



World Premiere of Armory Commission by Anne Imhof

Imhof's Largest Performative Work to Date Transforms the Armory with a Genre-Defying Durational Experience

Park Avenue Armory's Wade Thompson Drill Hall,
March 3-12, 2025

New York, NY—January 14, 2025—This March, Park Avenue Armory presents the world premiere of a new Armory commission and the largest performative work to date by acclaimed multidisciplinary artist **Anne Imhof**. Titled *DOOM: HOUSE OF HOPE*, this approximately-three-hour performance brings together a cast of dancers, artists, musicians, poets, and other performers from varying disciplines. Together, they will cohabitate alongside the audience within the Armory's soaring Wade Thompson Drill Hall, animating immersive scenes and guiding audiences on a collective journey towards community and hope in the midst of uncertainty about the past, present, and future. Set against a backdrop where anxiety and optimism coexist in a delicate balance between apathy and action, Imhof's creation emerges as a seismic reflection of our society and collective consciousness. Curated by **Klaus Biesenbach**, *DOOM* runs at the Armory from March 3 through March 12, 2025.

“True to the Armory's vision for its commissions, Anne Imhof's *DOOM* breaks the boundaries of traditional performance by leveraging the scale of the Drill Hall to create an immersive, alternate universe,” said **Pierre Audi, the Armory's Anita K. Hersh Artistic Director**. “We are excited to unleash Imhof's unparalleled creative vision in our space, where her world-building can expand to its largest-ever scale, completely enveloping audiences within the work.”

“As her first performance of this magnitude in the United States, this commission represents a significant moment for Anne, and we're eager for New York audiences to experience her work. With *DOOM*, she casts her audience within the performance, bringing them on a journey underscored by renewed feelings of hope and collectivism—a much-needed tonic for our current moment,” said **Rebecca Robertson, the Adam R. Flatto Founding President and Executive Producer of Park Avenue Armory**.

Based between Berlin and Los Angeles, German artist Anne Imhof is celebrated for her multifaceted practice spanning painting, drawing, installation, sculpture, film, performance, and choreography—all conceived through her accomplished collaging of perspective, framing, and her treatment of bodies in motion as gestural agents and surfaces to compose images completed by the audience. Renowned for her visceral durational works, Imhof has developed a unique movement vernacular in collaboration with artists from various fields. This distinctive process has created time-based images that have led to Imhof being touted as bringing a new, widely inclusive approach to performance. Following her exhibition and performance of *Faust* for the German Pavilion at the 2017 Venice Biennale, for which she was awarded the prestigious Golden Lion Award, Imhof has received further critical acclaim for solo exhibitions at MoMA PS1 in New York, the Tate Modern in London, The Art Institute of Chicago, Palais de Tokyo in Paris, Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam, and most recently at Kunsthau Bregenz.

Deepening the artist's presence in the US, *DOOM* is Imhof's most ambitious stateside project to date, following her solo exhibition at Sprüth Magers Los Angeles in 2023. This nearly three-hour performance features a cast of nearly 60 predominantly New York-based performers, who create an experience that blurs the lines between observer and participant. Among others, the cast includes actors, skaters, and dancers—including members from the Flexn and Line Dance communities. Full casting details will be announced in advance of the opening.

“Anne Imhof has shown herself as one of the most seismographically astute and inventive artists of our time,” said curator **Klaus Biesenbach**. “She possesses a perceptive and, at the same time, transformative quality to move bodies, images, and sounds through the exhibition space that creates strong resonances in the audiences and performers alike—and she plans to share this exploratory approach in New York through a special journey this March at the Armory.”

Added **Anne Imhof**, “*DOOM* is my love letter to New York, a city that is very close to my heart and has inspired me for many years. For this show, I feel honored to work with a diverse subset of the city's artistic community. Another major inspiration for the performance is the immensity of the Drill Hall, which has both shaped the work and enabled me to make a piece that is bigger and more complex than anything I've done before. The work is not complete until the audience is present, and I look forward to experiencing the energy that New York will bring to it.”

World Premiere, A Park Avenue Armory Commission

DOOM: HOUSE OF HOPE

March 3 – 12, 2025

Concept, Artist **Anne Imhof**

Curation **Klaus Biesenbach**

Scenography **sub**

Choreography **Josh Johnson**

Music Direction **Ville Haimala**

Sound Design **Mark Grey**

Lighting Design **Urs Schönebaum**

Design, Art Direction **Zak Group**

PERFORMANCES

Monday–Wednesday, Friday at 7:00pm

Saturday at 2:00pm

TICKETS: \$50 (plus fees)

Artist Talk: Anne Imhof

Thursday, March 11 at 5:30pm

Tickets: \$25 (plus fees)

Multidisciplinary artist and creator **Anne Imhof** is joined by writer and curator **Ebony L. Haynes** to examine the creative process and development of this latest Armory commission and the experience of fully realizing it in the Wade Thompson Drill Hall.

SPONSORSHIP

Citi and Bloomberg Philanthropies are Park Avenue Armory's 2025 Season Sponsors. Leadership support for the Armory's artistic programming has been generously provided by the Charina Endowment Fund, Donald A. Pels Charitable Trust, the Pinkerton Foundation, and the Thompson Family Foundation.

Major support was also provided by the Emily Davie and Joseph S. Kornfeld Foundation, the Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, the Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, the Howard Gilman Foundation, the Marc Haas Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, and Wescustogo Foundation. Additional support has been provided by the Armory's Artistic Council. Public support is provided by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature as well as the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council under the leadership of Speaker Adrienne Adams.

DOOM: HOUSE OF HOPE is made possible with the support of Agnes Gund and Tishman Speyer.

ABOUT ANNE IMHOF

Anne Imhof lives and works in Berlin and Los Angeles. Her paintings, sculptures, and performances have been shown internationally since 2012. Imhof's work has been the subject of monographic exhibitions at Kunsthau Bregenz (2024); Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam (2022); Palais de Tokyo, Paris (*Carte Blanche*, 2021); Castello di Rivoli Museum of Contemporary Art (2020); Tate Modern, London (2019); The Art Institute of Chicago (2019); the German Pavilion at the 57th International Art Exhibition – La Biennale di Venezia (2017); Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin (2016); Kunsthalle Basel (2016); MoMA PS1, New York (2015); Carré d'Art - Musée d'Art Contemporain de Nîmes (2014); and Portikus, Frankfurt am Main (2013). Her work has also been featured in numerous group exhibitions, including at Tai Kwun, Hong Kong (2019); La Biennale de Montréal (2016); Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2015); the Centre Pompidou, Paris (2015); and the Museum für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt am Main (2014). She represented Germany at the 2017 Venice Biennale, where she was awarded the Golden Lion for Best National Participation, and won the Absolut Art Award (2017) and the Preis der Nationalgalerie (2015). Imhof was a guest professor and artist-in-residence at the Akademie der Bildenden Künste, Munich (2015) and a visiting artist at Städelschule, Frankfurt am Main; Yale University, New Haven; and the ArtCenter College of Design, Pasadena, among others. Imhof co-writes the music for her performance pieces, including *Angst*, *Faust* (both together with Franziska Aigner, Billy Bultheel, and Eliza Douglas) and *Sex* (together with Bultheel, Douglas, and Ville Haimala). In 2017, Galerie Buchholz released her debut single, *Brand New Gods*. Her debut album, *Faust*, was released by PAN in 2019.

ABOUT PARK AVENUE ARMORY

Part palace, part industrial shed, Park Avenue Armory supports unconventional works in the performing and visual arts that cannot be fully realized in a traditional proscenium theater, concert hall, or white wall gallery. With its soaring 55,000-square-foot Wade Thompson Drill Hall—reminiscent of 19th-century European train stations—and an array of exuberant period rooms, the Armory provides a platform for artists to push the boundaries of their practice, collaborate across disciplines, and create new work in dialogue with the historic building. Across its grand and intimate spaces, the Armory enables a diverse range of artists to create, students to explore, and audiences to experience epic, adventurous, relevant work that cannot be done elsewhere in New York.

The Armory both commissions and presents performances and installations in the grand Drill Hall and offers more intimate programming through its acclaimed *Recital Series*, which showcases musical talent from across the globe within the salon setting of the Board of Officers Room; its *Artists Studio* series curated by Jason Moran in the restored Veterans Room; *Making Space at the Armory*, a public programming series that brings together a discipline-spanning group of artists and cultural thought-leaders around the important issues of our time; and the *Malkin Lecture Series* that features presentations by scholars and writers on topics related to Park Avenue Armory and its history. In addition, the Armory also has a year-round Artists-in-Residence program, providing space and support for artists to create new work and expand their practices.

The Armory's creativity-based arts education programs provide access to the arts to thousands of students from underserved New York City public schools, engaging them with the institution's artistic programming and

outside-the-box creative processes. Through its education initiatives, the Armory provides access to all Drill Hall performances, workshops taught by Master Teaching Artists, and in-depth residencies that support the schools' curriculum. Youth Corps, the Armory's year-round paid internship program, begins in high school and continues into the critical post-high school years, providing interns with mentored employment, job training, and skill development, as well as a network of peers and mentors to support their individual college and career goals.

The Armory is undergoing a multi-phase renovation and restoration of its historic building led by architects Herzog & de Meuron, with Platt Byard Dovell White as Executive Architects.

www.armoryonpark.org

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