

ABRONS
ARTS HENRY STREET
SETTLEMENT
CENTER

SEPT 7, 2019

WE ARE HERE FESTIVAL
The Kinship Spaceship

WE ARE HERE FESTIVAL **THE SPACESHIP KINSHIP**

JUNTA

PRIESTUSSSY

*STEFA

KINO BENALLY

TURQUOIZ NOIZ

ASCXNSION

CHHOTTI MAA

KELSEY PYRO

ARU APAZA, CURATOR

Join us for a night of intergalactic travel in the key of Space NDN. Sound artists will take us into deep space with astral sounds. The Kinship Spaceship will include a wide range of genres from punk and noise to hip hop.

Featuring performances by **JUNTA**, **PrieSTusSSY**, ***Stefa**, **Kino Benally**, **Turqiouz Noiz**, **ASCXNSION**, **Chhoti maa** and **Kelsey Pyro**. DJ set by **reddaughter**.

Casa Finca will be offering Botanical Elixirs and bites to nourish the body mind and soul complex. Casa Finca's mission is to bring higher states of consciousness by creating unique recipes that will enhance your experience. We strive for growing our own herbs, working with local herbal farms and supporting indigenous communities in Central and South America to help enhance their economic growth. Instagram: @casafincanyc

ABOUT **The Spaceship Kinship**

JUNTA is an anti-colonial hardcore band attempting to heal and empower the collapse of the pilgrim state that has enforced destruxtion, unamable genocide and misery onto the world.

PrieSTusSSY is a musical project by artist and curanderx Catherine Feliz. Sound is an intuitive medium for this liminal femme to receive and transmute tonics for healing their ancestral African (nations unknown cause colonialism), Taino, and Spanish lineages. Their debut experimental album -- *cantos de òjé* -- was created using analog synthesizers and digital editing during bedroom sessions. PrieSTusSSY is inspired by industrial noise and j̄baro songs alike. *cantos de òjé* keeps Taino and Yoruba creation stories alive with visceral visions of caves, wombs, vultures, and dark matter. They have been loving and raging in Lenape territory (NYC) since 1992.

***Stefa** is an artist, vocalist and performer from Queens, NY. Taking inspiration from her classical music background and the desire to decolonize her eurocentric training, her work honors her ancestrxs, allowing her to question her own existence and navigate her multidimensional identity. Using harmonies, looping, improvisation and experimental visuals she creates sonic worlds where her and her audience can live together for a brief moment. Her solo work has led her to perform at National Sawdust (Sepalina EP Release), Brooklyn Museum (Radical Women Latin American Art: 1964-1986, Cuerpxs Radicales), Museo del Barrio, Nublu, Rough Trade and more. As part of TrueQue Residencia Artistica (Ayampe, Ecuador 2017), she facilitated her first voice workshop, "Cantos Primitivos//Primitive Songs," after 20 years of studying voice. Her debut EP Sepalina was released via Figure & Ground Records.

Kino Benally is an indigenous DJ, Producer and Multi-Instrumentalist. He was born and raised on Dinétah (Shiprock, NM). He has scored films, worked on performances with the dance company Dancing Earth, and has worked with a variety of musicians. He is committed to pushing forward indigenous music and art. Music for the people from the people.

Turquouiz Noiz is a bi-coastal project that currently throws down on the West and East coast. The band started roughly around late 2010 from a SF Bay Area collective called SweatLodge. We all lived together in the same house in West Oakland and it was free form and experimental at it's best. It was all genders, ages, and races. Theory was it had to have the elements of no judgement, no expectations, and have chaotic fun;

ABOUT ***The Spaceship Kinship***

spreading a message of resistance, compassion, love and empathy. To keep pushing the boundaries of art and to let folks know we're still here. Turquoiz Noiz consists of Rachel Zissette, Brendan Casey, and Rocky Yazzie. Rocky is from the Navajo reservation and born in Shiprock New Mexico.

ASCXNSION (ascension) is a Chinook and Polynesian hip-hop artist and vocalist born and raised in Portland, Oregon. For ASCXNSION, music is a method of self-expression, healing, and social awareness. Glowing in her multifaceted femininity and ancestral power, she relays stories every young person can relate to with bars and soul. By conjuring a mix of ambient and trap-soul hip hop vibes, ASCXNSION is already making her mark on stages across the country. ASCXNSION is currently based in Philadelphia, PA, pursuing a BS in Music Industry.

Chhoti Maa was born in Guanajuato, Mexico and is currently based in Oakland, California. Chhoti Maa is a multidisciplinary cultural producer. She has self-released 2 studio albums & 4 eps in her 12 years as a MC, singer & producer. Their music is rooted in hip hop, neofolk and Mexican oral tradition, specifically her Grandma's storytelling magic. As part of the post-NAFTA diaspora, Chhoti Maa was formed by her migrant experience. Since 2007, Chhoti has performed, collaborated and taught in Puerto Rico, China, U.S., Cuba, Spain, Qatar, U.A.E., Ghana, Sweden, Canada, Peru, Mexico and multiple Indigenous nations.

Kelsey Pyro is a St. Paul & Minneapolis grown/Brooklyn based producer, singer/songwriter, poet and educator. Her work often encompasses healing processes and her identity as a Black and Ojibwe Native American Woman. Kelsey has performed at venues such as SoundSet and TEDx AIU. She has shared bills with Wale, MC Lyte, Trak Girl, & more. She is the 2018 & 2019 Brooklyn Arts Council Community Arts Grant for co-producing the Blue Nile Jam Session in Crown Heights Brooklyn. Kelsey recently culminated The Open Call Artist Residence program with The Shed, where she is developed and premiered her new work, Makadewiiaasikwe, at The Shed in June 2019. She is currently in the process of releasing her 4th musical EP.

ABOUT **WE ARE HERE FESTIVAL**

WE ARE HERE is three-day arts festival exploring Indigenous past, present and future, curated by Abrons Arts Center 2019 AIRspace Curatorial Resident Aru Apaza. The festival will include work by Indigenous visual artists, filmmakers and musicians who utilize their own technologies, ancestral knowledge, and survival tactics to reflect on what it means to live a “balanced” life during the “unbalanced” times of late stage capitalism.

WE ARE HERE FESTIVAL FUNDING

WE ARE HERE is made possible by the New York Women’s Foundation, American Indian Community House, Abrons Arts Center and the Institute for Curatorial Practice in Performance Leadership Fellowship.

The 2019-2020 Season at Abrons Arts Center is supported, in part, by generous grants from the Howard Gilman Foundation, the Mertz Gilmore Foundation, the Harkness Foundation for Dance, the Jerome Foundation, the Scherman Foundation, and other generous Henry Street Settlement funders. This program is also supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs and support from the New York State Council on the arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

ABOUT ABRONS

Abrons Arts Center is a home for contemporary interdisciplinary arts in Manhattan's Lower East Side neighborhood. A core program of the Henry Street Settlement, Abrons believes that access to the arts is essential to a free and healthy society. Through performance presentations, exhibitions, education programs and residencies, Abrons mobilizes communities with the transformative power of art.

Abrons Arts Center values freedom of expression and creativity, ever striving to provide creative communities with a space that celebrates diversity of thought and experience. Abrons aims to be an anti-oppressive home to people from all backgrounds and does not discriminate on the basis of race, national or ethnic origin, citizen status, ancestry, age, religion, disability, sex or gender identity. As definitions of expression and inclusion evolve, Abrons is committed to continually revising this statement in collaboration with our communities.

Indigenous Land Acknowledgment

Abrons Arts Center is situated on the Lenape island of Manhahtaan (Mannahatta). We pay respect to Lenape peoples and ancestors past, present, and future, and acknowledge our reliance on the land and waters of Lenapehoking, the Lenape homeland. We offer our care and gratitude to Lenapehoking, and are committed to resisting colonialism through the support of Indigenous-led programming and Indigenous artistic practices.

You are welcome here.

Support neighborhood businesses! As a thank you for supporting our programming, we're offering discounts to some of our favorite Lower East Side hangouts. For more information, click on abronsartscenter.org/plan-your-trip/dining-and-attractions. And get a discount when you bring this program!



Abrons Arts Center at Henry Street Settlement

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