



What if?



info@thetheorists

www.thetheorists.org

[#thetheorists](https://twitter.com/thetheorists)

About

Our Vision

The Theorists are a nexus for international multi-disciplinary artists to reach across borders, experiment with impossible tasks, and practice the ethos of optimism daily.

Origin Story

Our name comes from our eldest Theorist, William Twain Morrow (age 94) for his insatiable desire to ask, "what if?"

Our Practices

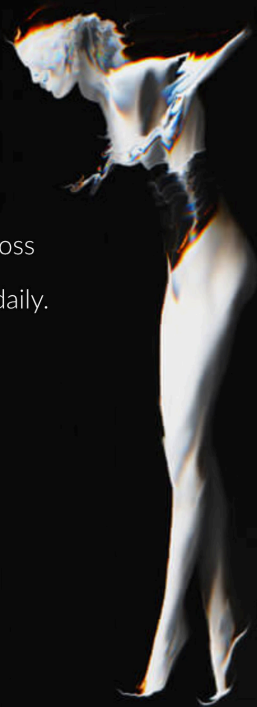
Our year-round TBX [Toolbox] Laboratory is a training program that includes weekly classes, workshops, choreographic residencies, and professional development.

Beginning with ourselves, we are agents of change. It is our goal to equip movers with efficient tools under the mentorship of specialized teachers and amplify their creative voice in discourse with the community. We can not evolve alone. We experiment with Fighting Monkey™, Classical Ballet, Gaga, Countertechnique®, Gyrokinesis®, and Feldenkrais® as part of our continuously growing Toolbox.

Our Performances

Based in Austin, Theorist collaborators hail from Guatemala, México, Brazil, Columbia, South Korea, across the US, and deep in the heart of Texas. Their research and performances have been shared in NYC, India, Monterrey, México City, Puebla, Phoenix, Guadalajara, DFW, Detroit, Tulsa, Albuquerque, Birmingham, Huntsville, Richmond, and Houston.

The annual Theorist Fest features 85+ multi-disciplinary artists from across the States, México, India, and the Middle East in Austin at the Mexican American Cultural Center. Photo © Jason Akira Somma



CHOREOGRAPHY

Repertoire 2013- Present

www.thetheorists.org/film

!Pa'lante!

10 min (Solo & Dance Film)

The Quitter/El Cobarde

18 min (Ensemble) 5 min (dance film)

Anthem/Himno

12 min (Trio) and 45 min (Duet)

Celebration of 94 Years

50 min (Duet)

String Theory

11 min (Duet), 16 min (trio) and 45 min installation (quartet)

Everything but the Kitchen Sink

45 min installation (Solo)

Conversation While Dancing

11 min (Solo) and 50 min (Solo)

American Beauties

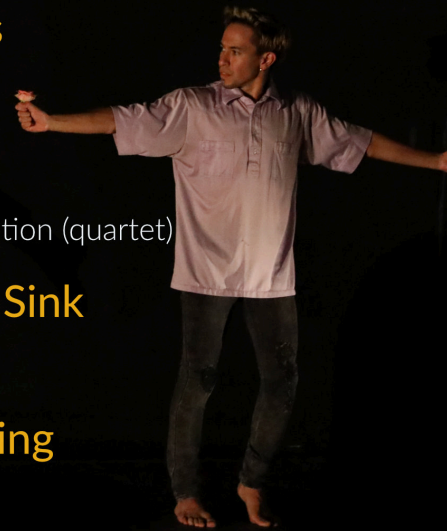
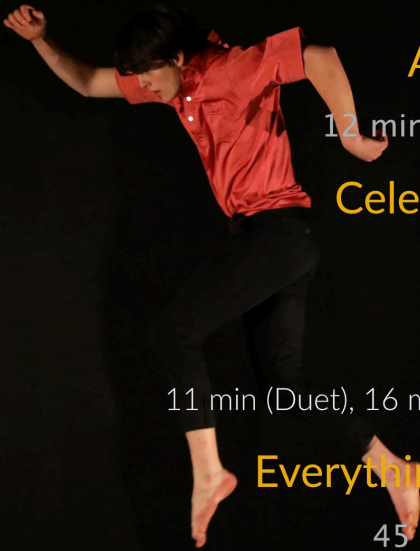
20 min (Trio)

The Lady of

9 min (Solo)

Hiraeth

23 min (Ensemble)





Gaga is a movement language which Ohad Naharin developed over the course of many years and which is applied in daily practice and exercises by the Batsheva Dance Company members. The language of Gaga originated from the belief in the healing, dynamic, ever-changing power of movement. Gaga is a new way of gaining knowledge and self-awareness through your body. Gaga provides a framework for discovering and strengthening your body and adding flexibility, stamina, and agility while lightening the senses and imagination.

Gaga raises awareness of physical weaknesses, awakens numb areas, exposes physical fixations, and offers ways for their elimination. The work improves instinctive movement and connects conscious and unconscious movement, and it allows for an experience of freedom and pleasure in a simple way, in a pleasant space, in comfortable clothes, accompanied by music, each person with himself and others.



Class Descriptions

Choreography Toolbox

Following a Gaga warm-up, participants use Gaga tools inside composition. Gaga is a key to unlock the body and mind and develops artistic voices inside the language. Toolbox is a special session to experiment with endless possibilities using tools not rules. It also hones skills to craft work with a wide range of dynamic, texture, integrating layers of practice from other practices that deconstruct choreographic grids and re-choreograph our bodies. We continuously push our limits, listen to the body, and ask "How is our dance relevant as artist citizens?"

Technique Classes

Classical Ballet, Pointe, Modern, and Survey of Indian dance forms

Theorist Practicum

The Theorist Practicum and mentorship program serves the 21st century citizen/artist in professional development for their daily performance practice. Each artist co-creates a residency timeline in conversation with The Theorists to serve their professional development over the course of 1 year. In addition to one-on-one feedback and a choreographic practice residency, they have access to TBX workshops in Austin and sister programs in México and Canada.



Press

25th Austin Critic's Table Award

Best Dancer

Detroit Dance City Festival

Recipient of the 2016 Artist Exchange Award for Dumbo Dance Festival and DDCF Gala 2017

Dallas Morning News by Manuel Mendoza

"Amy Morrow whose brilliant piece Hiraeth was the linchpin of the inaugural show."

16 Standouts of the Fall Season by Nancy Wozny

"When the lights came up on Austin-based dancer Amy Morrow's wiggling upside down legs, I knew immediately that this was one dancer to watch. She moves with a sassy mix of precision and abandon, something we rarely see on contemporary dance stages. The piece had something to do with her grandmother, it could have been about her car, and I would have still loved it. I am looking forward to seeing more of Morrow in motion."

Dallas Morning News by Manuel Mendoza

"The only avant-garde piece on the bill, elicited the sense that anything could happen at any time."

Theater Jones by Margaret Putnam

Made the biggest splash...long silver strings stretching halfway the length of the stage—turned out to work magic...Their bodies are sometimes as taut as the strings. How far you can stretch strings and what kind of sound comes forth seem to symbolize how far you can stretch relationships and time. Seldom do we see a work so fascinating.

Star Telegram by Mark Lowry

"Whimsical, moving, humorous bit."

The Austin American-Statesman

by Jeanne Claire van Ryzin

"finds inspiration in myriad things that at first may seem to have little to do with modern dance, such as physics and science... Playfully and elegantly, the dancers never letting go of the string, the dance seems to ask just how far can you stretch the relationship between two bodies physically and metaphysically."

Dallas Morning News by Manuel Mendoza

"Most emotional work, making clever use of the title prop."

Arts Bham by Rachel Hellwig

"On a whole, it was the best program I've seen them perform...a dramatic palette that creates the most evocative onstage worlds in."

The Dance Dish by Lydia Hance

"With an autobiographical breath of fresh air, Amy Diane Morrow danced her self-created solo The Lady of...She continued to sparkle with feminine peculiarity, her dance moving from distal twisting to slapping her skin. We heard her voice telling stories of her grandmother, whose plaid watermelon dress she wore. Sassiness runs in the family, and the dress delivered another layer of Morrow's grandmother, the kind of lady who would dance to "The Girl from Ipanema." It was her authenticity that held me; real people and real stories are captivating."

Star Telegram by Mark Lowry

"Most modern and interesting work of the festival."

Theater Jones by Margaret Putnam

"fun—and the brilliance...a delightful mess

The Dallas Morning News by Manuel Mendoza

"spine-tingling finalé..."

*more on www.thetheorists.org/press



Teaching Artists



Fighting Monkey



Hofesh Schecter Rep



I being a pig I Deborah Hay



I gaga I Omri Drumlevich



I repertoire I Black Grace Dance



I Counter I V with Joy Davis



I tech I Jason Akira Somma



Abraham In Motion



I toolbox I Nicolas Ventura



I counter IV I Kira Blazek



Addo Platform



I dance film I Our Wild



Ido Tadmor



I music & improv I Idan Sharabi



I contemporary II I Manuel Vignoulle



Abby Zbilowski



I hip hop I The Seldoms



I Gaga & Gender I Keren Rosenberg



I contemporary I I Manuel Vignoulle



I counter II I Kira Blazek



I gaga I Berit Ahlgren



I gaga I Olivia Ancona



I choreo I Allyson Hooks



I gaga I Omri Drumlevich



I repertoire I Black Grace Dance



I counter III I Kira Blazek



I counter II I Kira Blazek



I activist I Jesse Zaritt



I toolbox I Nicolas Ventura



I counter IV I Kira Blazek





THEORIST FESTIVAL

MUSIC • DANCE • VR • ART
Oct 24-27 • theoristfest.com



This project is supported in part by the Cultural Arts Division of the City of Austin Economic Development Department

