

# TRIBE

MULTIDISCIPLINARY  
VISUAL PERFORMANCES



“Another person challenging the traditional views on Black masculinity is Shamel Pitts, one of the most acclaimed dancers/choreographers of his generation and a shining example of Black excellence.”

– Thembela Ngayi [AFROPUNK](#)

# ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT

## TRIBE | ABOUT

TRIBE (TRI314 Multidisciplinary Visual Performances, d/b/a TRIBE), is a Brooklyn, New York based multidisciplinary arts collective founded by Shamel Pitts in December 2019. The arts collective, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is composed of international and local artists working across mediums such as movement, choreography, lighting design, video mapping projection, poetry, spoken word, painting, cinematography, scenography, dramaturgy, costume styling, and music composition.

>> [itsatribe.org](https://itsatribe.org)

## TRIBE | MISSION




TRIBE's mission is cultivating space to create a platform for artists – most specifically artists of color – with huge inspiration from the Afrofuturism movement. This movement states that we have a responsibility through our work to tell new stories and create a brighter future that is different, and shines more luminously, from its past.


>> [itsatribe.org/about](https://itsatribe.org/about)

## TRIBE | TOURING LIVE PERFORMANCES

[BLACK HOLE - Trilogy And Triathlon](#)

[Touch of RED](#)

-  [itsatribe.org](https://itsatribe.org)
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-  [fb.com/itsatribe](https://www.facebook.com/itsatribe)
-  [vimeo.com/tribemvp](https://vimeo.com/tribemvp)
-  [@itsatribe](https://www.youtube.com/@itsatribe)

 153 Jefferson Ave, Suite #1  
Brooklyn, NY 11216





# BLACK HOLE

— Trilogy And Triathlon —



BLACK HOLE researches and shares an odyssey where three Black performers create a trinity of vigor, Afrofuturism, and embrace. Engulfed in an evocative soundscape of original music, sound samples, and spoken word, the dancers embark on a demanding hour-long journey in which their tenacity and grace are emphasized by cinematic video projections and stark, monochromatic lights. Mesmerizing and hauntingly magical, BLACK HOLE constitutes the final installment of Shamel Pitt's "BLACK Series" triptych—marking the initial meeting between this choreographer and the artists of TRIBE.

An odyssey of vigor, afrofuturism, and embrace.

>> [One Pager](#)

>> [Official Video Trailer](#) by Itai Zwecker

>> [Official Video Teaser](#) by The Adeboye Brothers

>> [BLACK HOLE website](#)

*“The whole hourlong work... is curiously stylish and sincere, glossily cold and tender. Always visually striking, it’s never dull.”*



— Brian Seibert [The New York Times, Critics' Pick](#)

## REVIEWS

*“These bodies are bronzed and creaturely. These are dancers of strong presence and control.”*  
— Brian Seibert [The New York Times](#)

*“The sounds of electronic music contributed to the futuristic-cosmic atmosphere in a play, at times calming, at times pulsating.”*  
— Radmila Djurica [Arts Tribune](#)

*“Black Hole is a work of magical realism.”*  
— Emilee Lord [thINKingDANCE](#)

*“The audience embarked on a cosmic evolution of mankind.”*  
— Adrian Green [Dance Currents](#)

*“Otherworldly...BLACK HOLE is a work of magical realism.”*

— Emilee Lord [thINKingDANCE](#)



# TOUCH OF RED



Touch of RED is a duet of two men that takes place inside of a contemporary ring. Its research deals with the allowance of black men to soften; the power in vulnerability; and the meeting point of two individuals within a boxed space that references a futuristic and voyeuristic gladiator entertainment site. Within this boxed space a heat path between the two performers builds, not out of aggression or combat, but within an enhanced electrifying effeminacy that heals.

Bold. Boiled. Blood.

>> [One Pager](#)

>> [Official Video Teaser](#) by The Adeboye Brothers

>> [Touch of RED website](#)

*“Pitts and Fredericks bring their radical vulnerability to the audience.”*

– Candice Thompson [Fjord Review](#)

## REVIEWS

*“Touch of RED’ is a work where the space – as opposed to time- determines the movement, exploring both the lethality and vulnerability with being close to another person.”*

– Jess Ruhlin [BODIES NEVER LIE](#)

*“It’s a dazzling show.”*

– Marina Harss [Fjord Review](#)

*“Another person challenging the traditional views on Black masculinity is Shamel Pitts, one of the most acclaimed dancers/choreographers of his generation and a shining example of Black excellence.”*

– Thembela Ngayi [AFROPUNK](#)

*“Touch of RED’ held me in its grasp from the second I entered the venue, from the twisting route to my seat, to the stark intimacy immediately on display. It set all my nerves on fire, still burning as I recall the experience.”*

– Tristan Bruns [See Chicago Dance](#)

*“So often I felt like my vulnerability and sensitivity and fragility was a weakness. But I wish to share with people, particularly other Black boys and men, that there is power within vulnerability.”*

– Shamel Pitts [DANCE Magazine](#)



### Shamel Pitts: Black Hole review - fragile glimpses of an Afrofuturist world



Black Hole ... cosmic consciousness. Photograph: Adeboye Brothers

The Guardian - May 7, 2023

### The New York Times

#### Review: Where a Boxer's Clinch Is a Slow-Dance Embrace

Shamel Pitts's "Touch of Red," at New York Live Arts, takes place in a boxing ring. It's not a competition, though. It's a relationship.



The New York Times - April 28, 2023



### HOW ART CHANGED PERFORMANCE ARTIST SHAMEL PITTS

ALL\*ARTS ALL ARTS - April 26, 2023

### LA WEEKLY GO EDITORS' PICKS



L.A. Weekly - March 1, 2023

### PLEME IZ BRUKLINA

Čuvana njujorška trupa nas dočeka u glasu TRIBE predstave u domaćoj publici na os. Brojgradskom festivalu u Splitu

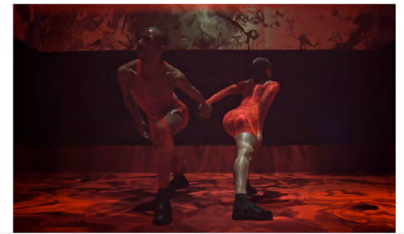
Article snippet with photo of Shamel Pitts and text in Croatian/Serbian.

Harper's BAZAAR Srbija - Jan. 2023

### FEATURES REVIEWS

#### The Collective is Strong

CANDICE THOMPSON



Fjord Review - December, 2022

### THEATER & DANCE

#### In promising fall dance trend, real-life figures inspire the lineup

The art and legacies of Burt Bacharach, Eva Perón, Maya Lin and musician/activist Hazel Scott spark works around the region

Perspective by Sarah L. Kaufman  
October 8, 2022 at 6:00 a.m. EDT



The Washington Post - Sep. 8, 2022

### The New York Times



Sculptural embraces: Pitts, Fredericks and Lewis. The Adeboye Brothers

The New York Times - April 22, 2022

### THE NEW YORKER GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

### DANCE

#### Shamel Pitts | TRIBE

Once a member of a tribe called Batsheva Dance Company, Pitts is now the artistic director of an arts collective called TRIBE. In 2018, it debuted "Black Box," the first installment of a trilogy of multidisciplinary performances. "Black Hole," the final installment of that trilogy, is a stylish Afrofuturist vision featuring three Black dancers, in monochromatic light and video projections, finding connection in a movement language derived from Ohad Naharin's Gaga. It now gets its pandemic-delayed New York premiere.

— Brian Seibert

The New Yorker - April 2022

>> Full list of reviews, listings, and TRIBE related media coverage [itsatribe.org/media](https://itsatribe.org/media)



# TRIBE | TOURING HISTORY

## BLACK HOLE

Let's Dance International  
Frontiers Festival  
Leicester, UK  
May 5-6, 2023

## Touch of RED

New York Live Arts  
New York, NY  
April 26-29, 2023

## BLACK HOLE

Kelly Strayhorn Theater  
Pittsburgh, PA  
April 14-15, 2023

## Touch of RED

Museum of Contemporary  
Art Chicago  
Chicago, IL  
April 6-8, 2023

## BLACK HOLE

Belgrade Dance Festival  
Belgrade, Serbia  
March 19, 2023

## Touch of RED

UCLA's Center for the Art  
of Performance  
Los Angeles, CA  
March 3-4, 2023

## BLACK HOLE

New York Live Arts  
New York, NY  
January 15-16, 2023

## BLACK HOLE

The Clarice Smith  
Performing Arts Center,  
University of Maryland  
College Park, MD  
December 2, 2022

## Touch of RED

Miami Light Project in  
Partnership with YoungArts  
Miami, FL  
November 3-5, 2022

## Touch of RED

MASS MoCA in partnership  
with Jacob's Pillow  
North Adams, MA  
October 21-22, 2022

## Solace of RED - Vol. II

JACK  
Brooklyn, NY  
September 30-October 1,  
2022

## Art Residency:

**Solace of RED - Vol. II**  
JACK  
Brooklyn, NY  
September 20-29, 2022

## BLACK HOLE

New York Live Arts  
New York, NY  
April 21-23, 2022

## Art Residency:

**Touch of RED**  
UCLA's Center for the Art  
of Performance  
Los Angeles, CA  
April 11-16, 2022

## Totality of TRIBE - Virtual Benefit

Honorary Co-Chair: Ohad Naharin  
New York, NY  
Online Event  
December 15, 2021





# TRIBE | TOURING HISTORY *continued...*

**Solace of RED - Vol. I**  
Movement Without  
Borders - Judson Memorial  
Church  
New York, NY  
October 2, 2021

**Art Residency:  
Touch of RED**  
Bridge Street Theater -  
Mellon Foundation  
Catskill, NY  
June 14-July 2, 2021

**The Motherboard Suite**  
Times Square / New York  
Live Arts  
New York, NY  
May 15, 2021

**Art Residency:  
Touch of RED**  
Miami Light Project in  
Partnership with Jacob's  
Pillow  
Miami, FL  
August 20-September 4, 2021

**Touch of RED: Overture**  
Carolina Performing Arts  
Chapel Hill, NC  
May 21, 2021

**Black Hole 360° -  
Interactive Video Art**  
The 92nd Street Y  
New York, NY - Online Premiere  
February 24, 2021

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## TRIBE | FULL SCHEDULE & TICKETS

>> [itsatribe.org/events](https://itsatribe.org/events)

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## TRIBE | SUPPORT

>> [itsatribe.org/support](https://itsatribe.org/support)

Consider making a tax-deductible contribution to TRIBE's next live performances and art projects. We are an 501(c)(3) arts and cultural non-profit organization based in Brooklyn, NY.



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## TRIBE | NEWSLETTER

>> [itsatribe.org/subscribe](https://itsatribe.org/subscribe)

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## TRIBE | PRESS & INQUIRIES:

>> [itsatribe@gmail.com](mailto:itsatribe@gmail.com)



# TRIBE | MEMBERS & COLLABORATORS

>> [itsatribe.org/about](http://itsatribe.org/about)



## Shamel Pitts

Founder & Artistic Director  
*Artist, Choreographer, Performer, Teacher*

2021 Bessie Award Winner // 2020 Guggenheim Fellow  
2019 NYFA/NYSCA Fellow // 2018 Princess Grace Award



## Mirelle Martins

Creative Director,  
Founding Artist



## Brittany Wilson

Managing Director



## Rus Snelling

Artistic Production Manager,  
Lighting Designer



## E. Katrina Lewis

Artistic Administrator



## Lucca Del Carlo

Transmedia Artist, Video Light  
& Mapping Designer



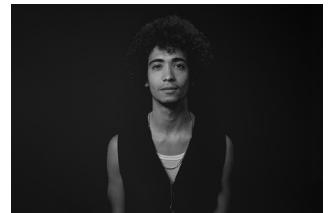
## Elizabeth Schmuhl

Founding Member, Former  
Director of Development



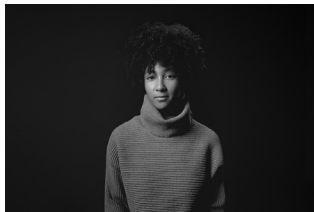
## Pam Panozzo

Digital Creative Associate



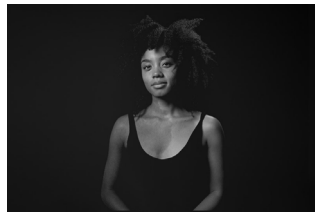
## Tushrik Fredericks

Performer, Stylist



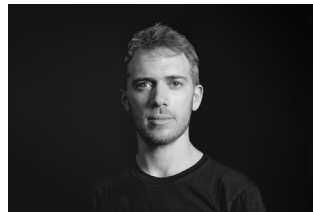
## Ashley Pierre-Louis

Dramaturge, Performer



## Marcella Lewis

Performer



## Itai Zwecker

Photographer,  
Cinematographer



## Taylor Antisdell

Photographer,  
Cinematographer



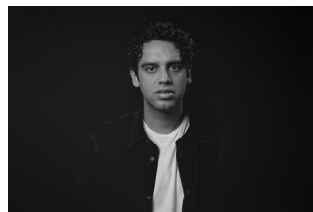
## The Adeboye Brothers: Matthew Adeboye & David Adeboye

Photographers,  
Cinematographers



## Alex Apt

Photographer



## Sivan Jacobovitz

Musician, Composer



## Naomi Rapaport

Costume Designer



# TRIBE | GLOBAL REPRESENTATION

>> [lotusartsmgmt.com/tribe](http://lotusartsmgmt.com/tribe)

>> [sophie@lotusartsmgmt.com](mailto:sophie@lotusartsmgmt.com)



**Sophie Myrtil-McCourty**

Worldwide Bookings





## TRIBE | GRANTS & AWARDS

Mid Atlantic Arts

Mellon Foundation

Arison Arts Foundation

Howard Gilman Foundation

Foundation for Contemporary Arts

Harkness Dance Foundation

Dance/NYC Dance Advancement Fund

National Performance Network

Artis Discretionary Grant

Princess Grace Foundation

The New York City Department of Cultural Affairs (DCLA)

Rockefeller Brothers Fund

National Performance Network's

Documentation & Storytelling Fund

Trust for Mutual Understanding

American Dance Abroad

Best out of Town Production – ArtsATL

Audience Choice Award – STOFF

## TRIBE | ART RESIDENCIES

**BOFFO Performance Festival**  
Fire Island (2023)

**The Pocantico Center of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund** (2023)

**Baryshnikov Arts Center** (2023)

**JACK** (2022)

**UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance** (2022)

**Miami Light Project** (2021)

**New York Live Arts**  
– Artist in Residency (2022, 2023)

**Catskills Mountain Foundation** (2021)

**Bridgestreet Theatre** (2021)

**GIBNEY** (2021)

**New York Live Arts** (2020)

**Jacob's Pillow** (2020)

**92 Street Y / Harkness Dance Center** (2020, 2021)

**YoungArts** (2020)

**Dock 11 / Eden Studios** (2017, 2018, 2019)

**gloATL** (2018, 2019)

**Derida Dance Center** (2018)

**Cross Award** (2018)

## TRIBE | ART FESTIVALS

**Let's Dance International Frontiers Festival**  
– Leicester, UK (2023)

**Belgrade Dance Festival**  
– Belgrade, Serbia (2023)

**New York Live Arts – Live Artery** (2022, 2023)

**Times Square Live Arts** (2021)

**Adelaide Festival**  
– Adelaide, Australia (2020)

**Colours Festival**  
– Stuttgart, Germany (2019)

**Cross Festival – Verbania, Italy** (2019)

**Cena Brasil Internacional**  
– Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (2019)