

MAKISIG AKIN & ANYA CLOUD

THE LOVE MAKERS COMPANY



POST- FAILURE POTENTIALS

WHAT IF FAILURE IS NOT THE END, BUT THE BEGINNING?

BIOGRAPHY

The Love Makers Company is an experimental dance company co-founded and co-directed by Makisig Akin (they/them) and Anya Cloud (she/they). Based between Berlin and Colorado, the project-based company was established in 2023 out of their love for each other and their deep belief in what they can do together that they cannot do alone. The Love Makers Company is rooted in queer experimentalism, the politics of the body, intersectional identity, indebtedness to ancestors and descendants, love, inventing new strategies for being intimately together, and cultivating radical aliveness. Their choreographic work has been produced internationally including DOCK 11 Theatre, Sophiensaele, Tanzfabrik Berlin Bühne, Wainsgate Dances, Velocity Dance, What You See Festival, Movement Research at the Judson, OUTsider Fest, Lafayette Anticipations, ImPulstanz, and more. In 2026, they received a NEFA National Dance Project Grant for the creation and touring of their new work, Post-Failure Potentials, which will premiere in 2027. Their recent work We Are (nothing) Everything is currently touring internationally.



MAKISIG AKIN

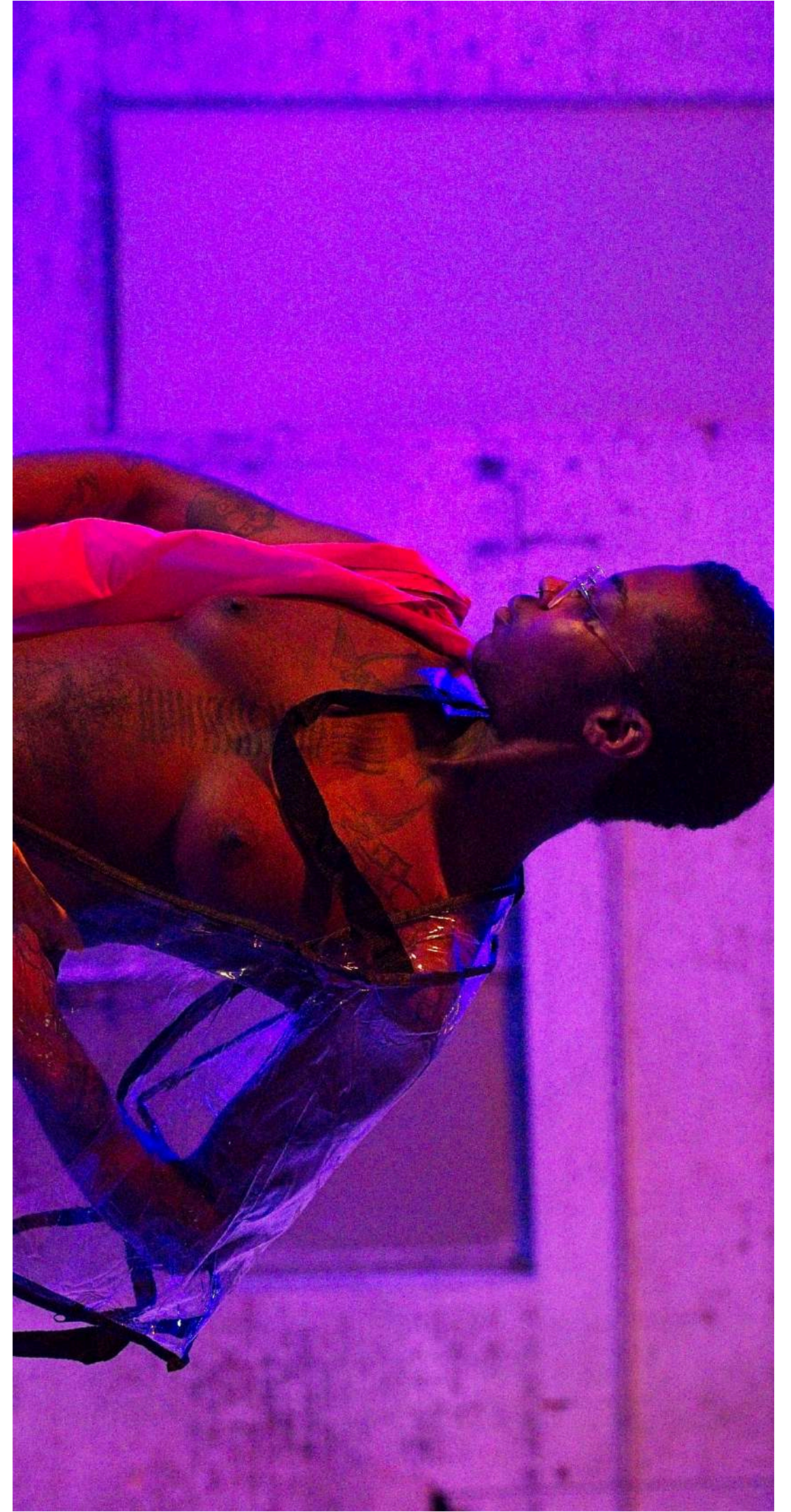


ANYA CLOUD

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Post-Failure Potentials (PFP) queers and disrupts the binary relationship between failure vs. success, collaboration vs. competition, and performer vs. audience through experimental dance. Co-directed by Makisig Akin and Anya Cloud, PFP is a 70-minute choreography that is a mobile structure for 4-5 diverse intergenerational performers, emboldened by extensive community engagement. Utilizing dance and martial arts practices, the work straddles the in-between spaces of performance, competition, fight, and celebration. What if failure is not the end, but the beginning? How can the queerness of dance and our dancing bodies save us in the wake of our own and collective failure? What if embodied queerness can be an ally for racial justice work? PFP invites high-stakes and invested interface between performers and audience to cultivate a transformative and sustainable community.

PFP is supported by the national dance project & university of colorado boulder. Fiscal sponsorship by velocity dance.



QUEER LOVE-CENTERED DANCE

Dock 11 Theatre, Berlin



Photo by Diethild Meier

PROJECT NARRATIVE

In response to epic cultural, social, and political failures of our times, this experimental dance work is an urgent community call to action, survival practice, balm, and queer love anthem to the future.

PFP is supported by the National Dance Project Production Grant. Connecting through multiple-modes including research residencies, workshops, artist talks, celebrations, and performances will bring meaningful impact on diverse communities. PFP offers multiple points of entry to diverse audiences—from those who are new to dance to those who are experimental dance enthusiasts.

The Work is a space to put our life's work to the test. The dancers are already in action as the audience enters the space—sweating as they navigate a complex series of high velocity throws, collisions, falls, and disorientations, as if battling unseen opponents. The audience become active spectators around the edges of the space to conjure the familiar, but queered, feeling of an olympic event or a boxing match. The rules of the choreographic world are slowly revealed to the audience as the performers navigate failure and collectively construct what is possible from there: queering and disrupting the binary between failure vs. success, collaboration vs. competition, and performer vs. audience. It becomes A queer shipwreck to take us into an other kind of life. The theatre becomes an unrecognizable and generative space of queer futurity. The choreography is never exactly what it seems as the parameters keep dissolving and re-constructing.

Failure, as a shared human experience, becomes the framework through which everything else becomes possible.

THE LOVE MAKERS COMPANY





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

We offer dance improvisation and martial arts based movement workshops for non-dancers, dance lovers, students, and professional dancers within intergenerational community. The workshop is another way for audience to experience our artistic work and research through movement and being together dancing, feeling, learning and taking risks together.

This performance & workshop combination has worked in the past as a part of a festival like What You See Festival, Outsider Fest, to name a few.



ARTIST TALKS

An artist talk will occur after one of the performances for the audience to get the opportunity to be in direct conversation with us and our collaborators. We think of this time as a way to integrate experience together and to softly land back to reality after witnessing our work.

ANTI-CHAMPIONSHIP QUEER RAVE

One Post-performance anti-championship Queer Rave will happen in each tour location as a way to sweat, celebrate, and bond together with the audience and build intersectional connections.

The relationship between choreography, collaboration, teaching, and community engagement is central to PFP and we look forward to interacting with diverse communities across the US and beyond.

AJANI BRANNUM

Ajani (they/them) investigates the choreographies of life in the shadow of empire. Ajani draws heavily on the knowledges they inherit as a Black queer maker with southern roots, honoring and extending the ancestral wisdoms that animate their craft. By turns contemplative and irreverent, their work invites audiences to rehearse vital forms of sensing and relation. Born in Anchorage, Alaska, they are based in Los Angeles and hold a PhD in Culture and Performance from UCLA.

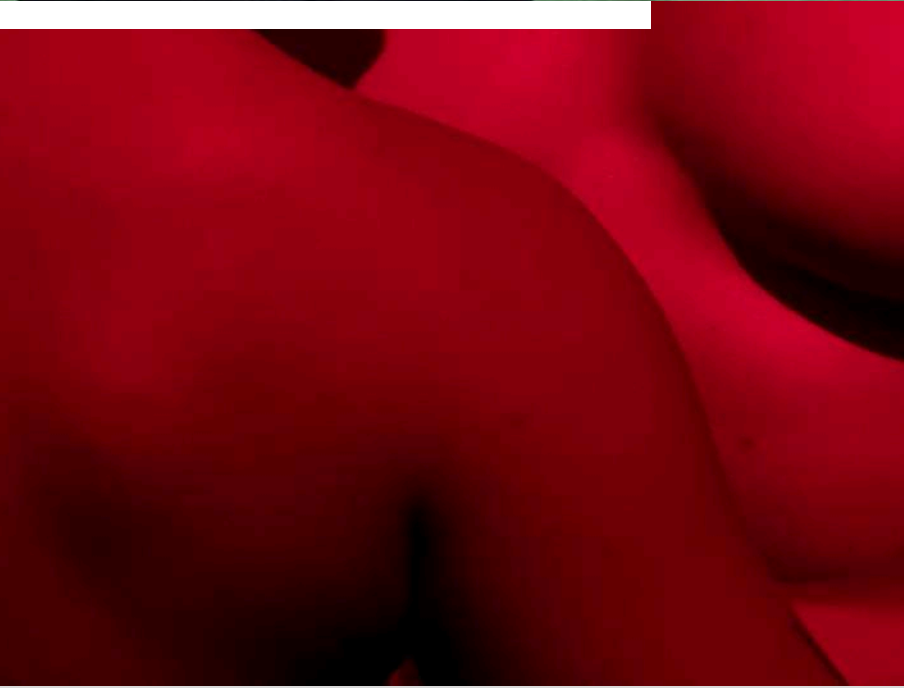
ERIC GEIGER

Eric (he/him) dances and makes dances in an attempt to make sense of the world around him. Eric studied at the Alvin Ailey School, was a member of the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company, a member of The Lyon Opera Ballet, was dance faculty at UCSD for 14 years, and is a Feldenkrais Practitioner. His work demands responsible citizenship by making a space for Otherness (that which is alien or divergent from a certain kind of normativity). Queerness guides him.

STEVIE GUNTER

stevie (all/none) is an afropresentist, musician/dj, and archivist currently based in Berlin. stevie has a bachelor's degree in Sociology, a master's degree in Library Science, and for more than a decade, been self/community taught across the mediums of sound and skin. Stevie makes music with/for dance in Europe and the U.S.

COLLABORATORS







TECHNICAL AND PRACTICAL DETAILS

PRODUCTION

- Performance Duration: 70 minutes
- Space Requirements: Proscenium or Black Box or alternative space (not a concrete floor)
- Set/Props Details: Props are provided by Artists

COSTS

- Single Performance + Community Engagement Package: **\$11,000**
(plus travel, accommodations and per diem), for five (5) nights and four (4) days.
- Accommodations entail: Four (4) rooms
- Traveling Company: Five (5) Collaborators

TIMELINE				
SPRING/SUMMER 2026	Creation Residency Residency Residency	Stomping Ground CU Boulder ImPulsTanz	March 6-18, Los Angeles, CA April 10-20, Boulder, CO July 20-24, Vienna, Austria	Committed Committed Committed
FALL 2026	Creation Residency Creation Residency Work In-Progress Showing	Stomping Ground Available Pieter Performance	May 3-8, Los Angeles, CA Dec 1-18, Los Angeles Los Angeles, CA	Committed Seeking Partner Committed
WINTER 2027	Performance/Showing Community Engagement Pre-premiere Performance	APAP NYC TBD OUTsider Fest	Jan 9-13, NYC Jan 13-20, NYC Feb, Austin, TX	Seeking Partner Seeking Partner Committed
SPRING 2027	Residency Premiere Community Engagement	CU Boulder ROT Festival Available	March 20-27, Boulder, CO May, San Francisco, CA May, San Francisco, CA	Committed Committed Seeking Partner
SUMMER/FALL 2027	Touring Touring Community Engagement Touring Touring	CU Presents Velocity Dance Available - July 2027 Available WestSide Theatre	Sept, Boulder, CO July, Seattle, WA July, Seattle, WA July, Portland, OR Summer, Missoula, MT	Committed Committed Seeking Partner Seeking Partner Committed
2028	Touring Touring Touring	Dock 11 Theatre La Fayette Anticipation Pier One Theatre	Jan, Berlin, DE Feb, Paris, FR Summer, Homer, AK	Committed In-Discussion TBD

WWW.THELOVEMAKERSCOMPANY.COM

@anya.cloud @makisigakin

CONTACT US

contact@thelovemakerscompany.com

anyacloud@thelovemakerscompany.com
makisigakin@thelovemakerscompany.com