



“Another person challenging the traditional views on Black masculinity is Shamel Pitts, one of the most acclaimed dancers/choreographers of his generation and a shining example of Black excellence.”

— Thembela Ngayi AFROPUNK



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Brooklyn, NY 11216

ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT

TRIBE | ABOUT

TRIBE (TRI314 Multidisciplinary Visual Performances, d/b/a TRIBE), is a Brooklyn, New York based multidisciplinary arts collective founded by Shamel Pitts in December 2019. The arts collective, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is composed of international and local artists working across mediums such as movement, choreography, lighting design, video mapping projection, poetry, spoken word, painting, cinematography, scenography, dramaturgy, costume styling, and music composition.

>> itsatribe.org

TRIBE | MISSION

TRIBE's mission is cultivating space to create a platform for artists – most specifically artists of color – with huge inspiration from the Afrofuturism movement. This movement states that we have a responsibility through our work to tell new stories and create a brighter future that is different, and shines more luminously, from its past.

>> itsatribe.org/about

TRIBE | TOURING LIVE PERFORMANCES

BLACK HOLE - Trilogy And Triathlon

Touch of RED





BLACK HOLE

— Trilogy And Triathlon —



BLACK HOLE researches and shares an odyssey where three Black performers create a trinity of vigor, Afrofuturism, and embrace. Engulfed in an evocative soundscape of original music, sound samples, and spoken word, the dancers embark on a demanding hour-long journey in which their tenacity and grace are emphasized by cinematic video projections and stark, monochromatic lights. Mesmerizing and hauntingly magical, BLACK HOLE constitutes the final installment of Shamel Pitt's "BLACK Series" triptych—marking the initial meeting between this choreographer and the artists of TRIBE.

An odyssey of vigor, afrofuturism, and embrace.

>> [One Pager](#)

>> [Official Video Trailer](#) by Itai Zwecker

>> [Official Video Teaser](#) by The Adeboye Brothers

>> [BLACK HOLE website](#)

“The whole hourlong work... is curiously stylish and sincere, glossily cold and tender. Always visually striking, it’s never dull.”



— Brian Seibert [The New York Times, Critics' Pick](#)

REVIEWS

“These bodies are bronzed and creaturely.

These are dancers of strong presence and control.”

— Brian Seibert [The New York Times](#)

“The sounds of electronic music contributed to the futuristic-cosmic atmosphere in a play, at times calming, at times pulsating.”

— Radmila Djurica [Arts Tribune](#)

“Black Hole is a work of magical realism.”

— Emilee Lord [thINKingDANCE](#)

“The audience embarked on a cosmic evolution of mankind.”

— Adrian Green [Dance Currents](#)

“Otherworldly...BLACK HOLE is a work of magical realism.”

— Emilee Lord [thINKingDANCE](#)



TOUCH OF RED



Touch of RED is a duet of two men that takes place inside of a contemporary ring. Its research deals with the allowance of black men to soften; the power in vulnerability; and the meeting point of two individuals within a boxed space that references a futuristic and voyeuristic gladiator entertainment site. Within this boxed space a heat path between the two performers builds, not out of aggression or combat, but within an enhanced electrifying effeminacy that heals.

Bold. Boiled. Blood.

>> [One Pager](#)


>> [Official Video Teaser](#) by The Adeboye Brothers

>> [Touch of RED website](#)

“Pitts and Fredericks bring their radical vulnerability to the audience.”

– Candice Thompson [Fjord Review](#)


REVIEWS

 *“Touch of RED’ is a work where the space – as opposed to time- determines the movement, exploring both the lethality and vulnerability with being close to another person.”*


– Jess Ruhlin [BODIES NEVER LIE](#)

 *“It’s a dazzling show.”*

– Marina Harss [Fjord Review](#)

 *“Another person challenging the traditional views on Black masculinity is Shamel Pitts, one of the most acclaimed dancers/choreographers of his generation and a shining example of Black excellence.”*

– Thembela Ngayi [AFROPUNK](#)

 *“Touch of RED’ held me in its grasp from the second I entered the venue, from the twisting route to my seat, to the stark intimacy immediately on display. It set all my nerves on fire, still burning as I recall the experience.”*

– Tristan Bruns [See Chicago Dance](#)

“So often I felt like my vulnerability and sensitivity and fragility was a weakness. But I wish to share with people, particularly other Black boys and men, that there is power within vulnerability.”

– Shamel Pitts [DANCE Magazine](#)



Shamel Pitts: Black Hole review - fragile glimpses of an Afrofuturist world



Black Hole ... cosmic consciousness. Photograph: Adeboye Brothers

The Guardian

The Guardian - May 7, 2023

The New York Times

Review: Where a Boxer's Clinch Is a Slow-Dance Embrace

Shamel Pitts's "Touch of Red," at New York Live Arts, takes place in a boxing ring. It's not a competition, though. It's a relationship.



The New York Times

The New York Times - April 28, 2023



HOW ART CHANGED PERFORMANCE ARTIST SHAMEL PITTS

ALL ARTS

ALL ARTS - April 26, 2023

LA WEEKLY GO EDITORS' PICKS



LA WEEKLY

L.A. Weekly - March 1, 2023

PLEME IZ BRUKLINA

Četvrtina njegovskatrupa na dođenom glasu TRIBE predstavlja se domaćoj publici na az. Brosgodskom festivalu igre



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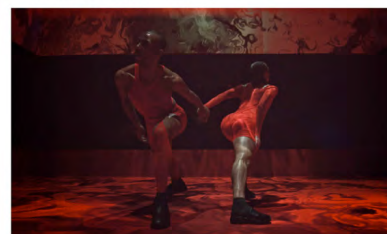
BAZAAR

Harper's BAZAAR Srbija - Jan. 2023

FEATURES REVIEWS

The Collective is Strong

CANDICE THOMPSON



fjord

Fjord Review - December, 2022

THEATER & DANCE

In promising fall dance trend, real-life figures inspire the lineup

The art and legacies of Burt Bacharach, Eva Perón, Maya Lin and musician/activist Hazel Scott spark works around the region

Perspective by Sarah L. Kaufman
Dance critic
September 8, 2022 at 6:00 a.m. EDT



The Washington Post

The Washington Post, Sep. 8, 2022

The New York Times



Sculptural embraces: Pitts, Fredericks and Lewis. The Adeboye Brothers

The New York Times

The New York Times - April 22, 2022

THE NEW YORKER

GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

DANCE

Shamel Pitts | TRIBE

Once a member of a tribe called Batsheva Dance Company, Pitts is now the artistic director of an arts collective called TRIBE. In 2018, it debuted "Black Box," the first installment in a trilogy of multidisciplinary performances. "Black Hole," the final installment of that trilogy, is a stylish Afrofuturist vision featuring three Black dancers, in monochromatic light and video projections, finding connection in a movement language derived from Ohad Naharin's Gaga. It now gets its pandemic-delayed New York premiere.

— Brian Seibert

THE NEW YORKER

The New Yorker - April 2022

>> Full list of reviews, listings, and TRIBE related media coverage itsatribe.org/media





TRIBE | TOURING HISTORY

BLACK HOLE

Walker Art Center
Minneapolis, MN
March 21–23, 2024

BLACK HOLE

ICA/Boston
Boston, MA
February 9–10, 2024

BLACK HOLE

OZ Arts
Nashville, TN
February 2–3, 2024

TRIBE | VOICES

Benefit Event

Baryshnikov Arts Center
Manhattan, NY
December 6, 2023

Art Residency:

Solace of RED – Vol. IV

Baryshnikov Arts Center
Manhattan, NY
November 27–December 10, 2023

BLACK HOLE

University of Maryland,
Baltimore County
Baltimore, MD
October 19–20, 2023

The Hosting

Powerhouse Arts
Gowanus, Brooklyn, NY
September 18, 2023

embers//embraces

BOFFO Performance Arts
Festival Fire Island
Fire Island Pines, NY
August 12, 2023

Art Residency:

Solace of RED – Vol. IV

The Pocantico Center
Tarrytown, NY
July 27–August 6, 2023

BLACK HOLE

Let's Dance International
Frontiers Festival
Leicester, UK
May 5–6, 2023

Touch of RED

New York Live Arts
New York, NY
April 26–29, 2023

BLACK HOLE

Kelly Strayhorn Theater
Pittsburgh, PA
April 14–15, 2023

Touch of RED

Museum of Contemporary
Art Chicago
Chicago, IL
April 6–8, 2023

BLACK HOLE

Belgrade Dance Festival
Belgrade, Serbia
March 19, 2023

Touch of RED

UCLA's Center for the Art
of Performance
Los Angeles, CA
March 3–4, 2023

BLACK HOLE

New York Live Arts
New York, NY
January 15–16, 2023

continued on next page...



**TRIBE | TOURING HISTORY** *continued...***BLACK HOLE**

The Clarice Smith
Performing Arts Center,
University of Maryland
College Park, MD
December 2, 2022

Touch of RED

Miami Light Project in
Partnership with YoungArts
Miami, FL
November 3–5, 2022

Touch of RED

MASS MoCA in partnership
with Jacob's Pillow
North Adams, MA
October 21–22, 2022

Solace of RED – Vol. II

JACK
Brooklyn, NY
September 30–October 1,
2022

Art Residency:

Solace of RED – Vol. II
JACK

Brooklyn, NY
September 20–29, 2022

BLACK HOLE

New York Live Arts
New York, NY
April 21–23, 2022

Art Residency:**Touch of RED**

UCLA's Center for the Art
of Performance
Los Angeles, CA
April 11–16, 2022

**Totality of TRIBE - Virtual
Benefit**

Honorary Co-Chair: Ohad Naharin
New York, NY
Online Event
December 15, 2021

Solace of RED – Vol. I

Movement Without
Borders – Judson Memorial
Church
New York, NY
October 2, 2021

Art Residency:**Touch of RED**

Miami Light Project in
Partnership with Jacob's
Pillow
Miami, FL
August 20–September 4, 2021

Art Residency:**Touch of RED**

Bridge Street Theater -
Mellon Foundation
Catskill, NY
June 14–July 2, 2021

Touch of RED: Overture

Carolina Performing Arts
Chapel Hill, NC
May 21, 2021

The Motherboard Suite

Times Square / New York
Live Arts
New York, NY
May 15, 2021

Black Hole 360° -**Interactive Video Art**

The 92nd Street Y
New York, NY – Online Premiere
February 24, 2021

TRIBE | FULL SCHEDULE & TICKETS

>> itsatribe.org/events





TRIBE | MEMBERS & COLLABORATORS

>> itsatribe.org/about



Shamel Pitts

Founder & Artistic Director
Artist, Choreographer, Performer, Teacher

2021 Bessie Award Winner // 2020 Guggenheim Fellow
2019 NYFA/NYSCA Fellow // 2018 Princess Grace Award



Mirelle Martins

Creative Director,
Founding Artist



Brittany Wilson

Managing Director



Rus Snelling

Artistic Production Manager,
Lighting Designer



E. Katrina Lewis

Artistic Administrator



Lucca Del Carlo

Transmedia Artist, Video Light
& Mapping Designer



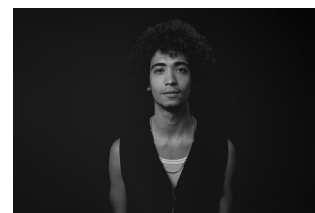
Elizabeth Schmuhl

Founding Member, Former
Director of Development



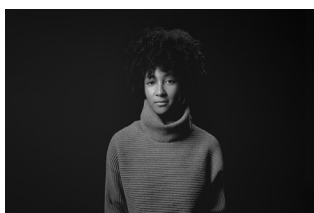
Pam Panozzo

Digital Creative Associate



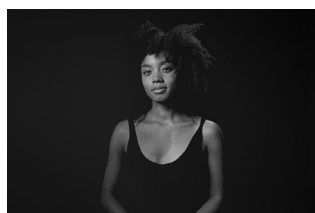
Tushrik Fredericks

Performer, Stylist



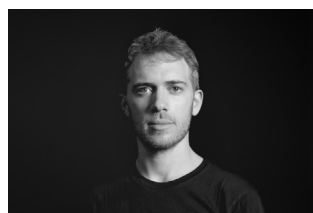
Ashley Pierre-Louis

Dramaturg, Performer



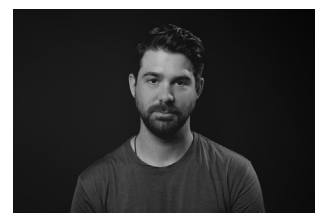
Marcella Lewis

Performer



Itai Zwecker

Photographer,
Cinematographer



Taylor Antisdel

Photographer,
Cinematographer



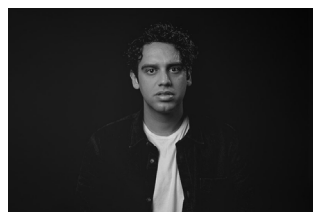
The Adeboye Brothers: Matthew Adeboye & David Adeboye

Photographers,
Cinematographers



Alex Apt

Photographer



Sivan Jacobovitz

Musician, Composer



Naomi Rapaport

Costume Designer

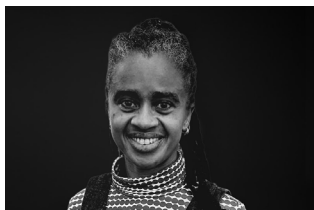




TRIBE | GLOBAL REPRESENTATION

>> lotusartsmgmt.com/tribe

>> sophie@lotusartsmgmt.com



Sophie Myrtil-McCourty

Worldwide Bookings

TRIBE | SUPPORT

>> itsatribe.org/support

Consider making a tax-deductible contribution to TRIBE's next live performances and art projects. We are an 501(c)(3) arts and cultural non-profit organization based in Brooklyn, NY.



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>> itsatribe@gmail.com



TRIBE | GRANTS & AWARDS

Mid Atlantic Arts

Mellon Foundation

Arison Arts Foundation

Howard Gilman Foundation

Foundation for Contemporary Arts

Harkness Dance Foundation

Dance/NYC Dance Advancement Fund

National Performance Network

Artis Discretionary Grant

Princess Grace Foundation

The New York City Department of Cultural Affairs (DCLA)

Rockefeller Brothers Fund

National Performance Network's

Documentation & Storytelling Fund

Trust for Mutual Understanding

American Dance Abroad

Best out of Town Production – ArtsATL

Audience Choice Award – STOFF

TRIBE | ART RESIDENCIES

BOFFO Performance Festival
Fire Island (2023)

The Pocantico Center of the Rockefeller
Brothers Fund (2023)

Baryshnikov Arts Center (2023)

JACK (2022)

UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance
(2022)

Miami Light Project (2021)

New York Live Arts
– Artist in Residency (2022, 2023)

Catskills Mountain Foundation (2021)

Bridgestreet Theatre (2021)

GIBNEY (2021)

New York Live Arts (2020)

Jacob's Pillow (2020)

92 Street Y / Harkness Dance Center
(2020, 2021)

YoungArts (2020)

Dock 11 / Eden Studios (2017, 2018, 2019)

gloATL (2018, 2019)

Derida Dance Center (2018)

Cross Award (2018)

TRIBE | ART FESTIVALS

Let's Dance International Frontiers Festival
– Leicester, UK (2023)

Belgrade Dance Festival
– Belgrade, Serbia (2023)

New York Live Arts – Live Artery (2022, 2023)

Times Square Live Arts (2021)

Adelaide Festival
– Adelaide, Australia (2020)

Colours Festival
– Stuttgart, Germany (2019)

Cross Festival – Verbania, Italy (2019)

Cena Brasil Internacional
– Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (2019)

