of a divine connection found in everyday experience. Mitchell and Riener apply these ideas to their physical improvisation practice. Through movement, they incorporate aspects of the surrounding environment as a means of connecting to the world at large.

ABOUT THE DANCERS

Since 2010 **Rashaun Mitchell** and **Silas Riener** have created dance in response to complex and active spatial environments, often merging elements of fantasy, absurdity, and quiet contemplation into challenging multifaceted performance. After working together for years in the Merce Cunningham Dance Company, Mitchell and Riener developed a keen interest in the way abstraction and representation coincide in the body. Their collaborative work takes many forms, from site-specific installations, improvisational dances, and traditional proscenium pieces to highly crafted and intimate, immersive experiences. Historical influences and aesthetic forms collapse into a visually charged hybrid physical language. Together they have been part of Lower Manhattan Cultural Council's Extended Life Dance Development program, the New York City Center Choreographic Fellowship, and have been artists in residence at EMPAC, Mount Tremper Arts, Wellesley College, Jacob's Pillow, and Pieter. Their work has been presented at MOMA PS1 as part of Greater NY, Walker Art Center, MCA Chicago, The Chocolate Factory, New York Live Arts, Danspace Project, the Vail International Dance Festival, REDCAT, ICA Boston, and the O Miami Poetry Festival.

ABOUT THE MUSICIAN

Since his emergence on the West Coast in the late 1970s saxophonist/composer **Phillip Greenlief** has achieved international critical acclaim for his recordings and performances with musicians and composers in the post-jazz continuum as well as new music innovators and virtuosic improvisers. He has performed and recorded with Fred Frith, Meredith Monk, and They Might Be Giants; albums include *THAT OVERT DESIRE OF OBJECT* with Joelle Leandre, and *ALL AT ONCE* with FPR (Frank Gratkowski, PG, Jon Raskin). Recent residencies have included Headlands Center for the Arts and from 2012 to 2014 he was the curator at Berkeley Arts, a home for progressive music. He is the recipient of a San Francisco Bay Guardian Goldie Award.

## ABOUT FIELDWORK MARFA

Since 2011, Fieldwork Marfa, an international program run by Nantes School of Art (France), HEAD-Genève (Switzerland) and the School of Art at the University of Houston (Texas), welcomed 33 artists-in-residence from all over the world as well as 40 students and 10 professors from Nantes for two to three weeks. Over the last months, the project has reached a decisive turning point with the purchase of 20 acres of land on Antelope Hill Road, 2.5 miles from Marfa by the Fieldwork Marfa Foundation. Dedicated to American and European artists and art students, this project provides an exceptional site for artistic studies and research on land art, art in public space, border and territory, cinema and design. The Nantes School of Art (France), with the University of Houston School of Art and Geneva School of Art and Design, have joined forces to develop an ambitious new program at the intersection of critical theory and contemporary art. Fieldwork Marfa aims to formalize an innovative, contemporary space for learning in visual arts and to provide a new context for artistic experimentation.

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**Curator:** Jennifer Burris Staton

**Producer:** JD DiFabbio, Marfa Live Arts / **Associate Producer:** Cate Cole Schrim, Marfa Live Arts

**Lights and Sound:** Gory Smelley and Chris Hillen, Marfa Recording Company

**Program Support Team:** Christine Olejniczak, Ian Lewis, Angel Hernandez, Rae Ann Hample, Valerie Breuvert, and Ida Soulard, Fieldwork Marfa

**Documentation:** Photography by Jessica Lutz

## THANKS

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Marfa Live Arts engages a diverse community through the performing arts, arts education, film, music, and other cultural arts programs. Marfa Live Arts celebrates the cultural riches of the people of the Big Bend and enhances the area tourist appeal through sophisticated programming featuring the talents of the region's own professional performers, dedicated amateurs, and international artists.

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