
THE SHED **Press Release**

THE **BLOOMBERG** BUILDING
545 West 30th Street
New York, NY 10001

For more information, please contact:

Christina Riley
press @theshed.org

The Shed Announces Summer 2026 Programs Featuring Doug Aitken’s *Lightscape*, New Public Art Commission *Latinx Freedom*, and Performance Works from Open Call Artists

**The lineup includes a major, immersive, film-based installation,
a public art initiative, and four performance premieres across
The Shed, all free of charge and open to the public**

April 15, 2026, New York, NY — The Shed today announced a lineup of wide-ranging summer programs that set ideas in motion, exploring collective freedom and interconnected journeys,, all free and open to the public.

The summer features the New York premiere of *Lightscape*, a new immersive film-based installation by **Doug Aitken**, on view June 25 to September 13 in the Level 2 Gallery. *Latinx Freedom*, a nationwide public history initiative, will debut as an 18-foot public art installation celebrating the contributions of the Latinx community to the civil rights movement on The Shed’s outdoor Plaza, on view June 18 to August 20. As part of the fourth cohort of Open Call, The Shed’s commissioning program for early-career artists, four performance works by **Nehpriei Amenii**, **Avi Amon**, **James Caverly** and **Andrew Morrill**, and **Rudi Goblen** will premiere in The Griffin Theater starting June 25.

These programs reflect The Shed’s commitment to commissioning and presenting interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary work for audiences of all interests, spanning visual art, music, dance, film, performance, public art, and collective history.

“This summer, The Shed invites you to explore the state of our country in unprecedented times, celebrating our collective power through stories of freedom, identity, and democracy. Come and experience our artists’ innovative and transformative journeys into the profound forces rapidly reshaping our world—and the solidarity that the arts inspire in us,” said **Alex Poots**, The Shed’s artistic director.

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Doug Aitken: Lightscape

June 25 to September 13, 2026

Level 2 Gallery

Lightscape, a new large-scale, film-based installation by **Doug Aitken**, will transform The Shed's 12,000-sq.-ft. Level 2 Gallery into an immersive seven-screen environment of dynamic images and sound.

Exploring individuality and connection in a world defined by constant transformation, the work blends music, film, and architecture into an expansive multisensory experience that plunges audiences into a contemporary portrait of the United States.

The installation follows multiple characters—played by **Natasha Lyonne, Beck**, members of the **LA Dance Project**, and more—moving through dramatic landscapes across America, from vast deserts and remote mountains to automated factories and digital environments. An existential high-rise sequence, urban dancers navigating mechanized factory spaces, a migrant worker racing across the desert, a cowboy forging his path—these individual journeys unfold in parallel, their seemingly separate narratives gradually intersecting.

With music at its core, *Lightscape* features a collaboration with the **Los Angeles Philharmonic**, including original recordings—conducted by **Gustavo Dudamel**—of works by **Philip Glass, Steve Reich, and Meredith Monk**, alongside new scores by **Beck, LA LOM, and Aitken**.

Live improvised music performances will activate the installation throughout the summer, with a full schedule to be announced. Tickets will be available starting May 14 and are offered on a choose-what-you-pay basis.

Latinx Freedom

June 18 to August 20, 2026

Plaza

On the outdoor Plaza, The Shed presents the inaugural exhibition of the *Latinx Freedom Movement Archive and Exhibition Project*, a nationwide public history initiative commemorating the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Through photography, text, and visual art, this monumental new 18-foot tall public art installation explores the history of Latinx civil rights movements, including the Young Lords, and highlights the pivotal role Latinx communities have played over the decades in shaping broader struggles for justice in the United States.

This exhibition is open to the public and free to attend with special activations throughout the summer.

Open Call

June 26 to July 25, 2026

The Griffin Theater

The Shed will produce and present four performance works developed by artists from the fourth cohort of Open Call, The Shed's early-career commissioning program. Tickets to performances are free, and reservations will be available beginning in late May.

James Caverly and Andrew Morrill: *Thank You Ryan for a Clean Microwave*

June 26 and 27

James Caverly and Andrew Morrill's sharp, funny, and fiercely humane chamber play flips between a Deaf-run coffee shop and a writer's imagination as two internal narrators battle to shape a story about love, trauma, and who gets to tell whose truth. *Thank You Ryan for a Clean Microwave* embraces a bold, new medium of storytelling, centering Deaf identity and infused with absurd realism. The production delves into the intricate dynamics of identity and communication within the Deaf community and includes signed and spoken languages with projected captions along with microwave choreography. With explosive comic set pieces, raw emotional reckonings, and a simmering scandal around a celebrity Deaf actor, it's theatrical, urgent, and impossible to stop talking about.

Nehprie Amenii: *HUMAN*

July 10 and 11

Rooted in African diasporic storytelling traditions and the musical lineages of blues, jazz, and soul, *HUMAN* explores themes of connection, human rights, ancestral memory, climate, and collective responsibility and asks audiences to question what it really means to be human in a time of deep ethical fracture. Each performance is preceded by a free puppet-making workshop using upcycled materials, culminating in a short, audience-led procession into the theater, where these creations become part of the performance experience.

Avi Amon: *MOTHER/ROAD*

July 17 and 18

Part concept album, part memoir, part immersive concert, Avi Amon's *MOTHER/ROAD* invites audiences to participate in an act of emotional memory. For this production, Amon creates a musical mediation on grief, memory, and family using cassette tapes carried by his parents when they immigrated to the United States from Istanbul in 1979. The piece explores the porous nature of time, how it fades and distorts, and how—like a cassette tape—it can rewind, warp, and overwrite itself. Out of the stuff of memory, music and sound compose new worlds at once fragile and infinite for the generations to inhabit together.

Rudi Goblen: *FITO*

July 24 and 25

Rudi Goblen's interactive concert play *FITO* combines live music, storytelling, dance, and spoken word to explore the immigrant experience of a Nicaraguan man living in the United States. Inviting audiences into a communal experience to

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foster connection and empathy, this production asks what it means to become an American while holding onto one's roots. At its heart, *FITO* is a love letter to immigrants who dream relentlessly despite the obstacles they face, as well as a call to recognize theater as a space for everyone.

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Leadership support for Doug Aitken: Lightscape is provided by Birdrib Productions.

Support for Open Call is generously provided by the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, the Howard Gilman Foundation, the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, The Wescustogo Foundation, and Onassis ONX.

The creation of new work at The Shed is generously supported by the Lizzie and Jonathan Tisch Commissioning Fund and the Shed Commissioners.

Major support for live productions at The Shed is provided by the Charina Endowment Fund, with additional support from The Shubert Foundation, the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor, and the New York State Legislature.

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Under the leadership of CEO Meredith “Max” Hodges and founding Artistic Director Alex Poots, The Shed is a cultural institution of and for the 21st century. We produce and welcome innovative art and ideas, across all forms of creativity, to build a shared understanding of our rapidly changing world and a more equitable society. In our highly adaptable building on Manhattan’s west side, The Shed brings together established and emerging artists to create new work in fields ranging from pop to classical music, painting to digital media, theater to literature, and sculpture to dance. We seek opportunities to collaborate with cultural peers and community organizations, work with like-minded partners, and provide unique spaces for private events. As an independent nonprofit that values invention, equity, and generosity, we are committed to advancing art forms, addressing the urgent issues of our time, and making our work impactful, sustainable, and relevant to the local community, the cultural sector, New York City, and beyond.