

# RIVER TO RIVER



Sunday, June 28 at 2:00pm  
in the Arts Center at Governors Island

## OPEN STUDIOS WITH WALLY CARDONA, JENNIFER LACEY, JONATHAN BEPLER AND DR. CHIKAKO YAMAUCHI

In this panel discussion, Dr. Chikako Yamauchi (PhD, Art History, University of Canterbury) guides a conversation with Wally Cardona and Jonathan Bepler, choreographer and composer, respectively, for the *The Set Up: Saya Lei*, which will be performed as part of River To River 2015.

*The Set Up: Saya Lei* is the 6th installment in a series of 8 full-length dances that displace contemporary practice by living temporarily within a distinct tradition of mastery. Initiated in 2012, each installment launches with “American contemporary” artists meeting a “master of a traditional” who teach an “ancient” dance form.

The discussion will explore how Cardona, Lacey and Bepler’s creative processes and motivations led to the protocols used in the cross-cultural installments of *The Setup* and how both hold space for the ambiguities and discoveries inherent to working with differing cultural imprints and placements. As an independent researcher, Yamauchi is participating in Lacey and Cardona’s process of “discussing/doing/dancing” and examining how the *The Set Up* and its creators are “undoing tendencies toward certainty in art.”

### ABOUT THE ARTISTS

#### WALLY CARDONA is a...

choreographer, dancer, and teacher living in Brooklyn. For several years, he created large works that demanded highly controlled working conditions in order to be made. In 2009, he began to cultivate a practice of undoing by initiating collaborative conditions for his practice to mutate in proximity to others. As the artistic director of WCV, Inc., his work has been presented in the Americas, Europe and Asia, and commissioned by LMCC, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Portland Institute for Contemporary Art, The Joyce Theater, The Kitchen, EMPAC and others. His residencies include Lower Manhattan Cultural Council’s Extended Life Dance Development (2013, 2014, 2015), Process Space (2012), and Swing Space (2010). His awards include the Doris Duke Performing Artist Award; Asian Cultural Council Fellowship; John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship; NYFA Fellowship; Creative Capital; and a New York Dance and Performance “Bessie” Award.

#### JENNIFER LACEY is a...

choreographer whose practice is based on an interrogative development; producing aesthetic rules, body vocabulary, and behaviors specific to each piece, which are often—but not always—performative. The recipient of a 2014 Doris Duke Impact Award, her work has been presented at international venues including ImPulsTanz, The Tate Modern, the Biennale de Lyon, Festival Montpellier Danse, Tanzquartier Vienna, Centre Pompidou, and Kyoto Arts Center.

#### JONATHAN BEPLER is a...

composer who is interested in collaboration and interdisciplinary work often involves co-mingling many seemingly disparate elements, a love of chaos, and a thirst for reconciliation. Having sung title roles in operas, supervised sound installations, taught music and collaborated with choreographers, his work with Matthew Barney has spanned nearly 20 years and has included seven films and nine performances. His concert music includes commissions for the Ensemble Modern, the Glenn Branca Ensemble, and the Basel Synfonietta.

### ARTISTS STATEMENT FROM WALLY CARDONA & JENNIFER LACEY ABOUT THE SET UP

Present in the working process are questions of access, privilege, survival, economics, policy-making; dance-making; pedagogy; belief & doubt; presence, re-presence & representation; encoded systems & production tropes; identity - of dance, of body. These can never be under-interrogated. The Set Up does not demonstrate, comment on or try to dissolve these questions. But it does seek to embody, engage and create movement around them within the work itself.

Rather than proposing a hardening of borders via comparison, we bring a practice of unknowing to these forces, allowing the poetics of contrasts and resonances to play out. Creating perceptions that construct an image can be important (and hard) work. The Set Up is more occupied with the letting go of an image: of self, of “other”.

During River To River, you can enjoy a **25% discount** from the following Merchants Hospitality establishments by mentioning “River To River” between June 18-28, 2015: **The Black Hound, Clinton Hall, Industry Kitchen, Merchants River House, Pound & Pence, SouthWestNY, Watermark**

#### CONNECT TO LMCC

Learn more about *River To River* at [RiverToRiverNYC.com](http://RiverToRiverNYC.com)

Join the conversation on Twitter @LMCC, like us on [Facebook.com/LMCCNYC](https://www.facebook.com/LMCCNYC) and share with us on Instagram @LMCC\_NYC

Make sure you use the hashtag #R2R15 so that we can follow along!

## ABOUT OPEN STUDIOS

*OPEN STUDIOS*, presented by Lower Manhattan Cultural Council (LMCC), inspire local residents and workers in the neighborhood by connecting them to artists, new ideas and perspectives, and other art-lovers to demonstrate the role artists play in creating vibrant, sustainable communities. This initiative is a year-round series of events that brings audiences closer to the creative process and can take several forms, ranging from visits to visual artists' studios to open rehearsals with performing artists and talks that engage artists and other creative practitioners in conversation about their work. LMCC encourages audiences of all ages and backgrounds to engage with creative work and the individuals who make it, on a personal level, leading to a deeper appreciation for the process of creativity and an understanding of the role artists play in their communities.

## SUPPORT LMCC

LMCC works in partnership with artists, individuals, local organizations, and civic, corporate, and cultural leaders to build vibrant communities that are at the forefront of arts and culture. Together, we foster artistic growth and long-term sustainability that invigorate our diverse neighborhoods downtown and reach communities throughout Manhattan and the wider NYC metro region.

## ABOUT RIVER TO RIVER

The annual River To River Festival is June 18-28 in Lower Manhattan and on Governors Island!

Over 11 days, River To River offers more than 60 **live events and happenings**, all of which are free to the public. As a festival goer, you can attend dance and music performances, **socialize** with festival artists and art lovers during our R2R Living Room events, and **learn** more about the creative processes of artists during our Open Studios events.

To learn more about River To River, visit [RiverToRiverNYC.com](http://RiverToRiverNYC.com).

**JOIN OUR ROBUST NETWORK** of individuals from across the business and cultural sectors who share a passion for both the arts and the growing community in Lower Manhattan. Find out more about ways to become a donor, a volunteer, or a sponsor, as well as how to support the artists working in our programs by attending a special event by visiting [LMCC.net/support/](http://LMCC.net/support/)

## RIVER TO RIVER SUPPORTERS

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Additional support has been provided by Ameriprise Financial, Con Edison, Mertz Gilmore Foundation, National Parks Service, NYC Department of Parks & Recreation, NYC Department of Transportation, and Trinity Wall Street.

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