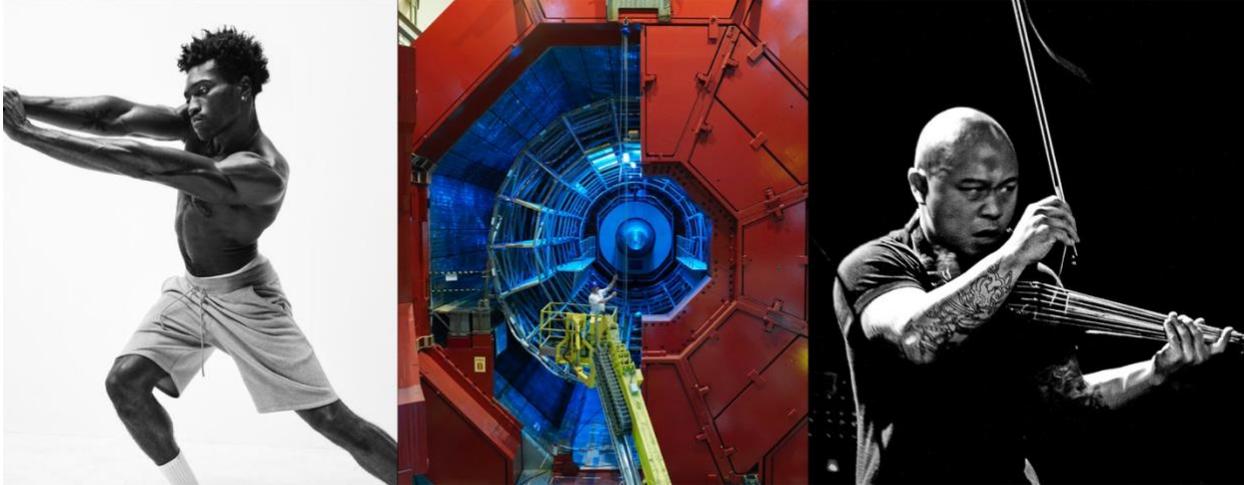


CRISTIN TIERNEY



Performance: Janet Biggs Live with CERN-IARI

April 8, 7:00 pm EDT

RSVP to Candace Moeller at candace@crisintierney.com

Arts at CERN-IARI Collaboration presents first performance April 8 with Cristin Tierney Gallery artist Janet Biggs

New York/livestream—On April 8, 2021, at 7pm Eastern Time, the Cristin Tierney Gallery will present the first livestream performance emerging from a collaboration between Arts at CERN, the official arts program of the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) and the Integrated Arts Research Initiative (IARI) at the Spencer Museum of Art at the University of Kansas (KU). The experimental performance will include a live dancer, Vinson Fraley, and musician, Earl Manein, layered with video footage from CERN that has been manipulated by mathematical techniques used in quantum mechanics.

This transdisciplinary project was initiated by questions from active experiments in high-energy particle and nuclear physics at CERN. CERN's Large Hadron Collider was designed to document the collision of protons (and other particles), but when attempting to observe the initial state of the protons or ions prior to collision, physics-inspired mathematical methods are leveraged in the absence of documentary evidence. The CERN-IARI Collaboration uses novel scientific approaches to engage video and performance as media particularly suited to explore such time-based inquiries. Can mathematics and physics equations translate into dance movements? Can notations drawn on a whiteboard become choreography? Can a violinist read collisions occurring in the Hadron Collider as a musical score? Using prompts like “extreme fluctuation” and “entanglements,” a dancer and musician become quantum waves inside a performative experiment. The broader question is whether video installation and performance can inform other disciplines and whether methods from physics and mathematics can provide new techniques for artistic production.

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The Arts at CERN-IARI Collaboration includes New York-based artist Janet Biggs (represented by the Cristin Tierney Gallery), Agnieszka Miedlar (KU professor of mathematics), Daniel Tapia Takaki (high-energy nuclear physicist and KU professor of physics), Joey Orr (curator for research at KU's Spencer Museum of Art), and IARI research fellows Clint Hurshman (KU graduate student, philosophy of science) and Olivia Johnson (KU undergraduate student, math and dance). To date, the working group has presented initial findings through a live Ground Works review, a platform for arts-inclusive research processes supported by the Alliance for the Arts in Research Universities (a2ru). They have also submitted their major project goals as a Letter of Interest to Snowmass, the High Energy Physics Community Planning Exercise organized by the American Physical Society that aims to define the most important questions of particle, astroparticle and nuclear physics and identify promising opportunities to address them.

The Integrated Arts Research Initiative (IARI) is funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation at the Spencer Museum of Art at the University of Kansas. The Spencer Museum is embedded in a research-1 university and is an active participant in research across departments. IARI explores artistic research inquiries that promote close collaborations among contemporary artists and researchers in other fields across the sciences and humanities. The CERN-IARI Collaboration will be a part of IARI's fifth annual inquiry, a series of activities that brings together artists with KU faculty members. It will be the first inquiry in which the creative and faculty fellows have collaborated directly on a single project.

Arts at CERN, the arts program of the world's largest laboratory for particle physics, was created to explore the notions of creativity, human ingenuity and curiosity.

The Cristin Tierney Gallery is a contemporary art gallery committed to the development and support of both established and emerging artists. The international exhibition program emphasizes critical theory and art history, with an attendant interest in under-recognized artists and art movements of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.

For more information contact Candace Moeller at candace@crisintierney.com.