

Press Release

DANCE TRANS* REVOLUTION

Curated by **After Party Collective**
(Vidisha-Fadescha & Shaunak Mahbubani)

Opening: **Nov. 6, 2021, 11am - 6pm** with curators

On view:
Nov. 5 - Dec. 23, 2021, Tues. - Sat. 11am - 6pm

Location:
291 Church Street, NYC, and 3D Online



Dion McKenzie, *Meet Us On The Dance Floor Before The World Ends, 2020.*

Featuring Work By:

**7thGrl a.k.a. Liniya - Grace Banu - Jonathan Eden - Habibitch - Jasmine Infiniti -
LoMaasBello & Will Fredo - Dion McKenzie - Bhenji Ra**

"We must fight to be seen, as we see, through the fences into the play yards we are kept out of," says Dion McKenzie a.k.a. TYGAPAW (NYC) in their operatic techno EP *Ode to Black Trans Lives*. From the *gharanas* of New Delhi to the Balls of New York, these sites of collectivity have long been a space to subvert colonial power and reposition agency within trans* bodies. This exhibition celebrates the spatialities, rhythms and choreographies that compose the resilient force of trans* led community gathering, offering not only safety, but also affirmation and care.

Will Fredo (Berlin) & LoMaasBello (Bogota) locate the history of the black/trans* party as a "liberatory situation," alongside Jasmine Infiniti (NYC), founder of label New World Disorder, who melds the heritage of Detroit techno with ballroom sounds. Habibitch (Paris) presents a video translation of their lauded lecture-performance *Decolonize the Dancefloor*, while 7thGrl a.k.a. Liniya (Boston) vogues her way into digital representation via Second Life. Bhenji Ra (Sydney) and Grace Banu (Chennai) each present archival glimpses from their communities; Bhenji documenting intimacy and indomitability within her family House of Slé, and Grace narrating the journey of organizing structures of self-sufficiency and dignity in the form of a co-operative colony for trans-women in Tamil Nadu, India. Each work reclaims the legacies of the Global South to manifest a future of collective trans* agency. Jonathan Eden (Seattle) takes us furthest, to the *Interstellar* realm of 2121, illustrating the ability-accessible after party we can't wait to upload our selves into.

DANCE TRANS REVOLUTION* is an apexart NYC Open Call exhibition. For the latest information on the exhibition and related events, visit apexart.org/fadescha-mahbubani.php or contact elizabeth.larison@apexart.org.

After Party Collective (New Delhi), formed by artist-curator duo Vidisha-Fadescha and Shaunak Mahbubani in 2019, acts in intersections between curatorial and performance practices, energizing choreographies of community, agency, legality, and pleasure. Expanding the Party as a site for critical praxis they produce spaces of embodied thinking directed towards the affirmation of trans*, intersex, and other gender-deviant bodies, Vidisha-Fadescha hosts Party Office, a trans*feminist anti-caste anti-racist art & social space, exhibiting at documenta 15. Shaunak Mahbubani is the curator of exhibition series 'Allies for the Uncertain Futures', previously selected as part of the apexart International Open Call 2018, and was recently a resident at ISCP NY (April - June 2021).

apexart's program supporters past and present include the Milton and Sally Avery Arts Foundation, the Buhl Foundation, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Spencer Brownstone, the Kenneth A. Cowin Foundation, Epstein Teicher Philanthropies, The Greenwich Collection Ltd., William Talbott Hillman Foundation/Affirmation Arts Fund, the Fifth Floor Foundation, the Consulate General of Israel in New York, The Puffin Foundation, the Trust for Mutual Understanding, The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, and public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, public funds from Creative Engagement, supported by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and administered by LMCC, funds from NYSCA Electronic Media/Film in Partnership with Wave Farm: Media Arts Assistance Fund, with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, as well as the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

#DANCETRANSREVOLUTION

291 church street, new york, ny 10013
t +1 212 431 5270 www.apexart.org