



BAM and Onassis ONX present
***TECHNE*, January 4 - 19, 2025**

**Four immersive works and performances exploring the art of
storytelling**

In partnership with Under The Radar

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"The Vivid Unknown," John Fitzgerald & Godfrey Reggio

New York, New York/December 19, 2024—Onassis ONX and BAM (Brooklyn Academy of Music) are pleased to announce *TECHNE*, an experimental program comprising four large-scale digital artworks, presented as part of BAM's Next Wave festival and Under The Radar Festival.

Brought to life through generative AI, immersive soundscapes, and virtual ecosystems, *TECHNE* runs from January 4—19, 2025, at BAM Fisher (321 Ashland Pl.).

****Press tickets/viewings are available for all showings.****

***The Vivid Unknown* by John Fitzgerald and Godfrey Reggio**

Jan 4—5 at 2:00pm, 3:30pm, 7:00pm & 8:30pm

Jan 7 at 7:00pm & 8pm

***The Golden Key* by Marc Da Costa and Matthew Niederhauser**

Jan 8—10 at 7:00pm & 8:30pm

Jan 11 at 2:00pm, 3:30pm, 7:00pm & 8:30pm

***Voices* by Margarita Athanasiou**

Jan 12 at 2:00pm, 3:30pm, 7:00pm & 8:30pm

Jan 14—15 at 7:00pm & 8:30pm

***Secret Garden* by Stephanie Dinkins**

Jan 16—17 at 7:00pm & 8:30pm

Jan 18—19 at 2:00pm, 3:30pm, 7:00pm & 8:30pm

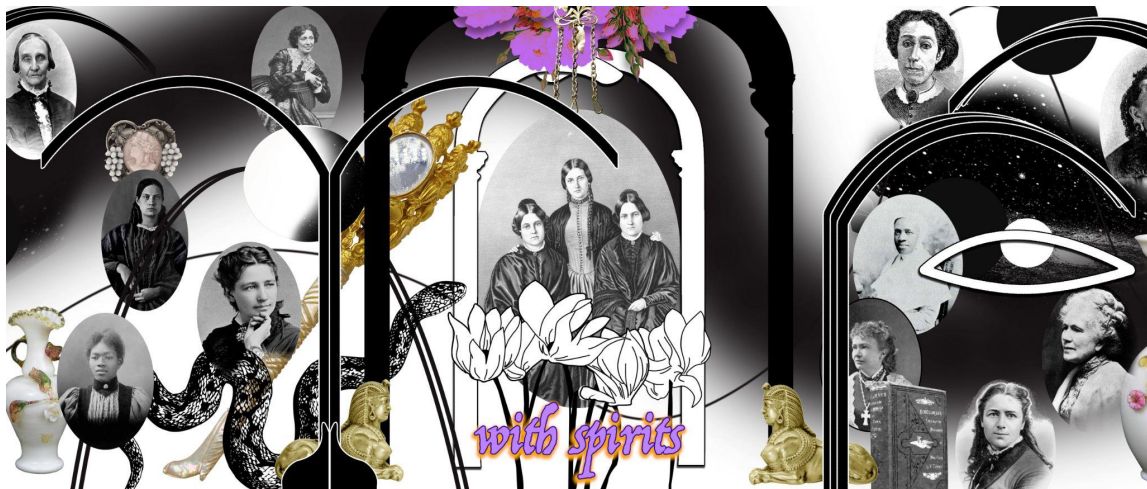
Additionally, as part of Under the Radar's *Under Construction* series, Onassis ONX will present two live productions: *RUNWAY* and *a {room} of one's own*. Created by **Christiana Kosiari** and **Viola He**, respectively, these performance-driven narratives interrogate personal identity, societal constructs, and existential struggles. Performances will be held from January 10 - 14, 2025, at Onassis ONX (645 5th Avenue).

Together, *TECHNE*, *RUNWAY*, and *a {room} of one's own* showcase Onassis ONX's commitment to fostering radical experimentation at the forefront of art and technology, from large-scale installations to intimate performances. *TECHNE* follows ONX's widely successful presentation of *Group Hug* in November, a boundary-breaking exhibition of large-scale video game installations by some of the most talented artists in the field.

"The key themes of this program are relationships, kinship, and affection. From Athens and Amsterdam to Taipei and New York, we present works that celebrate what brings us together rather than what drives us apart. Onassis ONX, a global innovation program for world-builders harnessing advanced technologies, consistently supports cutting-edge productions that transcend the boundaries of space, place, and identity," said **Afroditi Panagiotakou**, Director of

Culture at the Onassis Foundation. “*TECHNE*, hosted by BAM, a landmark cultural institution, represents the values we uphold: myths and ancestral stories, nature as a shared origin and ultimate destination, and technology as an open-ended question rather than a definitive answer.”

“Fundamentally, *TECHNE* is about how we tell stories and how we share them,” says **Jazia Hammoudi**, Program Director of Onassis ONX NY. “*TECHNE*, derived from ancient Greek, refers to making or doing, art and craft. This program was inspired by a vision of how we, as artists, use technology— the very tool that defines our craft. What emerged are four distinctive works which harness the power and endless potential of new media and digital art, and speak to the expansiveness of narrative when we embrace it as polyphonic, participatory, and ever-unfolding.”



“Voices,” Margarita Athanasiou

"Providing a dynamic home for *Techne* reinforces our interest in presenting and elevating new media engagements," said BAM's Artistic Director, **Amy Cassello**. "As we did with *Journey LIVE* earlier this season, we are excited to be a hub for audiences interested in this form of art-making. We are also thrilled to partner again with Under The Radar Festival, connecting with the city, the nation, and the world through the voices of innovative multidisciplinary artists."

Across four multimedia installations, *TECHNE* invites audiences to engage deeply with the nexus of humans, nature, and technology in innovative and thought-provoking ways. Mining folktales, films, oracles, and other enduring narrative forms, visionary artists Margarita Athanasiou, Marc Da Costa, Stephanie Dinkins, John Fitzgerald, Godfrey Reggio, and Matthew Niederhauser transform the art of storytelling for a digital age. Each project expands, interrogates, and deconstructs narrative, from reimagining cinema to exploring mediumship as female empowerment and crafting AI-generated mythical fantasies.

The Vivid Unknown (Jan 4, 5 & 7) by John Fitzgerald and Godfrey Reggio, is a collective experience that uses AI and computer vision to reimagine Reggio's iconic 1982 film, *Koyaanisqatsi*. Visitors will explore the primal nexus of humans, nature, and technology, dynamically participating in shaping the unfolding narrative. As part of this special program, *Koyaanisqatsi* will be screened in its original form at BAM Rose Cinemas on January 7.

The Golden Key (Jan 8—11) by Marc Da Costa and Matthew Niederhauser, immerses visitors in the mythical fantasies of an artificially intelligent machine as it composes a never ending story. The work imagines a future world that has endured the severest impacts of climate change. Winner of the Jury Award in the 2024 SXSW XR Experience competition, *The Golden Key* allows audiences to encounter and intervene in the new narrative and myth-making powers imagined for AI.

Voices (Jan 12, 14 & 15) by artist Margarita Athanasiou dives into the hidden histories of Victorian-era mediums and New Age spiritualists, as well as her own grandmother. What emerges is a story about female empowerment, capitalism, and the unexpected relationship between information technology and the spirit world. Her riveting video essay makes the case for the body as the ultimate communication device.

Secret Garden (Jan 16—19) by Sundance Prize winner Stephanie Dinkins, cultivates a virtual oasis populated with Black women who share stories of perseverance and achievement. Multigenerational narratives collapse past, present, and future across interactive vignettes in this stirring compendium of stories.

For the full TECHNE programming schedule, click [here](#).

RUNWAY (Jan 10—14), by Christiana Kosiari, explores the array of behaviors and transformations of a woman striving to achieve her era's dominant beauty standards. In this live performance piece, the treadmill transcends its use as a beauty and wellness tool, evolving into an existential prison, a torture instrument, a conveyor belt for standardized products with predetermined expiration dates, a grotesque and absurd plank above the abyss. *RUNWAY* was first performed at Onassis Stegi, Athens, as part of Onassis Dance Days 2024. This is the US premiere of the performance. *RUNWAY*'s presentation is co-produced by Onassis Stegi & Onassis ONX". "RUNWAY's tour is supported by [Onassis Stegi's Outward Turn](#) cultural export program."

A {room} of one's own (Jan 10—14), by Viola He is an XR performance and hysterical journey about making creative work within a confined space. Through voice loops, motion capture, and audio-visual fragments in projected scenes, the unnamed protagonist takes us through their adolescence as they navigate sickness, immigration, and a multilingual artistic career. Reality and fiction bleed together in this playful and raw exploration of the joys and horrors of being trapped in one's own creative brain.

RUNWAY and *A {room} of One's Own* will be presented together, back-to-back, at Onassis ONX. Performances will be held Friday, January 10 at 3pm; Saturday, January 11 at 5pm; Monday, January 13 at 7pm; and Tuesday, January 14 at 7pm.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Margarita Athanasiou is a multidisciplinary artist, poet, and organizer based in Athens, Greece. She is a digital collagist working with video and print, while a significant part of her practice revolves around artist publishing. Her text-based work explores sidelined female histories, often combining research with autobiography and humor. Athanasiou is the co-founder of the Athens Art Book Fair, an Onassis AiR fellow, an ARTWORKS fellow, an active participant in various queer/feminist projects, and a passionate meme artist. She was a participant in the Exchange Residencies Program of Onassis AiR 2019-20 at CAPACETE (Brazil), the Tailor-made Fellowships program 2022-23, and the Tailor-made Residencies program.

Marc Da Costa is an artist and anthropologist whose work explores the relationship between emerging technology and lived experience. His artistic research and interactive installations examine how data and technical infrastructures focus our attention on the world in particular ways, thereby shaping the structures of experience available to us. Da Costa's anthropological scholarship has explored these themes through studies of placemaking practices in the Anthropocene, with a particular focus on Antarctic research expeditions and critical cartography. His work has been exhibited widely in the US and Europe, and his writing on the intersection of data and society has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, *Vice*, and elsewhere. Marcdacosta.com

Stephanie Dinkins is a visionary artist and educator whose career spans over twenty years of artistic inquiry. Her pioneering work in artificial intelligence centers on equity, transparency, and social engagement through an ethics of participation, dialogue, and care. In 2023, Dinkins was named one of the 100 most influential people in AI by *Time Magazine*, and she won the LG-Guggenheim Award for art at the intersection of technology and society. Dinkins is a professor of art at Stony Brook University, where she founded the Future Histories Studio and holds the Kusama Endowed Professorship in Art.

John Fitzgerald is an artist and co-founder of the experiential studio Sensorium. Recent co-creator credits include "Polymorphic" (Plásmata, Athens '22), "Metamorphic" (Sundance '20 & SIGGRAPH '20), "Zikr: A Sufi Revival" (Sundance '18 & IDFA '18), and objects in mirror AR closer than they appear (Tribeca '18). His work has also been presented at the Panama Biennial, Telluride, Berlinale, Rio de Janeiro Film Festival, and the Simón Patiño Foundation in Bolivia. He holds an honors degree from the Department of Modern Culture and Media Studies from Brown University. He is a former Visiting Artist at the MIT Center for Art Science and Technology, Visiting Scholar at the MIT Center for Advanced Urbanism, Pulitzer Center Grantee, RLab XR Resident, and a founding member of the New Museum's incubator NEW INC. John is currently the Innovation Director at the Onassis ONX.

Matthew Niederhauser is an artist and educator who pushes the limits of emerging AI and XR technologies within a wide range of mediums. He studied anthropology at Columbia University before earning his MFA in Art Practice from SVA. He is a Pulitzer Center Grantee, Visiting Artist at the MIT Center for Art, Science, and Technology (CAST), and a member of NEW INC. At NEW

INC, he co-founded Sensorium, an experiential studio working at the forefront of immersive storytelling. When not focusing on projects that have premiered at the Venice Film Festival, Sundance New Frontier, Tribeca Film Festival, SXSW, and IDFA DocLab, he teaches at NYU Tisch and Tandon. Most recently, Matthew became the Technical Director at Onassis ONX in New York. matthewniederhauser.com

Godfrey Reggio is an American filmmaker and creator of a unique experimental cinematic poetry. He is widely known for his wordless filmography, especially the pre-eminent trilogy of "Koyaanisqatsi: Life Out of Balance" (1982), "Powaqqatsi: Life in Transition" (1988), and "Naqoyqatsi: Life as War" (2002). His work reveals a humanist philosophy about our planet, the encroachment of technology on nature, ancient cultures, and the splendor that disappears as a result. They chronicle the impact of the modernizing world on our physical and psychological environment. Godfrey's work is a clarion call to resistance and a call to hope: "Hope is not something that is in the mind, it is something real—it is to act. In the end, it asks the evocative question: which age is this, the sunset or the dawn? This age is indeed a liminal zone. A threshold to our vivid unknown."

Christiana Kosiari is an Athens-born professional dancer, dance teacher and choreographer. She graduated from the Greek State School of Dance in 2012 and from the Athens University of Economics and Business in 2008. From 2021 to 2022, she participated in the U(R)TOPIAS Academy of Choreography in the context of 2023 ELEVSIS European Capital of Culture, where she presented two works, Bouboulina and Bouboulina's. In the 2022/23 season, she was selected to continue her studies at the Academy for a second year and present Bouboulina as site-specific work in July of 2023. As a choreographer, she premiered RUNWAY at the Onassis Dance Days 2024 at the Onassis Stegi in February 2024. In August 2024, RUNWAY was hosted in a Residency Program by the association Credixa/Anima Fluo in Bologna, Italy. Kosiari presented Chained at the Arc for Dance Festival 15, the Dance Laboratory Rhodes 7, the Patras Art Festival 3 and the Masdanza Dance Festival 28 in the Canary Islands, where she received the second prize from the jury. She has choreographed video versions of Sink and Bouboulina which have been presented at various festivals in Greece and abroad, including the Dance Days Chania, the Athens Video Dance Project, the Patras Art Festival, the Land Art Moving Biennial Video-dance Contest in Portugal, the Emergentia in Switzerland, the Lift-Off Global Network in England, and many others. As a dancer, she participated in MA by Romeo Castellucci and toured Lamenta with the Siamese Dance Co from 2021 to 2023. She has attended many workshops in Greece and abroad and has been teaching dance since 2007.

Viola He is a Shanghai-born, Brooklyn-based interdisciplinary artist, performer and cultural organizer. Their creative practices engage with DIY electronics, programming, dance/movements and various time-based media, exploring pathways towards alternative structures, systems and interfaces. They create immersive experiences, installations and improvisational performances using algorithmic approaches to enhance, alternate and obfuscate audio-visual assets, investigating the contradictions of analog aesthetics and digital tools. Viola often dreams about infiltrating digital spaces with physical bodies as tools for intervention, wielding their love/hate relationship with technology to challenge the rigid infrastructures around them. Viola is an Onassis

ONX member and is currently a Clinical Assistant Professor of Interactive Media Arts (IMA) at NYU Shanghai. Viola holds a B.A. in Communication from University of Southern California, and a M.P.S. from NYU's Interactive Telecommunication Program.

ABOUT ONASSIS ONX

Onassis ONX is an initiative by Onassis Culture dedicated to the development of new media art and immersive experiences. It empowers creators to craft digital worlds of exceptional artistic quality, utilizing cutting-edge technologies while ensuring financial sustainability. Onassis ONX offers capacity-building activities, incubation and acceleration services, seed funding, and opportunities for artists across various media and genres. As a field-building platform in the global new media art landscape, Onassis ONX collaborates with industry leaders, institutions, and international networks to foster the growth of XR/VR, AI, Spatial Computing, and Digital Art. Learn more at <https://www.onx.studio/>.

ABOUT BAM

A world-class home for adventurous artists, audiences, and ideas, BAM (Brooklyn Academy of Music) is North America's oldest performing arts center, showcasing the work of emerging artists and modern icons. It is led by President, Gina Duncan.

For more than 160 years, BAM has been a thriving, urban multi-arts complex renowned for presenting an unparalleled roster of visionary and cutting-edge dance, theater, music, opera, visual arts, literature, and film engagements. Attracting more than 750,000 people annually to its home in Brooklyn, BAM provides a welcoming cultural stage and meeting place for global and local communities of all backgrounds. BAM's distinctive multi-theater campus is alive year-round with inspired new engagements and signature programs alike including the renowned Next Wave (one of the world's most influential festivals of contemporary performing arts, founded in 1983), the iconic DanceAfrica, an acclaimed repertory film program, and literary, archival, educational and humanities programs. For more information visit BAM.org.

ABOUT UNDER THE RADAR

Under the Radar is the United States' premier festival of experimental theater and performance art. Produced by ArkType with Festival Director Mark Russell, UTR has been reimaged in its 20th season as a city-wide celebration that incisively speaks to our moment. Under the Radar's is curated collaboratively with an array of renowned arts organizations, harnessing the connective nature of the festival format to introduce some of the world's most innovative voices to wider audiences.

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