Movement Research is a world leader in the support of experimental dance and movement-based performance art. We believe dance is a vital part of society and that the arts must engage with our times. Our core programs include the Movement Research Festival, a long-standing biannual event featuring a diverse range of performing artists; an artist-in-residence program; Dance Makers in the Schools, which present dance in New York City schools; a national and international artist advisory council; and an artist curator approach that nurtures and instigates discourse and experimentation.

Movement Research seeks to redefine the cultural, political and economic diversity of its moving community, including artists and audiences alike.

**About the Movement Research Festival**
The Movement Research Festival (MRF) began in the improvisation Festival/New York (IF/NY) in 1992, founded in 1990 by artists Sara Auster and Bill T. Jones. MRF has since become a key home for the creation and presentation of experimental dance and movement-based performance. The festival is a space for artists to explore new ideas, experiment with their practice, and connect with peers. It is an event that showcases the breadth and depth of contemporary dance and movement-based performance.

**FESTIVAL ARTISTS:**
- Adam Soch
- Bessie McDonough-Thayer
- BS Movement
- Brother(hood) Dance!
- Cakes Da Killa
- Carlos Soto
- Charles Atlas
- Deville Cohen
- DJ Adam Rhodes
- Doreen Garner
- Dynasty Handbag
- Erica Magrey
- Greer Dorman
- Jackie 60
- MCs
- Paul Alexander and Chi Chi Valent
- with DJ Johnny Dynell
- Jasmine Hearn
- Jen Sullivan
- Kembra Pfahler
- Kenya (Robinson)
- Larissa Velez-Jackson
- Liz McAuliffe
- Lucy Sexton
- Manci
- Michael DiPietro
- Mr. Richard Kennedy
- Narcissister
- Raja Feather Kelly
- Reza Abdo
- Slim Ninja
- Sophia Peer
- Tendaiy Kuumba
- Tyler Ashley
- Yozmit

**Movement Research Festival Spring 2017**
May 31 – June 6
Curated by Laurie Berg, Monstah Black and Amy Khoshbin
movementresearch.org/festival

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**SURPRISE!**

**Surprise!**

**Surprise(!)**

**Surprise/!**

**Surprise(!)**

**Surprise!**

**From the Curators:**

In the middle of the intersection we met, simultaneously. Riding on a wave, each of us gravitating toward the unknown, disregarding boundaries that were no longer needed. This place where movement blends with humor, sound paints the landscape and visuals twist the mind into... **surprise!**

Overcome by the political landscape, here we are with our feelings. FUCKING FEELINGS(!) - yell and scream - catharsis - emotional outbursts - dance party - sweat - bodies close together - humor - collaborations with other artists/people who aren’t artists (citizens) - widen your dirty sphere - dance - music - visual art - all in one space - productive political dialogues - conversation - think tank - make fun - make serious - make art - surprise(!)

How can we surprise one another with the unexpected alliances that are made by cross-pollinating our communities and revolutionizing the intended uses of the venues and institutions we’re used to? It’s time to deframe or reframe the suddenly static definitions of what performance, art, and creative expression can be. Does it need the validation of the institution that it is assigned or can it be validated by the diverse communities that support and create it? **surprise/!** the “high” and the “low” are not so different from one another.

Let’s overcome the divisiveness of current politics and culture and pay homage to our roots, subverting boundaries up through showing up and coming together.

**surprise!** It’s a festival duh, we’re doing this.

**Movement Research: A World Leader in the Support of Experimental Dance and Movement-Based Performance Art**
For the duration of the festival, special event hours on view Thursday, June 1st–6pm Daily

On view Thursday, June 1st–6pm Daily

On Friday, we revisit the form of concentric dance performances that move throughout the evening. Dance performances that move as found through costume and fabric. What does our exterior say about our interior, if anything? Head to Howl! Happening for a special screening of Charles Atlas’ iconic film, “docufantasy” starring Clark and Q&A with Charles Atlas and Lucy Sexton to the discussion/!

JUNE 4 SUNDAY
Reza Abdoh: Theater Visionary

HOWL! Happening

6pm Film Screening
7:30pm Q&A with members of Reza Abdoh’s company

FREE

Come to Howl! Happening for a screening of Reza Abdoh: Theatre Visionary, directed by Adam Soch. Reza Abdoh was a creative genius, a charismatic leader, and complex man of his times. Twenty years after his untimely passing, the story of the wunderkind Iranian theatre director is told by his friends, critics, admirers, and through the explosive work he left behind. After the screening, there will be a Q&A with members of Reza Abdoh’s community, his collaborators and friends, to celebrate and promote the work of Middle Eastern and queer artists.

5:30pm MOVEMENT RESEARCH FRIENDS event!

Become a Friend to attend a special pre-show event with Festival artists before the screening. Open to all Friends of Movement Research, to become a Friend, donate today at movementresearch.org/support.

JUNE 5 MONDAY

famed Jackie 60

MC Pull It Sur Prize

Paul Alexander, Chi Chi & special guests. Jackie 60, a nightclub hybrid that blurs the lines between performance and party, will be representing their unique brand of dynamic and unique musical acts and costume geniuses in the form of concentric dance performances that move throughout the evening. Dance performances that move as found through costume and fabric. What does our exterior say about our interior, if anything? Head to Howl! Happening for a special screening of Charles Atlas’ iconic film, “docufantasy” starring Clark and Q&A with Charles Atlas and Lucy Sexton to the discussion/!

JUNE 6 TUESDAY

Vertigo

HOWL! Happening

7:30pm Closing Performance by Lucy Sexton & Michael DiPietro (3pm)

FREE

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JUNE 1 THURSDAY

Inside Out Upside Down

Hearn, Liz McAuliffe, DiPietro, Jasmine BS Movement, Michael Ashley, Manchildblack.

FREE

To the question of how do we perform persona using as found through costume and fabric. What does our exterior say about our interior, if anything? Head to Howl! Happening for a special screening of Charles Atlas’ iconic film, “docufantasy” starring Clark and Q&A with Charles Atlas and Lucy Sexton to the discussion/!

JUNE 2 FRIDAY

Hail the New Puritan

HOWL! Happening

1-6pm Costume-Making Workshops with special guests

FREE

On view Thursday, June 1st–6pm Daily

On view Thursday, June 1st–6pm Daily

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JUNE 3 SATURDAY

Vertigo

HOWL! Happening

7:30pm Reprise. Refocusing our energies, regrouping as a newly-formed community, coming together one last time for the festival, but creating community because we need each other right now so basically we’re all geniuses, end of story.