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

“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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153 Jefferson Ave, Suite #1
Brooklyn, NY 11216
BLACK HOLE researches and shares an odyssey where three Black performers create a trinity of vigor, Afroturism, 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, afroturism, and embrace.

“"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 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.


“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

“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
TRIBE | MEDIA

>> itsatribe.org/media

Shamel Pitts: Black Hole review - fragile glimpses of an Afrofuturist world
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 - April 28, 2023

ALL-ARTS
SHAMEL PITTTS

LA WEEKLY
GO EDITORS’ PICKS
ARTS
L.A. Weekly - March 1, 2023

BAZAAR
Harper's BAZAAR Serbia - Jan. 2023

The Washington Post, Sep. 8, 2022

The New York Times
The New York Times - April 22, 2022

The New Yorker - April 2022

> THE NEW YORKER GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN
DANCE
Shamel Pitts | TRIBE

Once a member of a tribe called Barbana 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 stylized Afrofuturist vision featuring three Black dancers, in monodramatic light and video projections, folding connection in a movement language derived from Osho Nkari’s Gaga. It now has its pandemic-delayed New York premiere.
— Brian Seibert

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

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

Art Residency:
Solace of RED – Vol. II
JACK
Brooklyn, NY
September 20–29, 2022

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

Art Residency:
Touch of RED
UCLA’s Center for the Art of Performance
Los Angeles, CA
April 11–16, 2022

Solace of RED – Vol. II
JACK
Brooklyn, NY
September 30–October 1, 2022

Totality of TRIBE - Virtual Benefit
Honorary Co-Chair: Ohad Naharin
New York, NY
Online Event
December 15, 2021

Art Residency:
Touch of RED
New York Live Arts
New York, NY
April 21–23, 2022

BLACK HOLE
Mass MoCA in partnership with Jacob’s Pillow
North Adams, MA
October 21–22, 2022

Touch of RED
MASS MoCA in partnership with Jacob’s Pillow
North Adams, MA
October 21–22, 2022
TRIBE | TOURING HISTORY  continued...

Solace of RED – Vol. I
Movement Without Borders – Judson Memorial Church
New York, NY
October 2, 2021

Art Residency: Touch of RED
Bridge Street Theater - Mellon Foundation
Catskill, NY
June 14–July 2, 2021

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

Art Residency: Touch of RED
Miami Light Project in Partnership with Jacob’s Pillow
Miami, FL
August 20–September 4, 2021

Touch of RED: Overture
Carolina Performing Arts Chapel Hill, NC
May 21, 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 | 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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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
Dramaturge, 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

itsatribe.org
@itsatribe
@tribemvp
153 Jefferson Ave, Suite #1, Brooklyn, NY 11216
TRIBE | GLOBAL REPRESENTATION

>> lotusartsmgmt.com/tribe
>> sophie@lotusartsmgmt.com

Sophie Myrtil-McCourt
Worldwide Bookings
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)


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)