



Park Avenue Armory to Present North American Premiere of New Commissioned Film Installation by Julian Rosefeldt

**With Original Music by Samy Moussa Performed by the Brooklyn Youth
Chorus and Acclaimed Jazz Drummers, Immersive Multi-Channel Film
Installation Takes Aim at Capital, Consumption, and Greed**

November 29, 2022 – January 8, 2023

New York, NY – June 20, 2022 – Park Avenue Armory will close out its 2022 season with the North American premiere of a new commission by German artist and filmmaker **Julian Rosefeldt**. Returning to the Armory after the 2016 presentation of his critically acclaimed film installation *Manifesto*, Rosefeldt will take over the 55,000-square-foot Wade Thompson Drill Hall with *Euphoria*, a visually and aurally resplendent multi-channel film installation that considers the destructive potential of capital, greed, and consumption. On view from November 29, 2022 through January 8, 2023, *Euphoria* is scored with original music by **Samy Moussa** and additional music by **Cassie Kinoshi**, performed on film by 140 singers from the **Brooklyn Youth Chorus** and five acclaimed jazz drummers: Grammy Award winner **Terri Lyne Carrington**, Grammy Award winner **Peter Erskine**, **Yissy García**, **Eric Harland**, and **Antonio Sanchez**. Making its debut at the Armory, *Euphoria* is co-commissioned by Holland Festival, Ruhrtriennale Festival of the Arts, RISING Melbourne, and Sydney Festival in Association with Weltkulturerbe Völklinger Hütte.

“Following the success of *Manifesto*, which was so well received by audiences at the Armory and around the world, we are thrilled to work with Julian to bring his latest project to the Drill Hall,” said **Rebecca Robertson, the Armory’s Founding President and Executive Producer**. “*Euphoria* reflects a continuation of the Armory’s commitment to providing artists with the creative and physical space to push the boundaries of their practice, and provide relevant, thought-provoking interrogations of timely issues.”

“*Euphoria* represents a milestone moment in Julian’s illustrious career, as he delves into longstanding motifs central to his practice, including the use of text fragments, and applies his intellectual meditations on capitalism and economic theory to this project,” said **Pierre Audi, the Armory’s Marina Kellen French Artistic Director**. “The resulting installation is an artistic achievement that serves as a critique of our consumer society, a contemplation on greed and its centrality to human nature, and a moment to reflect on the ways in which the creation of wealth has supplanted humanity’s most valuable creation—art.”

Euphoria offers an absurdist reflection on the history of human greed, the consequences of mass consumption, the dangers of unchecked economic growth, and the interweaving of capitalism and other timely socio-political issues such as feminism and post-colonialism. The work will be presented in an immersive arena-like setting in the Armory’s Drill Hall, where audiences will be able to move freely amidst a surrounding ring of large-scale video screens. The central film, shot on location in various cities around the world—including a pre-war Kyiv—depicts imagined discussions on greed and scenes of euphoric production and consumption—among them a bank lobby that fills with surreal magic tricks, dance choreographies, and acrobatics; five homeless men contemplating economic theory; and a singing tiger in a supermarket, voiced by Academy Award winner **Cate Blanchett**. These scenes are scripted with reframed quotations from economists, business magnates, writers, philosophers, celebrities, and other notable historic and contemporary figures—from **Sophocles, Warren Buffett, Ayn Rand, and Milton Friedman** to **Audre Lorde, John Steinbeck, Donna**

Haraway, and **Snoop Dogg**—creating unexpected juxtapositions of language and context that bring new meaning, relevance, and impact to the words. The accompanying musical elements will be projected simultaneously on a surrounding ring of screens, with the singers of the Brooklyn Youth Chorus—projected life-size—functioning almost as the commenting chorus in classical Greek theater as they echo fragments of text from the dialogues and monologues in the central film. A group of five of America’s most acclaimed jazz drummers perform a rhythmic score mimicking the constant hum of the machinery of capitalism.

“*Euphoria* is the result of my longstanding interest in the texts of economic theory and offers the space for dialogue and reflection as we witness society’s ongoing euphoric, unlimited consumption binge,” said Julian Rosefeldt. “As the seldom questioned motto of continual economic growth unfolds globally and limitlessly, my work addresses the lack of an alternative. The seductive aspect of capitalism concerns all of us, because as individuals we are all part of the system, which extends far beyond economics to create imbalances and inequalities in the social and political issues of our time.”

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

November 29, 2022 – January 8, 2023

Mondays–Thursdays: 12:00pm–7:00pm

Fridays: 12:00pm–9:00pm

Saturdays: 12:00pm–7:00pm

Sundays: 12:00pm–6:00pm

Holiday Hours:

Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve:

12:00pm–4:00pm

Christmas Day: Closed

TICKETS

Tickets start at \$18 plus fees and can be purchased at armoryonpark.org or by phone through the Armory Box Office at (212) 933-5812, Monday through Friday from 10am to 6pm.

INSTALLATION CREDITS

Commissioned and Produced by **Park Avenue Armory**

Co-Commissioned by **Holland Festival, Ruhrtriennale Festival of the Arts, RISING Melbourne, Sydney Festival, in Association with Weltkulturerbe Völklinger Hütte**

Written, Directed, Produced **Julian Rosefeldt**

Music **Samy Moussa**

Executive Producer **Wassili Zygouris**

Executive Producer Kyiv **Anastasiya Bukovska, Tatyana Kurmaz, Family Production**

Executive Producer New York **Christian Detres, See The Tree Productions**

Executive Producer Sofia **Konstantina Manolova, Solent Film**

Director of Photography **Christoph Krauss**

Set Design **Nadja Götze**

Costume Design **Daniela Backes, Bina Daigeler**

Hair/ Make-Up **Julia Böhm, Katharina Thieme, Sonia Salazar-Delgado**

Choreography, Bank Scene **Richard Siegal**

Sound Recording **David Hilgers, Oliver Göbel, Ludwig Fiedler**

Sound Design **Thomas Appel**
Editing **Bobby Good**

Dramaturgy **Tobias Staab**
Text collages **Julian Rosefeldt, Tobias Staab**
Dramaturgical advice **Janaina Pessoa**
Assistant Director **Denis Sonin, Ires Jung**
Casting **Cassandra Han**

Musical Concept **Julian Rosefeldt**
Composition **Samy Moussa**
Additional Music **Cassie Kinoshi**
Brooklyn Youth Chorus Director **Dianne Berkun Menaker**
Music Production **Ed Williams, Dianne Berkun Menaker**
Sound engineer music recording **Isaiah Abolin**

With **Giancarlo Esposito, Virginia Newcomb, Ayesha Jordan, Kate Strong, Jeff Wood, Erik Hansen, Tim Williams, Jeff Burrell, Robert Bronzi, Rocio Rodriguez-Inniss, Dora Zygouri, Esther Odumade, Tia Murrell, Asa Ali, Luis Rosefeldt, Richard Siegal, Nena Sorzano, Corey Scott-Gilbert, Jared Brown**, and the voice of **Cate Blanchett**

And **Terri Lyne Carrington, Peter Erskine, Yissy García, Eric Harland, Antonio Sanchez**, as well as the singers of the **Brooklyn Youth Chorus**.

SPONSORSHIP

Citi and Bloomberg Philanthropies are the Armory's 2022 Season Sponsors.

Support for Park Avenue Armory's artistic season has been generously provided by the Charina Endowment Fund, the Donald A. Pels Charitable Trust, The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, the Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, the Howard Gilman Foundation, the Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, The Emma and Georgina Bloomberg Foundation, the Marc Haas Foundation, the Leon Levy Foundation, the May and Samuel Rudin Family Foundation, Gregory Annenberg Weingarten, GRoW @ Annenberg, the Richenthal Foundation, and the Isak and Rose Weinman Foundation. Additional support has been provided by the Armory's Artistic Council.

ABOUT JULIAN ROSEFELDT

The Berlin-based artist Julian Rosefeldt (born 1965 in Munich) studied Architecture in Munich and Barcelona (MA 1994). He is internationally renowned for his visually opulent and meticulously choreographed moving image artworks, mostly presented as complex multi-screen installations. Inspired equally by the histories of film, art, and popular culture, Rosefeldt uses familiar cinematic tropes to carry viewers into surreal, theatrical realms, where the inhabitants are absorbed by the rituals of everyday life, employing humor and satire to seduce audiences into familiar worlds made strange. Rosefeldt holds a professorship of Media Art at the Academy of Fine Arts in Munich since 2011.

Recent solo shows were held at: Museum MACAN (2020), Jakarta; Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C. (2019); The Israel Museum, Jerusalem (2019); Hauser & Wirth, Los Angeles (2018); Musée d'art contemporain Montréal (2018); Auckland Art Gallery (2018); Nikolaj Kunsthal, Copenhagen (2017); HOW Art Museum, Shanghai (2017); National Gallery Prague (2017); Park Avenue Armory, New York (2016);

Hamburger Bahnhof – Museum für Gegenwart, Berlin (2016); Sprengel Museum Hanover (2016); and ACMI – Australian Centre for the Moving Image, Melbourne (2015). Recent group shows include *The Cindy Sherman Effect*, Kunstforum Vienna (2020); *Hollywood and other Myths*, Tel Aviv Museum of Art (2018); and 1st Riga Biennial (2018).

Collections including his works, a.o.: Museum of Modern Art New York; Goetz Collection Munich; Nationalgalerie Berlin; National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne; The Israel Museum, Jerusalem; CIFO – Cisneros Fontanals Art Foundation, Miami; and Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney.

ABOUT SAMY MOUSSA

Samy Moussa is a Canadian composer and conductor, born in Montreal in 1984. He was awarded a year-long fellowship at the German Academy in Rome “Villa Massimo” (2018-19), the Hindemith Prize (2017), Quebec’s Composer of the Year (2015), and the Composer’s Prize from the Ernst von Siemens Music Foundation (2013). He has conducted the Bayerische Staatsoper, Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra, Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, and Zurich Chamber Orchestra, among others. Moussa is currently composing a new work for the Vienna Philharmonic and Christian Thielemann. His music for orchestra has been championed by world renowned conductors such as Christoph Eschenbach, Hannu Lintu, Stéphane Denève, and Kent Nagano. Past performers of his compositions include the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin, Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Brussels Philharmonic, and Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra. His music is published by Durand (Universal Music Publishing Classical).

ABOUT CASSIE KINOSHI

Cassie Kinoshi (b. 1993) is a Mercury Award-nominated and Ivors Academy Award-winning (formerly known as BASCA, British Composer Award) London-based composer, arranger, and alto-saxophonist. She is currently working in theater, film, contemporary dance, and both the jazz and classical performance worlds. Kinoshi is best known for her work with her large ensemble seed (formerly known as SEED Ensemble) alongside bands KOKOROKO and Nérija. She was Mercury Musical Developments’ and Musical Theatre Network’s Cameron Mackintosh Resident Composer Scheme recipient at Dundee Rep Theatre from 2018-19 and was a part of the London Symphony Orchestra Panufnik Scheme 2018-19.

Outside of theater, Kinoshi has worked as a curator for the Royal Albert Hall’s Elgar Room alongside Moses Boyd (*Unstoppable Voices*, 2018) as well as writing and arranging music for events such as Women of the World Festival 2017 (Royal Festival Hall). She also featured as a part of Soweto Kinch’s BBC Four show *Jazzology* and is regularly invited as a radio and live panel guest to discuss politics, society, and music. Kinoshi also works as an educator and workshop leader, her most recent work being at the EFG London Jazz Festival 2019 for Serious’ Womxn Make Music performance at the Southbank Centre.

ABOUT BROOKLYN YOUTH CHORUS

Founded in 1992, Brooklyn Youth Chorus is regarded as one of the top youth choruses in the United States, noted both for its artistic rigor and its high-quality musical training of more than 600 young singers each year.

Brooklyn Youth Chorus began with the mission to provide the highest-quality musical training to New York City’s young people. In addition to providing training and educational programming for the more than 600 choristers in our seven training divisions, the typical season includes more than 30 professional-level performances for its top three performing ensembles, including commissioned full-length vocal theater productions as well as artistic collaborations with artists and organizations including the New York Philharmonic, indie rock band The National, Sir Elton John, and many more.

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 provides 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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Media Contacts

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