

The Million Underscores \_\_\_

## THE PASSERBY, or not \_\_\_ even \_\_\_ anything

A silent 12 track performance album inspired by Oskar Schlemmer's Gallery Paintings

Performances August 27 & 28, 2021 at 7:30PM

Directed by Nicolas Noreña

With: Timothy Scott, Marija Kovačević, Geo Kester, Madison Mayer, Yuki Kawahisa, Rebecca Bird

Tomato Mouse is very proud indeed to welcome you to The Passerby, or, Interiors, a new site-responsive work of experimental theater by THE MILLION UNDERSCORES and directed by Nicolas Noreña. The piece will be composed visually in collaboration with six performers during a two-week intensive residency on site at Tomato Mouse. It will be presented in two evening performances on August 27 and 28, which will be viewable from both the interior and exterior of the gallery, with seating available outside the gallery's first floor storefront windows.

THE PASSERBY, or not \_\_\_ even \_\_\_ anything is a silent twelve track performance album inspired by Oskar Schlemmer's Gallery Paintings. The piece is a combination of choreography, pedestrian movement and highly technical tableaux that interfere with the normal time signatures that audiences' attentions are accustomed to in the theater. Constructed through spacial-izations of Oskar Schlemmer's highly formal paintings, and experimental compositions in the electromagnetic energy of the performers, the album transforms every time it is performed through a series of rigorous chance operations. In a constant experiment with entropy, form, and energy we use non-sequitur and non sensical action to jolt the mind into awareness of a truth outside of the pale ordinary logic. . Not- Even- Anything is what taoist philosopher Chang Tzu called a "space" or state of being in which people live freely from narrow identities and dwell in all time and place.

THE MILLION UNDERSCORES is an experimental theater company based in Brooklyn under the artistic direction of Nicolas Noreña. Founded in Summer 2013, the company has developed alongside a qualitative study of numbers, and experiments in aesthetic drive, abstract composition, and collaborative writing. We make highly visual and physical eccentric theater works that interrogate the action and the form of theater. We value every element of performance as an independent voice. Through density, multi-directionality and juxtaposition we generate fields for the audience to notice, think and reify modes of perception, organization and understanding.

NICOLAS NOREÑA is a Colombian theater maker and performer based in Brooklyn. He has worked with Richard Foreman, Mary Overlie, The Talking Band, Jess Barbagallo, and Object Collection among others. He is the founding member of morningtomorrow.org, and is the artistic director of THE MILLION UNDERSCORES. Through this company he has developed, produced, directed and designed over ten original productions that have been presented in spaces such as The Museum of Modern Art, FringeNYC, The Exponential Festival, The Brick Theater and Target Margin Theater among others. He was a LEIMAY fellow 2015-2020, LAB artist with Target Margin Theater in 2019 and was a resident artist with MABOU MINES 2015-2016. Nicolas currently teaches at the Experimental Theater Wing in New York University, and is the archive director of the Mary Overlie Legacy Project.

Tomato Mouse is a House that turned into a Mouse. For more information please contact Rebecca Bird at [tomatomousetomatomouse@gmail.com](mailto:tomatomousetomatomouse@gmail.com) or 917-621-5471. This project is made possible through the generous support of the Brooklyn Arts Council and City Artist Corps, to whom we offer our undying thanks!



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