



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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STEP AND REPEAT RETURNS THIS SUMMER WITH NEW AND NEVER-BEFORE-SEEN PERFORMANCES BY GEO WYETH, JAMES FAUNTLEROY, JULIANA HUXTABLE

MOCA'S ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF LIVE PERFORMANCE

FEATURING MUSIC, PERFORMANCE ART, POETRY, AND COMEDY

**July 17, 18, and 19, 2015
The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA**



LOS ANGELES—The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, presents *Step and Repeat*, an annual celebration of live performance. Now in its second year, it returns to The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA for a three-day program of music, performance art, comedy, and poetry, along with sets from cutting-edge DJs and special installations in The MOCA Store. Performers include **Nao Bustamante, Juliana Huxtable, Adam Linder, and Geo Wyeth**; comedians **Kate Berlant, Jibz Cameron, Casey Jane Ellison, and Brent Weinbach**; musicians **James Fautleroy, Ho99o9, and WAND**; poet **Nathaniel Mackey**; and the **Mustache Mondays** DJs.

Step and Repeat presents work from some of today's most genre-defying and exuberantly experimental artists, with a special focus on the burgeoning performance communities in Los Angeles. In its first year, the multi-disciplinary program marked a return to live arts programming, a crucial part of museum's identity and history. *Step and Repeat* reflects the inherent fluidity of what "performance" entails as a category, and the

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hybrid, convergent spirit of art-making today. The event will feature a select variety of food trucks and a cash bar, accompanied by live music and available in the outdoor courtyard. Tickets can be purchased at moca.org/stepandrepeat; FREE for MOCA members; \$12 general admission; \$30 for all three nights.

Step and Repeat features performances by:

Friday, July 17, 6–11pm

Raquel Gutiérrez, a poet, performer, and activist based in the San Francisco Bay Area. Originally from Los Angeles, she is a co-founding member of the performance art ensemble Butchtlalis de Panochtitlan and founding editor of *Econo Textual Objects*, a small press for writers and artists whose work is grounded in working-class realities. In 2014, she facilitated “Decolonizing the White Box,” a public discussion of racial and ethnic diversity in art institutions, at Human Resources, Los Angeles.

Geo Wyeth, a performer who incorporates video, installation, and music into their practice. They have performed and presented at numerous museums and venues, including the New Museum, MoMA PS1, and The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York; The Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston; and Human Resources, Los Angeles. Geo will premiere *Some \$1's 2B Proud Of*, a musical performance in which they channel a collage of real and imagined mothers, and engage with Little Tokyo’s World War II-era history, when the neighborhood was a hub for Los Angeles’s African-American community.

Jibz Cameron and Kate Berlant, Los Angeles-based comedians who will premiere the newly commissioned piece *Comedy’scool*. Cameron’s work as alter ego Dynasty Handbag has been presented at innumerable theaters, festivals, and museums—including MOCA, Brooklyn Academy of Music, and the Museum of Modern Art—and hailed as “outrageously smart, grotesque and innovative” (*The New Yorker*). Berlant has appeared on Comedy Central and IFC, and is the co-creator of *Satellite Space* (2014) with Natalie Labriola for MOCAtv

Lafawndah is an Iranian-Egyptian singer and producer. Currently based in New York, she draws on her eclectic experiences to create a unique, futuristic take on global electronica. A new track from a forthcoming EP will debut on MOCAtv in July. Lafawndah will perform with **Nick Weiss** of Teengirl Fantasy at *Step and Repeat*. Weiss is a co-producer of her forthcoming full-length album.

Wand, a psychedelic rock band based in Los Angeles. Formed in 2013 around frontman Cory Hanson, drummer Evan Burrows, guitarist Daniel Martens, and bassist Lee Landey, their debut full-length album *Ganglion Reef* (2014) was released through Ty Segall’s imprint on Drag City Records. *Pitchfork* favorably compared it to The Zombies and the krautrock of Neu!, lauding the album’s “motorik for the sandy beach.” Hanson cites the influences for Wand’s new album *Golem* (2015) as “possession, death, denial, German expressionism, and the apocalypse.”

Other performers include **Danny Snelson** and **Mashinka Firunts**, **Harryette Mullen**, and **DJ Zo** and **Mike B.** with **KRN FX**.

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Saturday, July 18, 6–11pm

Nathaniel Mackey, an acclaimed poet, novelist, editor, and critic. His books of poetry include *Nod House* (2011), the National Book Award winner *Splay Anthem* (2006), *Whatsaid Serif* (1998) and *Eroding Witness* (1985). Regarding the relationship between music and his own poetry, Mackey has said he tries “to cultivate the music of language, which is not just sounds. It’s also meaning and implication. It’s also nuance. It’s also a kind of angular suggestion.” Mackey’s numerous honors and awards include the Ruth Lilly Poetry Prize from the Poetry Foundation, the Bollingen Prize from Yale University, and fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and the Foundation for Contemporary Arts.

Baron Vaughn, an actor and comedian who has performed at numerous festivals and done stand-up sets on *Conan*, *Late Night with Jimmy Fallon*, *The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson*, and on several Comedy Central specials, such as *The Awkward Comedy Special* (2010) with Hannibal Buress and Eric André. Vaughn was a series regular on *Fairly Legal* on USA and currently appears on *Grace and Frankie* on Netflix.

Casey Jane Ellison, the Los Angeles-based artist, comedian, and creator of *Touching the Art*, an all-female, all-art talk show included in the New Museum’s triennial exhibition *Surround Audience*. Ellison has presented videos and animations at MOCA, MoMA PS1, and the Museum of Arts and Design, New York, including *Aboveground Animation*, a series of original animations commissioned for MOCAtv.

Juliana Huxtable is an artist, activist, and DJ based in New York who has presented work at the New Museum, Brooklyn Academy of Music, and Whitney Museum of American Art. A fixture of the new wave of queer nightlife, she is the founder and resident DJ of Shock Value, as well as a muse to many. (A life-size sculpture of her likeness by Frank Benson, *Juliana*, was included in the New Museum’s triennial exhibition.) For *Step and Repeat* Huxtable will premiere a multimedia performance that explores what she has uncovered about gendered and racialized fantasies in cyber fetish communities.

Other performances include **Maged Zaher**, a Family Artists showcase with **Azul**, **Kodak to Graph**, and **Ho99o9**, and **Mustache Mondays** presents **Rosé Hernandez**, **Santiago Salazar** and **Zakmatic**.

Sunday, July 19, 6–10pm

Nao Bustamante, an artist who currently works in performance, installation, film, and text. She has subverted pop culture platforms, appearing as her character Rosa on *The Joan Rivers Show* in 1991, and as herself on the Bravo reality show *Work of Art: The Next Great Artist* in 2010. For *Step and Repeat* she will perform a new version of *Deathbed*, a work that draws on her pilgrimage to see the corpse of Celia Cruz, the Queen of Salsa.

Kristina Wong is an artist, writer, and comedian based in Los Angeles. Through a combination of essays, speeches, and performance art, she uses humor to dig into and break open racial and gender stereotypes. In a recent project, she launched a Kickstarter campaign to fund a wedding with basketball star Jeremy Lin. Wong was awarded by Creative Capital for *Wong Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* (2011), a one-woman show about depression and suicide among Asian-American women which has since been adapted into a film. In addition to her performances, she is a frequent commentator on race in the mainstream media.

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Brent Weinbach describes his stand-up as “weird, stupid and visual post-modern,” and *LA Weekly* calls him “obscenely, disturbingly brilliant.” The Los Angeles-based comedian has appeared on *Adult Swim*, *Conan*, HBO, IFC, and Comedy Central, and is the creator of a number of viral videos, including “Ultimate Drumming Technique” (2012) and “Gangster Party Line” (2013), and the cult web series *Pound House*. He is also the writer and director of critically acclaimed short films *I Don’t Dance* (2014), *The Real My Buddy* (2010) and *Weinbach in Wonderland* (2008). Weinbach is a recipient of the Andy Kaufman Award, an annual recognition of innovation in stand-up comedy.

James Fautleroy is a Grammy Award-winning musician based in Los Angeles. Originally from Inglewood, he has for the past decade been a fixture on the pop charts, having produced, written, or sung on smash hits by Jordin Sparks (“No Air”), Kanye West and Jay-Z (“Clique”), and Beyoncé (“No Angel”), and been a driving force behind acclaimed albums by Rihanna (*Rated R*), Justin Timberlake (*The 20/20 Experience*), and Kendrick Lamar (*To Pimp A Butterfly*). For *Step and Repeat* he will premiere a new, live musical score, performed with an all-star backing band.

Other performers include members of poetry collective **Troll Thread** and rapper-comedian **Open Mike Eagle**.

ONGOING

Adam Linder, a Berlin and Los Angeles-based choreographer, will present a three-day performance titled *Some Proximity*, a new iteration in his series *Choreographic Services*. As per a contractual agreement with MOCA, an art writer (Jonathan P. Watts) will generate critical reflections about the context within which the *Proximity* is hired; during the three days of *Step and Repeat*, these texts will be choreographically embodied and performed by Linder and dancer Justin F. Kennedy. Venues that have contracted the *Choreographic Services* project include Palais de Tokyo, Paris, and Lulu, Mexico City.

Check moca.org/stepandrepeat for the latest list of performers and to purchase tickets. FREE for MOCA members; \$12 general admission; \$30 for all three nights

Step and Repeat is organized by MOCAtv Creative Director Emma Reeves and MOCA Assistant Curator Lanka Tattersall.

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The Standard

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