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**ARE YOU AN ARTIST?** The Tank is committed to supporting the work of as many artists as we possibly can. We operate with open submissions, so you can email us and do a show. For info on how to submit a proposal, please visit [www.thetanknyc.org/get-involved](http://www.thetanknyc.org/get-involved).

**THANKS TO OUR INDIVIDUAL DONORS** With your support, we can continue facilitating emerging artists and new ideas for a good long time. By making a donation of any amount, you'll help us help artists. To contribute visit [thetanknyc.org/donate](http://thetanknyc.org/donate).

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#### 2018 TANK INSTITUTIONAL FUNDERS

This program is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.

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The Tank is supported by a generous grant from the NYS Regional Economic Development Council.

A.R.T./New York Creative Space Grant -supported by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation



PRESENTS



# FEMPIRE

*A work in progress*

**SMASHWORKS DANCE CO.**

In collaboration w/Justin Cimino & Hope Salas

**August 21 & 23, 2019**

**7:00 PM**

## FEMPIRE [A work in progress]

Experience a utopian world run by unharnessed and uninhibited women as we present FEMPIRE, a work-in-progress evening length performance of episodic dance & clowning. FEMPIRE introduces various women characters of strength and uncensored expressions of truth, playfully pushing against gender normative stereotypes through feminist “camp.” FEMPIRE fuses dance performance with prop-driven physical theatre to present a culmination of our current feminist fight — loud, uncensored, and unafraid.

## PERFORMERS

**Smashworks Dance Company:** Paris Cullen, Manon Hallay, Madeleine Meyer, Ashley McQueen, Louisa Pancoast, Sarah Starkweather

**Guest Artists:** Hope Salas, Justin Cimino

## CREATIVE TEAM

**Artistic Direction:** Justin Cimino, Ashley McQueen, Hope Salas

**Choreography and Concept by:** Ashley McQueen, in collaboration with dancers

**Clown Pieces and Character of “Dot” conceived and devised by:** Hope Salas and Justin Cimino, with direction by Justin Cimino

**Lighting Design & Stage Manager:** Bryan Russell

**Music:** James Brown, Zap Mama, Ben Fehr & Liam Cutler, Dean Martin, ONUKA, Deep Watch, Voigt & Voigt, Dolly Parton, The Carpenters, Van McCoy, Renee Dominique, Trent Reznor and Atticus Ross, “The Dating Game Theme”

## DONORS & THANK YOUS

**This production was made possible by the generosity of our community:** The Tank NYC, Anthony Dean, Katie Walenta, Kurt Gosselin, Hope Salas, Justin Cimino, Bryan Russell, St. John's Episcopal Church, Scotia Daugherty, and Sarah McQueen

### ABOUT SMASHWORKS DANCE | [smashworksdance.com](http://smashworksdance.com)

Founded by Ashley McQueen, Smashworks Dance is a New York-based group of movers advocating for women's rights through arts activism and site-specific work. Smashworks Dance was named a Village Voice “Voice Choices” for their evening length performance of *City Stories* at Center for Performance Research, and their evening length political satire *For Which It Stands* was featured in Time Out New York, Brooklyn's “Top 20 Cheap Things To Do,” and the Dance Enthusiast. Smashworks Dance launched an advocacy initiative in 2018, and is currently partnering with Girl Scouts of Greater New York to teach dance workshops that focus on building confidence in young girls through dance. **Hope Salas Productions & Smashworks Dance** join forces as they embark on the Hotel New Work Artist in Residency Award, presented by TheaterLab NYC. They will collaborate with Justin Cimino to showcase their initial work-in-progress on 9/1/19 at TheaterLab.

**Justin Cimino** | BFA, NYU Tisch. Actor, teaching artist, directs and teaches Clowning at NYU, Columbia, The Studio/NY, The Public Theater, Terry Knickerbocker Studio. Education Director of Zara Aina. Artistic Director of Pigeonholed.

**Paris Cullen** | A San Diego native and UCSB graduate raised in Singapore, Paris Michelle Cullen is a NYC multidisciplinary artist. She is creating performance art, working in conductive education, interning with Movement Research, and dancing with URBAN | TRIBE.

**Manon Hallay** | Born in France, Manon moved to New York six years ago after receiving a scholarship to the Alvin Ailey School. She currently works as a teaching artist and performs with companies such as ASDT, IDCTH, and Smashworks.

**Madeleine Meyer** | After graduating from SUNY Purchase College in 2018, Madeleine has had the opportunity to freelance professionally and perform with NYC based companies DM Dance, LaneCoArts, Patmon Dance Project, and SteeleDance, among others. She is so excited to be performing with Smashworks!

**Ashley McQueen** | Founder Smashworks Dance; Freelance Performer, Choreographer, Educator. BFA Dance, Webster University & MFA Dance, Hollins University. Company Dancer & Teaching Artist w/ Amanda Selwyn Dance Theatre.

**Louisa Pancoast** | A graduate of the certificate program at Peridance and has been performing in New York City since 2012. Past choreographers include Diego Funes, Yvonne Rainer, Pat Catterson, Pramilla Vasudevan, and Michelle Thompson-Ulerich.

**Hope Salas** | NYC based actress, writer, producer, & educator. MFA, Acting, Columbia University; MS. Ed, Museum Education Early Childhood Education, Bank Street Graduate School of Education; [www.HopeSalas.com](http://www.HopeSalas.com) & [www.BitchesthatBake.com](http://www.BitchesthatBake.com)

**Sarah Starkweather** | A dancer and fitness professional living in New York City. BA in Psychology from The University of Texas at San Antonio. She has been a certified fitness trainer since 2014 and currently teaches group fitness classes for Equinox.