



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**PERFORMER REGGIE WATTS, CHOREOGRAPHER BILL T. JONES, AND
PLAYWRIGHT LISA D'AMOUR AMONG 2008 MAP FUND GRANTEES**

More than \$1 million in grants and services is committed to performing arts projects nationwide

[Go to the 2008 Grantee Pages](#)

NEW YORK, NY (July 15, 2008) - The Multi-Arts Production Fund, a program of Creative Capital supported by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation, announces the recipients of its 2008 grants for new work in live performance. Thirty-eight projects, engaging more than 70 individual composers, choreographers, designers, solo performers, and playwrights will receive awards ranging from \$10,000 to \$40,000.

The projects, which were selected from over 600 proposals by panels of arts professionals, represent a wide breadth of aesthetic approaches and cover a dizzying array of topics. To name a few, Tony-award winning choreographer Bill T. Jones will grapple with the iconic image of Abraham Lincoln and its relevance to contemporary race dynamics in *A Good Man!/A Good Man?*; composer Corey Dargel will create a chamber concert playfully examining psychiatric delusions and concepts of "normalcy" in *Thirteen Near-Death Experiences*; playwright Octavio Solis will write a shadow-puppet play about growing up at the US/Mexican border entitled *Ghosts of the River*, with image design by Latina activist and graphic artist Favianna Rodriguez; and Chicago's Silk Road Theater will commission eight playwrights of presumed Asian or Middle Eastern ancestry to take a DNA test and write a 10-minute play about the results for *The DNA Trail: A Genealogy of Short Plays About! Ancestry, Identity, and Utter Confusion*. What unite these disparate and wildly imaginative artists are their uniform excellence of craft and the vibrant immediacy of their approach to live performance.

In addition to the monetary award, as part of Creative Capital's commitment to helping artists sustain their creative practices over a lifetime, grantees will take part in a professional development weekend retreat, which offers skills-building assistance in fundraising, networking, marketing, and strategic planning.

About the MAP Fund The Multi-Arts Production Fund was created by the Rockefeller Foundation in 1988 to support innovation and cross-cultural exploration in theater, dance and music. Among the longest-lived programs in arts philanthropy, MAP has been administered by Creative Capital since 2001. In 2008, the program became the recipient of a three-year, \$3.3 million support grant from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation.

About Creative Capital Nine years ago, Creative Capital embarked on a mission to reinvent the existing model of arts philanthropy, to construct a new paradigm, and to fulfill the specific needs of the country's most innovative artists. Today, it is the premier national artist support organization, committed to the principle that time and advisory services are as crucial to artistic success as funding.

MAP FUND 2008 GRANTEES

13 Playwrights, Inc.

Brooklyn, NY

Electra 2012

Lead Artist: Julia Jarcho

A fusion of the tragedy by Sophocles with the "2012 Prophecy," a growing pop-culture meme purporting that ancient peoples predicted a kind of apocalypse on December 12, 2012.

Big Tree Productions, Inc.

New York, NY

Currently Untitled

Lead Artists: Tere O'Connor, Brian MacDevitt, James Baker

A new evening-length work employing various concepts of "change."

Builders Association

New York, NY

Continuous City

Lead Artists: Marianne Weems, Harry Sinclair

The story of a traveling father and his young daughter at home whose relationship is transformed by hypermodernity and failing cell phones.

Childsplay

Tempe, AZ

The Paper Project

Lead Artists: Corey Madden, Laural Meade, Keith Mitchell

A theatrical adventure challenging the conceptual boundaries between visual art and theatre.

Clubbed Thumb

New York, NY

Roadkill Confidential

Lead Artist: Sheila Callaghan

A once-famous artist attempts to recapture her public's attention by taking the corpses of unlucky animals from their roadside graves and transforming them into pieces of art.

Cornerstone Theater Company

Los Angeles, CA

The Environmental Justice Project

Lead Artists: Julie Herbert, Juliette Carrillo, Cornerstone Ensemble

A collaboration with communities living along or otherwise connected to the Los Angeles

River who are dealing with urban environmental justice issues.

Cross Performance, Inc.

New York, NY

HOW CAN YOU STAY IN THE HOUSE ALL DAY AND NOT GO ANYWHERE?

Lead Artist: Ralph Lemon

A three-part multimedia performance work drawing from the myths and realities of the Deep South.

Dance Theater Workshop (Fiscal Sponsor)

New York, NY

Music for 100 Carpenters

Lead Artist: Douglas Henderson

A surround-sound music performance that enlists 100 skilled and unskilled trades people, toolbelts, sweat and lunchboxes as part of the score

Dansology, Inc.

New York, NY

Blocks Of Continuity/Movement-Live Cinema (Blocks)

Lead Artist: Koosil-ja Hwang

A new dance and live cinema work that tells three stories simultaneously to simulate our experience of living in the world of digital and flesh.

Detroit Symphony Orchestra

Detroit, MI

Violin Concerto for Regina Carter and the DSO Classical Roots Program

Lead Artist: Billy Childs

A commission for composer Billy Childs to write a violin concerto for classical/jazz soloist and Detroit native Regina Carter.

Foundation for Dance Promotion

New York, NY

A Good Man!/A Good Man?

Lead Artist: Bill T. Jones

A new dance work based on the life of Abraham Lincoln.

Foundation for Independent Artists, Inc.

New York, NY

"lions will roar, swans will fly, angels will wrestle heaven, rains will break: gukurahundi"

Lead Artist: Nora Chipaumire

A new dance work that explores the anatomy of a revolution and the spirit of Zimbabwean resistance and survival.

The Foundry Theater

New York, NY

Bronx Bus Tour Play (working title)

Lead Artists: Melanie Joseph, Claudia Rankine

A theatrical examination of gentrification that takes the form of a bus tour of the Bronx.

Fractured Atlas (Fiscal Sponsor)

New York, NY

Terrible Things

Lead Artists: Lisa D'Amour, Katie Pearl

A performance shaped as a quasi-scientific experiment designed to turn the entire audience into Katie Pearl.

Galeria de la Raza

San Francisco, CA

Imperial Silence: Una Opera Muerta / A Dead Opera in Four Acts

Lead Artists: John Jota Leños, Artemio Rodriguez, Los Cuatro Vientos

A multimedia performance that journeys to "the other side" to illuminate cultural taboos around silence, death, and dissent in the Days of the Dead tradition.

Gametophyte

Brooklyn, NY

Kisaeng Becomes You

Lead Artists: Dean Moss, Yoon Jin Kim

A multimedia performance collaboration between dance artist Dean Moss and Korean modern and traditional dance choreographer Yoon Jin Kim that explores contemporary concerns found in the poems and lives of Korea's artist/courtesans of the Joseon Dynasty [1400-1900] called the Kisaeng.

HERE Arts Center

New York, NY

The Lily's Revenge

Lead Artist: Taylor Mac

A work that uses flowers as a metaphor for queer (meaning different, not simply gay) communities to tell the story of a self-uprooted lily, on a quest to destroy the modern tool for oppression - nostalgia.

HERE Arts Center

New York, NY

Oh What War

Lead Artists: Mallory Catlett, Peter Ksander, Zbigniew Bzymek

A music/theater/video mash-up inspired by Joan Littlewood's 1963 production, Oh What a Lovely War, which used popular song, clowning, and visual projection to chronicle the atrocity of WW1.

International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE)

New York, NY

THIRTEEN NEAR-DEATH EXPERIENCES

Lead Artists: Corey Dargel, International Contemporary Ensemble

An art-pop song cycle in which each of the thirteen songs is about a different kind of psychiatric delusion.

Los Angeles Master Chorale

Los Angeles, CA

SPIRAL XII: Space Between Heaven and Earth.

Lead Artists: Los Angeles Master Chorale, Chinary Ung, Sophiline Shapiro

Cambodian American composer Chinary Ung working in collaboration with Master of Cambodian traditional music and dance Sophiline Cheam Shapiro and the LAMC, will create a work for two sopranos, chorus, chamber ensemble and dancers.

Mabou Mines Development Foundation

New York, NY

Corn

Artists: Julie Archer, Liza Lorwin

A theater piece that takes a lyrical (and sometimes comical) look at corn from personal and cultural perspectives.

MAPP International Productions

New York, NY

DISFARMER

Lead Artists: Dan Hurlin, Sally Oswald

A new piece of puppet theater that examines the contradictions in the life of an American hermit, Mike Disfarmer.

McCarter Theatre Center

Princeton, NJ

The Brother/Sister Plays

Lead Artists: Tarell McCraney

Modern-day tales of family and legacy, inspired by Yoruban culture and infused with the music and dance of contemporary urban culture.

Media Alliance

Troy, NY

The Yes Men Go Green

Lead Artists: The Yes Men

A series of performances, taking place at corporate conferences and trade shows, in which The Yes Men impersonate captains of industry, surprising audiences with outrageous satirical performances that highlight the climate crisis.

Oregon Shakespeare Festival

Ashland, OR

Throne of Blood Project

Lead Artists: Ping Chong

An interdisciplinary theatre work based on Akira Kurosawa's film masterpiece Throned of Blood.

Performance Zone, Inc./The Field (Fiscal Sponsor)

New York, NY

Legacy

Artist: Valerie Coleman

A new operatic work based on the life of Stanley Tookie Williams, co-founder of the Crips street gang who became an anti-gang activist during his twenty years on California's death row.

Performance Zone, Inc./The Field (Fiscal Sponsor)

New York, NY

Misinterpreted

Lead Artist: Miguel Gutierrez

A dance that will question the way that meaning, identity, location and "nation" are written onto and into a body.

Performance Zone, Inc. (Fiscal Sponsor)

New York, NY

Qualities of Light

Lead Artists: Daniel Jones, Helga Davis

A work in which audience members are led in groups through interactive performance stations, exploring the nature of hope, the force of the erotic, and the interrelationship of past, present and future.

Philadelphia Dance Projects (Fiscal Sponsor)

Philadelphia, PA

store

Artist: Kate Watson-Wallace

A performance installation created in the back-of-house spaces of the Wanamaker Building in Philadelphia.

Portland Institute for Contemporary Art

Portland, OR

Into the Dark Unknown: The Hope Chest

Lead Artists: Holcomb Waller, Erik Flatmo

An exploration in music and text of the new sacred rites modern Americans perpetrate everyday.

Portland Institute for Contemporary Art

Portland, OR

Reggie Watts: Transition

Lead Artist: Reggie Watts, Tommy Smith

A theatrical employment of visual and linguistic tricks to destabilize the mind and render it open to suggestion.

Ringside Inc. (STREB)

Brooklyn, NY

17 Degrees of Freedom

Artists: Elizabeth Streb, David Van Tieghem

A movement investigation of physical concepts such as high speed vertical motion in the face of centrifugal force.

Rova:Arts

San Francisco, CA

Fissures, Futures (for Buckminster Fuller)

Lead Artists: Rova Saxophone Quartet, Semiconductor

A new improvisational work in collaboration with digital animation artists Semiconductor.

ShadowLight Productions

San Francisco, CA

Ghosts of the River

Lead Artists: Octavio Solis, Larry Reed, Favianna Rodriguez

A shadow theatre work that explores US/Mexican border immigration issues from highly localized and personal points of view.

Silk Road Theatre Project

Chicago, IL

The DNA Trail: A Genealogy of Short Plays About Ancestry, Identity, and Utter Confusion

Lead Artists: Philip Gotanda, Shishir Kurup, David Henry Hwang

Eight American playwrights of (presupposed) Asian and Middle Eastern backgrounds write new plays in response to a DNA test that reveals their genetic ancestry.

Trey McIntyre Project

Boise, ID

The Sun Road

Lead Artist: Trey McIntyre, Sandra Woodall

A new dance work that uses the commanding presence of the Rocky Mountains at Glacier National Park to address the balance of power between the environment and those within it.

Troika Ranch

Brooklyn, NY

Loop Diver

Lead Artists: Troika Ranch, Colin Kilian

A work for six performers and interactive media built from interwoven loops of movement, text, music and video, which are then interrupted, reshaped, and renewed by *loop divers*.

The Walker Art Center

Minneapolis, MN

The Success of Failure (or, The Failure of Success)

Lead Artists: Cynthia Hopkins, Jeffrey Sugg, James Findlay

An ancient, epic folk tale from the distant future, communicated to the audience via a live science-fiction film, about rival strategies for surviving the death of the sun.