

**LA MAMA**

**57**

EXPERIMENTAL THEATRE CLUB

*presents*

**COFFEEHOUSE  
CHRONICLES #152  
JOHN JESURUN**



Michal Gamily - Series Director  
Arthur Adair - Educational Outreach

Ellen Stewart Theatre  
66 East 4th Street, NYC, 10003  
April 6, 2019

## ***Coffeehouse Chronicles***

Celebrates the life and work of John Jesurun  
with panelists, live performances and archival material!

Hosted by Nicky Paraiso

With

David Cale, John Hagan, Black-Eyed Susan, Oscar Colon,  
Helena White, Agosto Machado, Greg Mehrten,  
Dan Kuan Peeples, Donna Herman, Asta Hansen,  
Kyle Griffiths, Caleb Hammond, Claire Buckingham, Samuel Im

Nicky Paraiso introduces John Jesurun

Reading from *Chang In a Void Moon*, episode #43 (1988)

Photo Presentation

Panel Discussion

Video from *Shatterhand Massacree*

John & Nicky talk about The 80's

Video from *Everything That Rises Must Converge*

Reading from *Philoktetes* (1994)

Video Presentation

Black Eyed Susan and Claire Buckingham

Photo Presentation

Reading from *Firefall* (2006)

Q&A

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Archive/Resident Artistic Associate: Shigeko Suga

**Coffeehouse Chronicles** is an educational performance series exploring the history and development of Off-Off Broadway from its inception within the Village “Coffeehouse Theatres” of the 1960s through today. Part artist portrait, part creative event, part history lesson, part community forum, it is our mission to provide a home, as did our founder Ellen Stewart, for personal and intimate engagement with art. Since 2005 La MaMa has presented more than 123 Coffeehouse Chronicles featuring personal oral accounts from artists of the day as well as conversations with present day artists who continue to work in the same bold, daring manner. Coffeehouse Chronicles are held one Saturday each month (September through June).

This program is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the city council.

## FEATURING

**John Jesurun** is a writer/director/media artist that integrates text, direction, set and media design. Works include *Chang in a Void Moon*, (Bessie) now in its 61st episode, the media trilogy *Deep Sleep* (Obie), *White Water/Black Maria*, *Red House*, *Everything that Rises Must Converge*, *Firefall* and *Distant Observer*. Varied projects have included Harry Partch’s opera *Delusion of the Fury* at Japan Society, Jeff Buckley’s *Last Goodbye* music video, *Philoktetes* at Soho Rep, *Faust/How I Rose* at BAM. Fellowships include Rockefeller, MacArthur, Guggenheim, NEA, Asian Cultural Council, Foundation for Contemporary Arts. His collection *Shatterhand Massacre and other Media Texts* is published by Performing Arts Journal. His works *Deep Sleep* and *Black Maria* have been acquired by MOMA. *Shadowland*, his ongoing web serial can be seen on Vimeo. New projects include his play *Fuel to the Fire* with actor Antonio Cerezo premiering this November in Mexico City, new *Chang* episodes and a new work with choreographer Juliette Mapp. Website: <https://sites.google.com/site/johnjesurun/>

**Nicky Paraíso** is an actor, musician, writer, performance artist and curator. He has been Director of Programming for The Club at La MaMa since 2001, and is responsible for its surge of theater, performance, dance and cabaret programming. He is also Chief Curator for the annual La MaMa Moves! Dance Festival, celebrating its 14th season in May 2019. Paraíso is a graduate of Oberlin College / Conservatory and holds an M.F.A. from New York University’s Graduate Acting Program. He has been a prolific actor at La MaMa, and in New York downtown theater and performance, since 1979.

**Claire Buckingham** is a New York based actor. Past work with John Jesurun includes *Distant Observer: Tokyo/New York Correspondence*, *Shadowland Live!*, *Stopped Bridge of Dreams* (La MaMa), *Chang In A Void Moon* (Incubator Arts), and *Firefall* (Dance Theatre Workshop). Film Credits include: *Amish Witches* (Lifetime), *Moving Violation* (Image Bear Pictures), *Abduct* (Xavier Cha), *The Ghosts* (Sue de Beer), *Casters* (Erin Gould), and *Planet X* (Jacob Hensberry). BFA: NYU Tisch Experimental Theatre Wing.

**Agosto Machado** first met Ellen Stewart in 1961 and is one of her oldest living “Babies.” At La MaMa, Machado has performed work by Jackie Curtis, John Vaccaro’s Play House of the Ridiculous, H.M. Koutoukas, Jeff Weiss, Paul Foster, Charles Allcroft, Jim Neu, Chris Tanner and finally John Jesurun.

**David Cale** most recently wrote the solo play *Harry Clarke*, starring Billy Crudup, which premiered at the Vineyard Theatre, transferred to Minetta Lane Theater as the first stage production of Audible and received the 2018 Lucille Lortel Award for Outstanding Solo Show. David's solo musical memoir, *We're Only Alive for A Short Amount of Time*, for which he wrote the book, lyrics and co-composed the music with Matthew Dean Marsh, recently premiered on the Mainstage of the Goodman Theatre, Chicago and will begin performances at The Public Theater on June 13th. David has appeared in several episodes of *Chang In a Void Moon* and John's web series *Shadowland*.

**John Hagan** has appeared in *Chang in a Void Moon* since 1983, as well as in many other plays by John Jesurun. He also has performed in works by Robert Ashley, Steve Buscemi, Sanghi Choi, DANCENOISE, Richard Foreman, Mimi Goese, Caleb Hammond, Yolanda Hawkins, William Niederhorn and Stuart Sherman among others. He can be seen as the patient taking an hallucinogenic journey in Aaron Siegel's video opera, *Tea Before You Go* (available on Vimeo and YouTube).

**Caleb Hammond** is a creator of performance, media and visual art. Places he has performed/directed/exhibited include: The Kitchen, PS122, TSA Gallery, The Public, Highways: LA, The Chrysler Museum: Norfolk, The ICA: Boston, The New Haven Festival of Arts and Ideas, The National Theater of Hungary, Maison des Arts: Paris, Nishida Art Museum: Japan, Daegu Art Factory: South Korea, Norte Dance Festival: Portugal, Satellite Art Fair: Miami. Hammond has performed in films and theater directed by Hal Hartley, John Jesurun, Jay Scheib, Shannon Sindelar and Bara Jichova. He has taught theater and art at The New School, Hartford Art School, Carnegie Mellon University, SUNY Purchase and Shanghai Theater Academy. He is currently a lecturer in Theater Arts at MIT.

**Black Eyed Susan** is an original member of Charles Ludlam's Ridiculous Theatrical Company and received a Villager Award and an Obie for Sustained Achievement for her work with the Company. She has also appeared in productions by Ethyl Eichelberger, Stuart Sherman, Mabou Mines, Roslyn Drexler, Jim Neu, Charles Allcroft, Samuel Beckett, Stephanie Fleischmann, John Jahnke, Christina Campanella/Stephanie Fleischmann, and Mallory Catlett.

**Kyle Griffiths** most recently performed in John Jesurun and Takeshi Kawamura's *Distant Observer: Tokyo/New York Correspondence* (La MaMa). New York stage credits include: *Shadowland Live!* (La MaMa), *The Irresistible* (Immersive Gallery), *Chang in A Void Moon* (Incubator Arts), *Firefall* (Dance Theatre Workshop), *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and *Waiting for Godot* (Eugene Lang College).

**Greg Mehrten** has worked with John Jesurun off and on for more than 20 years, performing in many episodes of *Chang In a Void Mood*, as well as playing the Father in *Shatterhand Massacree in Berlin* in 2004. He was a member and co-Artistic Director of Mabou Mines from 1980-1991.



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# LA MAMA

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# LA MAMA



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*Rendering: 74 East 4th St.*

La MaMa's historic, landmark building at 74 East 4th Street is undergoing an urgently needed complete renovation and restoration to preserve the historic façade, create building-wide ADA accessibility, and provide much needed performance, exhibition and community space for decades to come.

La MaMa, founded by Ellen Stewart in 1961, has been on east 4th Street since 1967. La MaMa embraces every person in its community and is legendary as the place where new artists of all nations, cultures, races, and identities are given opportunities. It is the place where art begins.

To learn more about the renovation, or to make a donation please visit [www.lamama.org/remakeaworld](http://www.lamama.org/remakeaworld)