

LAMAMA
EXPERIMENTAL
THEATRE CLUB **60**

and
CultureHub
in association with SeoulArts
present
A Few Deep Breaths



The Downstairs
66 East 4th Street, NYC, 10003
May 20-22, 2022

A Few Deep Breaths

CULTUREHUB NY / LA MAMA

Writers:

Erik Ehn, Huntrezz Janos, Adrienne Kennedy, Haruna Lee, Chuck Mee, Robert Patrick, and Christopher Rivas

Composers:

Starr Busby, John Dyer, Justin Hicks

Performers:

Agosto Machado, Leah Ogawa, and Maria Camia

Puppetry: Tom Lee

Sound Designer: Larry Chang

Creative Technologists:

Sangmin Chae, Shawn Van Every, Aidan Nelson

Technical Director: DeAndra Anthony

Camera Operator: Pearse Redmond

Technicians: Aaron Conover, Harshal Alurkar

Creative Producers:

Billy Clark, Mia Yoo, Mattie Barber-Bockelman

CULTUREHUB KOREA / SEOULARTS

Creative Producers: Ji-Young Kim, Woody Pak

Music: Woody Pak

Puppetry Advisor: Sungha Hwang

Puppeteers: Chang Kyu Park, Seong Ryoung Kim

Movement Advisor: Daniel Irizarry

*****Running Time: 25 minutes with no intermission.*****

A note on process:

A Few Deep Breaths is being presented as a work-in-progress. The process began one year ago when La MaMa and CultureHub prompted 7 writers with questions about the essence of the human spirit, its god-like qualities. Also, what do we need to be asking as individuals and a global community right now, and how do artists respond at a time like this? Each writer responded by generating 10 lines of dialogue or 5 actions for two characters: a 7 year old and a 77 year old.

The creative team behind *A Few Deep Breaths* then interwove the writers' responses - some of which were shared with musicians who created new songs - to create a non-linear story, which was developed in collaboration with performer Agosto Machado, puppet artist Tom Lee, and puppeteers Leah Ogawa and Maria Camia.

La MaMa and CultureHub collaborated with artists at the Seoul Institute of the Arts to create a telematic scene that is being presented live on Friday May 20th. The performers in Korea and New York will interact live and be connected using LiveLab, a collaborative performance tool developed by CultureHub.

A Few Deep Breaths is being presented via a custom built streaming platform that was developed with creative technologists Aidan Nelson and Shawn Van Every. This platform allows us to transmit the live performance to the audience in milliseconds. There are also interactive elements that will be activated throughout the performance. We hope to continue this work in collaboration with SeoulArts in the fall.

You are an invaluable part of this experiment.
Thank you for joining us.

A Few Deep Breaths is a poetic reflection of this moment in our shared history and a meditation on the road ahead. A 77 year old and a 7 year old find themselves together, suspended in a liminal space where they begin to understand each other.

Taking place between physical and digital worlds, *A Few Deep Breaths* explores human nature through a ritual process that interweaves the writings of Erik Ehn, Huntrezz Janos, Adrienne Kennedy, Haruna Lee, Chuck Mee, Robert Patrick, Christopher Rivas, and music by Starr Busby, John Dyer, Justin Hicks and Woody Pak. Featuring Agosto Machado with puppetry by Tom Lee performed by Leah Ogawa and Maria Camia.

There are two ways to experience *A Few Deep Breaths*:

- 1) Online: reserve a ticket for the livestream and receive a link to the custom, interactive streaming platform.
- 2) In-Person: reserve a ticket for a behind-the-scenes experience to witness the making of *A Few Deep Breaths* with a small audience in The Downstairs at La MaMa. If you are experiencing financial hardship, please email info@culturehub.org to request a free ticket.

A Few Deep Breaths is developed in La MaMa and CultureHub's Experiments in Digital Storytelling Program, which incubates story-driven art works that harness digital distribution platforms, expand online audience engagement, and push the boundaries of current artistic forms.

*Telematic performance with Seoul Institute of the Arts in Korea (performed in Korea on Saturday at 10am KST)

May 20-22, 2022

*Friday, 9pm ET / 6pm PT

Saturday, 7pm ET / 4pm PT

Sunday, 2pm ET / 11am PT / 8pm CET

Livestream / In-Person

CultureHub is supported by



CultureHub is a global art and technology community that was born out of decades of collaboration between La MaMa and the Seoul Institute of the Arts, Korea's first contemporary performing arts school. These two visionary institutions sought to explore how the internet and digital technologies could foster a more sustainable model for international exchange and creativity.

Since its founding in 2009, CultureHub has grown into a global network with studios in New York, Los Angeles, Korea, Indonesia, and Italy, providing connected environments for artists to critically examine our evolving relationship to technology. Through residencies, live productions, and educational programming, CultureHub advances the work of artists experimenting with emerging technologies in search of new artistic forms. CultureHub builds new partnerships that expand our network and provide increased access to online and offline platforms that fuel artist mobility, create opportunities for cultural exchange, and broaden human understanding through the convergence of art, technology, and education.

The Seoul Institute of the Arts, founded by renowned playwright Chi Jin Yoo in 1962, is a leading arts institution in Korea, educating more than 3000 students and creative professionals in 15 different artistic disciplines.

Seoul Arts is a private, non-profit institution of higher learning located in the city of Ansan, South Korea, with a satellite campus located in Namsan, a neighborhood in downtown Seoul. A driving force in the Korean art and culture scene, the Institute has produced many well-known artists working in a variety of artistic fields. Seoul Arts has four primary goals that drive its educational and programmatic initiatives: to provide an educational environment that is both creative and global, to focus on collaboration and interdisciplinary work that preserves traditional Korean culture in new forms, to strengthen cooperation between industry and academia, and to support the integration of art and science. The Institute's partnership with La MaMa and CultureHub enables it to better pursue these core tenants of its educational and artistic mission.

La MaMa Experimental Theatre Club is dedicated to the artist and all aspects of the theater. La MaMa provides a supportive home for artists and takes risks on new work. An integral part of New York City's cultural landscape, La MaMa has a worldwide reputation for producing daring work in theater, dance, performance art, and music that defies form and transcends boundaries of language, race, and culture.

A full program with information on this production can be found on the *A Few Deep Breaths* page of the La MaMa website.

In addition you can scan the QR code Poster located in the theatre lobby for access to the digital program.



LA MAMA



RESTORE A BUILDING REMAKE A WORLD



Rendering: 74 East 4th St.

La MaMa's historic, landmark building at 74 East 4th Street is undergoing an urgently needed complete renovation and restoration to preserve the historic façade, create building-wide ADA accessibility, and provide much needed performance, exhibition and community space for decades to come.

La MaMa, founded by Ellen Stewart in 1961, has been on east 4th Street since 1967. La MaMa embraces every person in its community and is legendary as the place where new artists of all nations, cultures, races, and identities are given opportunities. It is the place where art begins.

To learn more about the renovation, or to make a donation please visit www.lamama.org/remakeaworld

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A Few Deep Breaths
CultureHub
May 20 - 22, 2022
The Downstairs

La MaMa Kids
Mary Had a Little Lamb and
Also a Substitute Teacher
May 21 - 22, 2022
The Downstairs

Rockefeller and I
May 24 - 28, 2022
In Front of Building 66 E 4th Street

Brooklyn United
May 27 - June 5, 2022
Ellen Stewart Theatre

Coffehouse Chronicles
Czechoslovak-American
Marionette Theatre
May 28, 2022
Ellen Stewart Theatre

COMING SOON

Reflections of Native Voices 2022:
Under Construction
June 1 - 5, 2022
The Downstairs

La MaMa's Squirts
June 10 - 12, 2022
The Downstairs

God's Fool
June 11 - July 2, 2022
Ellen Stewart Theatre

Look Out Shithead Episode 3
June 17 - 26, 2022
The Downstairs

La MaMa Kids
Don Quixote Takes New York
July 9 - 10, 2022
The Downstairs

Cannabis! A Viper Vaudeville
July 14 - 31, 2022
Ellen Stewart Theatre