THE VOXEL

ARTIST RESIDENCY ANNUAL REPORT 2023

TAKE IT OUT ON A FIVE.
CURTAIN CALL
/CUE/ 4/GO
STAGE GOING DARK! THANK YOU, DARK.
FOR THE GROUP
PLEASE.
HOUSE UP
BT02-180712 RAIN_FOREST-DENSE_W_FROGS_ CRICKETS_BIRDS.WAV
EXIT
START CUE
SPOTS, PICK 'EM UP PLEASE.
CAN WE SPIKE THAT.
FADE AND STOP GRAM NEEDLE
PLACES
PULL FOCUS DOWN TO CENTER.

THE VOXEL is a **THEATER**, **INCUBATOR**, & **RESOURCE** for performing artists in Baltimore and across the country, as well as the teaching center and research laboratory of Figure 53 — a small but mighty Baltimore company whose software runs live performances in over 100 countries around the world.

A LETTER FROM CHRIS

CHRIS ASHWORTH

OWNER / FOUNDER

LIZ DEROCHE

VENUE MANAGER

ALEC SPARKS

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

When I imagined building a theater in Baltimore over 10 years ago, I had no idea how many surprises we'd experience trying to make it happen. I certainly had no idea that we'd finish construction in January of 2020, host a single show, and then shut down completely in the face of a massive pandemic.

The Voxel remained closed for almost two years after that, followed by a slow re-awakening, as we began to join forces with local and national artists to reactivate the dormant space.

Today, you can imagine how thrilled I am to share this review of our FIRST FULL YEAR of Voxel artist residencies and classes. For each residency we give artists 24/7 access to our space and equipment, free of charge. If they sell tickets, we do not take a cut.

It has been our honor and great joy to open our doors to these artists. Some are early in their careers, while others are more established. Many have brought work that is unlike anything I've seen before.

We are excited to learn alongside them, and grateful that you have joined us in sharing something human and beautiful, in a room together.

MEET THE RESIDENT ARTISTS

JEFF CAREY

LUMINIFEROUS AETHER

JAN 8 thru FEB 5

TICKETS SOLD : 200

EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC : 21

TEAM MEMBERS : 2

Jeff Carey's "Luminiferous Aether" was inspired by the scientific search for the "light bearing medium" of the same name. Spoiler alert: they found it — we now know it to be the Electromagnetic Spectrum. Exploring the use of **high powered strobe lighting**, Jeff presented a new piece of art that blended light and sound into **immersive visual music**. The finished work encircled the audience with sound and light using multichannel audio and 20 Atomic strobe light fixtures.

"The welcoming, creative and supportive environment multiplied my plan as it unfolded and took it to an entirely NEXT LEVEL."

MARYLAND VOLUNTEER LAWYERS FOR THE ARTS

WORKSHOP JAN 26

ATTENDEES : 50

WORKSHOPS : 1

TEAM MEMBERS : 4

The Voxel teamed up with Maryland Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts (MdVLA) to curate a **free workshop specifically designed for artists** interested in learning about intellectual property, contracts, business entity formation, and insurance.

“This workshop you hosted was incredibly helpful for someone who is at the beginning of (this) journey, and I left the event feeling very grateful.” — Ege Yalcinbas

D&B AUDIOTECHNIK

AUDIO CLASSES

FEB 22

CLASSES : 2

ATTENDEES : 25

TEAM MEMBERS : 3

German speaker manufacturer d&b Audiotechnik offered **two free classes for system engineers, designers, venue operators, and audio system installers**. The class took advantage of our 10-channel d&b surround speaker system plus dual flown 18” subwoofers, in conjunction with a sound spatialization system that is unique to the Baltimore region.

QLAB QCLASS

MARCH 1-3
SEPT 6-8

CLASSES : 6
ATTENDEES : 45
TEAM MEMBERS : 3

A free, full tour of **QLab 5**, from first principles to final output. We covered the fine details of QLab's **audio and video** capabilities, taking detours into the worlds of **MIDI, OSC, lighting, timecode, and scripting**.

MARCH 4
thru
MAY 14

CLASSES : 8
ATTENDEES : 37
TEAM MEMBERS : 1

JAROD HANSON

MARGOLIS METHOD

Through a residency, Jarod offered a **free, long-term Margolis Method workshop series** to the Baltimore theater community. Margolis method merges skill sets of the actor, director, and playwright to **empower theater artists with multi-dimensional tools** in creation. The Method uses concrete, practicable exercises and creative structures to empower artists with a tangible way to work on and improve their craft.

“An invaluable opportunity that was enriching for me and by all accounts every artist I worked with as part of my residency.”

MARYLAND VOLUNTEER LAWYERS FOR THE ARTS FUNDRAISER

We partnered with Maryland Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts for their yearly fundraising party, where guests could **eat, drink, and enjoy live entertainment** from Baltimore-based DJs and musicians.

MARCH 9

TICKETS SOLD : 139

EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC : 1

TEAM MEMBERS : 8

MARCH
10 - 26

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT
WEEKS : 2
TEAM MEMBERS : 2

LIZ DONADIO & SHANNON COLLIS

Liz & Shannon are working on a **large-scale public new media artwork** that explores Baltimore and the surrounding region’s ever-changing landscape. The project will create an **immersive installation** that includes documentation of landmarks, cultural monuments, and changing urban sites that **highlight public space and architectural forms**.

KATIE CALLAHAN

ONCE AT A WEDDING

MARCH
10

MUSIC VIDEO SHOOT
TEAM MEMBERS : 8

Baltimore-based singer/songwriter Katie Callahan recorded the music video for her new single “Once at a Wedding” at The Voxel, and released it on March 10. **Long, single-take shots** created a **theatrical interpretation of a song** that Under the Radar described as "swirling reflective beats, pulsating bass grooves, and sparkling pop hooks.”

“There’s no better place to make your artistic vision come to life than at the hidden gem The Voxel.”

MARCH 30 thru APRIL 2

TICKETS SOLD : 175
ATTENDEES : 300
EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC : 1
TEAM MEMBERS : 42

BRITTANY WILLIAMS

WELCOME TO 25th ST.

FASHION SHOW

Baltimore native Brittany Williams has had a passion for fashion **since the age of 7**. Relocating to New York in 2013 to pursue her career in styling, Brittany enrolled in styling and fashion marketing courses at the Fashion Institute of Technology. Now back in Baltimore, her ‘Welcome to 25th Street Spring Fashion Show’ was **a celebration of the street’s Black-owned clothing brands**.

“The Voxel is the ideal environment to dive head first into a project and know that you will be safe to explore, make mistakes, learn, and grow.”
~ Ben Pierce
Producer

Jonathan Gilmore and the Funktopia crew premiered their latest production ‘The Dark Tower’, **honoring the salons held by Harlem Renaissance pioneer A’Lelia Walker**. Walker was known to offer her home as **a safe space for Black intellects**, artists and queer people, creating a hub for black genius.

JONATHAN GILMORE

APRIL
4 - 23

TICKETS SOLD : 234
EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC : 3
TEAM MEMBERS : 34

FUNKTOPIA : THE DARK TOWER

“This opportunity gave me a microscope to take a closer look at every facet of my organization, productions and fine tune everything we do.”

HONESTLY SPEAKING

PERFORMANCE SERIES

Deaf and hearing artists from across the DC Metropolitan area shared in this Honestly Speaking, Inc. produced micro-season. Nicole Morgan organized and co-produced **22 shows in 35 days**, showcasing the vast talents in the Deaf community, as well as the beauty of its collaborations with the hearing community.

MAY 21
thru
JUNE 25

TICKETS SOLD : 320
EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC : 25
TEAM MEMBERS : 6

BEN LEVINE

OVER/UNDER

JULY
2 - 23

TICKETS SOLD : 240
EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC : 6
TEAM MEMBERS : 19

“The Voxel was the perfect space to develop and premiere a new work -- it's beautifully maintained, perfectly equipped, the vibes are great, the people are a pleasure to be around, and so much more.”

Over/Under was a series of dances viewed from **unexpected perspectives**, enveloping audiences in a large-scale scenic environment to view performances from both above and below. **Staging four separate works in one elaborately constructed room**, audiences rotated through distinct locations within the theater to experience each piece.

As audiences traversed the scenic environment, they wore **headphones** to experience sound scores unique to each piece. And suffice it to say, we’ve never seen a piece that placed dancers **20 feet in the air** above the stage grid, or transported audience members through the theater via a **massive slide**.

TRUEPENNY PROJECTS

LYRA AND THE FEROCIOUS BEAST

JULY 30
thru
AUG 28

TICKETS SOLD : 445
EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC : 10
TEAM MEMBERS : 22

Truepenny director Tessara Morgan produced the **world premier** of “Lyra and the Ferocious Beast”, written by Baltimore native Tatiana Nya Ford. With design inspired by **1970’s Star Trek sets**, the play was brought to life with **large puppets, epic battles, projected scenery, and evocative lighting and costumes**.

“Without the Voxel, our project would not have been the success that it was.”

OCT 30
thru
DEC 22

TICKETS SOLD : 768
PUBLIC EVENTS : 13
TEAM MEMBERS : 20

THE ACME CORPORATION

THE LIGHTS WENT OUT BECAUSE OF A PROBLEM

The Lights Went Out Because of a Problem was **a found opera** about **learning to sing**. It was also about **goofing off, healing from trauma, hanging out, and the pandemic**.

“Working at The Voxel is an unparalleled experience of freedom and support. They really do just want your project to succeed and will work very hard to make sure that it does!”
~ Lola Pierson

the voxel will continue onward in 2024

THE VOXEL

VOXEL.ORG