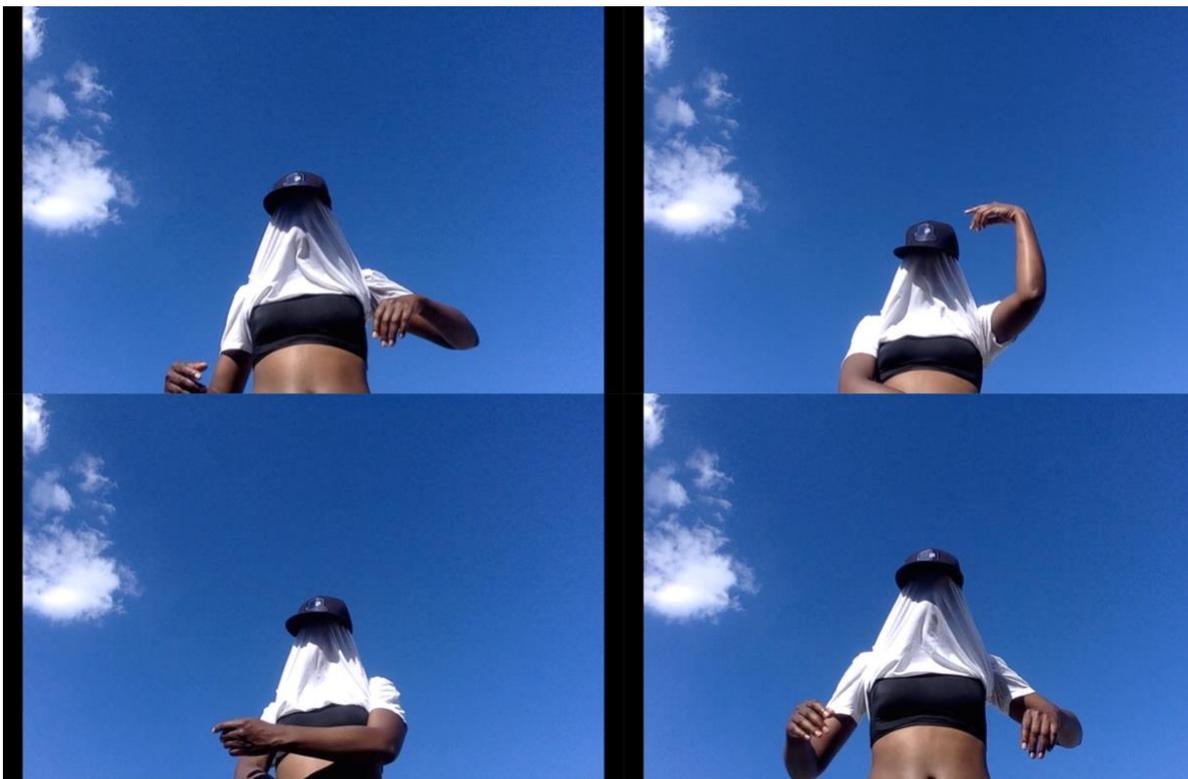


NEW
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MUSEUM

**New Museum Presents the 2021 Artist Residency:
NIC Kay's #blackpeopledancingontheinternet**



New York, NY...New Museum's Department of Education and Public Engagement presents "**NIC Kay: #blackpeopledancingontheinternet**," the Museum's second online artist residency, which foregrounds the department's year-round commitment to contemporary art and growth through inquiry. Artist NIC Kay will develop and present a new multi-platform movement piece, dance video, and sonic environment through this residency, which extends from June 1 to September 15, 2021.

NIC Kay is an interdisciplinary artist, performer, and conceptual choreographer who works with movement to explore relationality and yearning. They employ choreography to excavate relationships between spaces, bodies, and objects in order to shift meanings and change perceptions of place. NIC works site-specifically, informed by architecture and the inner workings of performative spaces—theaters, galleries, nightclubs, sidewalks, and the internet—to create moments of glitch, interruption, or pause. In the course of their practice, NIC has

made durational performances, evening-length dances, experimental theater, performances for the internet, an artist book, sonic interventions, installations, and sculpture.

Building from their personal archive and research practice, NIC's residency at the New Museum will be a new development of *#blackpeopledancingontheinternet*, an ongoing inquiry into the creation, documentation, and circulation of African diasporic dance/movement practices, house and techno music, and Black and queer internet cultures. NIC began using the internet in 1998—as part of the generation whose first social media accounts were on Myspace—and they continue to be fascinated by how these practices manifest through everchanging social media platforms, including YouTube, Vimeo, Facebook, Vine, Triller, Twitter, and TikTok.

Through *#blackpeopledancingontheinternet* NIC explores ways that Black online communities have engaged in transcultural exchange of dance, movement, and music, claiming and maneuvering the internet as a space for visible, culturally coded play, political organization, and innovation.

They are particularly interested in the ways that internet platform design alters and influences textual and movement-based languages, ultimately shaping how content is expressed, framed, and witnessed through media such as video, images, texts, and GIFs; how bodies are compressed and expanded; how blackness can subvert and infiltrate virtual space; and how meaning is made, co-opted, and reclaimed.

NIC's deep attention to digitally-mediated movement will manifest in three parts throughout the residency: a multi-platform, online movement work; a dance film; and a curated series of public programs. The programs will include the premiere of their newly commissioned video, *keep at it*, with an artist talk to follow; a movement workshop *Dancing for the Internet*, facilitated by NIC; and *Sonic Situation*, a two-hour online DJ set with echoes of the internet past and present.

"NIC Kay: *#blackpeopledancingontheinternet*," the New Museum's 2021 artist in residence program, is organized by Emily Mello, Associate Director of Education, and Andrew An Westover, Keith Haring Director of Education and Public Engagement.

NIC Kay (b. 1989, Bronx, NY) makes performances and organizes performative spaces. Their work choreographically highlights and meditates on Black life in relationship to space, social structures, and architecture through centering embodied practices. Their works have been performed nationally and internationally in spaces including Akademie der Künste, Berlin, Germany; Buddies in Bad Times Theatre, Toronto, Canada; Encuentro 19, Mexico City, Mexico; Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, United Kingdom; Portland Institute of Contemporary Art, Portland, OR; and University of Arts, Zürich, Switzerland. NIC was a Foundation for Contemporary Arts Grants to Artists Award (2020). They published their first book, *Cotton Dreams*, with Candor Arts in 2020. NIC is a Black queer trans non-binary person.

ABOUT NEW MUSEUM

The New Museum is the only museum in New York City exclusively devoted to contemporary art. Founded in 1977, the New Museum is a center for exhibitions, information, and documentation about living artists from around the world. From its beginnings as a one-room office on Hudson Street to the inauguration of its first freestanding building on the Bowery designed by SANAA in 2007, the New Museum continues to be a place of experimentation and a hub of new art and new ideas.

SUPPORT

Artist commissions at the New Museum are generously supported by the Neeson / Edlis Artist Commissions Fund.

Artist residencies are made possible, in part, by:
Laurie Wolfert
The Research & Residencies Council of the New Museum

Artist support is provided, in part, by Laura Skoler.

Support for Education and Public Engagement programs is provided, in part, by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, and the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

Endowment support is provided by the Rockefeller Brothers Fund; the Skadden, Arps Education Programs Fund; and the William Randolph Hearst Endowed Fund for Education Programs at the New Museum.

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Image: NIC Kay, #blackpeopledancingontheinternet, 2021. Digital Image, dimensions variable. Courtesy of the artist.

Image Description: This image contains four photographs featured in a grid-like formation. Each photograph features NIC Kay in various poses with a particular focus on their hands. Their face is covered with a white t-shirt, they are wearing a short black tank top and a blue hat. In the background, there is a blue sky with a small white cloud hovering in the top left-hand corner of the image