

**Neve Mazique**, Curriculum Vitae

Performs as NEVE

Pronouns are They, Them, Theirs & He/Him/His

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## **Bio**

**(Short): NEVE is a Disabled multigender femme fop mixed race Black African Choreographer/Dancer, Composer/Singer, Writer/Actor, Painter/Model, Hoodoo Voodoo Magician and Performance Artist based in Unceded Coast Salish Territories. They are a 2020 Pina Bausch Fellow, and one of the first two Americans to receive the award.**

**(Long): NEVE Mazique is a choreographer and multidisciplinary performing and visual artist based in Unceded Coast Salish (specifically Duwamish) Territories, also known as Seattle and the Puget Sound. NEVE grew up in the part of rural New Jersey Imogen Binnie says, "Never seems to get shown on TV" (she's from there too). They claim among their ancestors, Margery Williams Bianco, the author of The Velveteen Rabbit, and Edward C Mazique, physician to the Civil Rights Movement. NEVE received their BA in critical dance studies, folklore and fortean zoology, performance art, and film in 2012 from Hampshire College, their Certification in Personal Training from the National Academy of Sports Medicine, and were of the 2018 cohort of the Intiman Theatre Emerging Artist Program. They have been creating, producing, and performing in punk musical dance-theatre in New York, Massachusetts, California, Texas, Louisiana, and Washington since 2013.**

**In Western Massachusetts, he studied with contact improvisation and group improvisation masters and established his commitment to collective embodied practice. In 2011, he began his long move to the West Coast of the United States, joining the disabled activist and performer communities of Sins Invalid and AXIS Dance Company. Additionally, NEVE made their debut in queer porn under a former stage name, and made waves as an advocate for queer, kinky, disabled, Black Arab and Indigenous sexuality. After a long tour with Mangos with Chili, a QTPOC floating cabaret co-founded by Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha and Cherry Galette, an Oakland-based NEVE had fallen in love with Tony, his future husband, and with Seattle, his future home.**

**A published author, NEVE's work has appeared in the anthology Coming Out Like a Porn Star edited by Jiz Lee, Everyday Feminism, Harlot Magazine (now dissolved), Plenitude Magazine, ModelViewCulture, and The Black Scholar, among others. Since moving from Oakland to Seattle**

in 2016, NEVE has written, choreographed, composed, collaboratively produced, and starred in two full-length dance-theatre musicals, “Bet Ya UnGodly Things” and “Lover of Low Creatures”.

NEVE was named a 2020 Pina Bausch Choreographic Fellow by the Pina Bausch Foundation and the Arts Foundation of North-Rhine Westphalia, and in February 2020, returned home from Wuppertal inspired to fully launch their and Saira B's latest brainchild, Mouthwater Dance, in Seattle. NEVE's current and ongoing movement exploration is in an access-centered translation approach to ballet and its children (Access-Centered Movement was founded by NEVE, India Harville, and Jess Schlesinger in 2016). In July 2020, NEVE will join Marc Brew as his choreographic intern as he creates a new work with AXIS Dance Company, of whom he is Artistic Director. This internship, lasting three months and a bit, is the cooperative partnership with which they applied to the Pina Bausch Fellowship, and they will carry the fruit of this experience back to the Pina Bausch Foundation in Wuppertal in January 2021. NEVE has performed at/with Velocity Dance Center, Sound Theatre Company, Seattle Musical Theatre, Gay City Arts, Converge Dance Festival, and in night clubs as a drag performer or burlesque and gogo dancer up and down the peninsula and the coast. They are a current arts reviewer for The South Seattle Emerald, and operate the choreography, conjure, and consulting business Lover of Low Creatures LLC.

NEVE keeps up with family and fans alike on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram (@nevebebad), and you can get to know his work more on [nevebebad.com](http://nevebebad.com)

*Artist Statement: I need to tell stories. I am moved by the ways our bodies absorb and hold stories. I have for about a decade consistently worked in the realms of dance, music, writing, photography and modeling, visual design, and film, and I am suddenly called to let the true multiplicity of my art form reach a fullness, rather than a stretched-thin-ness. The work I am making right now is narrative, fanciful, grotesque, funny, heartbroken, sometimes sexy, and dance and music-based. I utilize my body, my voice, my vision, my feeling of connectedness to all life, as instruments in my solo orchestra. I teach dances and songs to other Black and indigenous queer disabled people too, and I wax electric to see what they do with my stories and dreams. At some point along the many forked roads of the colonization of my people and other people of color, storytelling came to be known as something antiquated, or even childish. Not a fine or honored art form. Not a fact of society or science. At some point along these roads, bodies like mine were established as inferior, and incapable of telling the truth. In my blood, there is pride given to me by some of the oldest civilizations in Africa. In my blood are ghost stories, stories about sex and love, stories about nature and God, fairy stories, animal fables, and more. I am not okay with what is being done to our earth, to indigenous people and people of color all over the globe, to animals, to disabled people, to queer and trans people, to women, to children. I am not okay with some of the things that have happened to me. But I am okay. I am fabulous. And I am fighting back with courageous inventiveness, ferocious love, and revelatory stories. My goal, my mission, is to validate and advocate for the worthwhileness, in fact, the glorious and timeless wisdom to be found in my stories, in the stories of*

*disabled, queer, indigenous people all over the world, who are learning how to tell the truth, to love their bodies, and survive.*

**Physical details: 4'11", 145 lbs, athletic, curvy hourglass shape, petite yet densely packed build. Elegant, long fingers and hands. Bright, large, cat-like grin. Angular heart shaped face. Dark, almond shaped eyes. Coffee with a little cream skinned. Mixed race, loose curly/thick wavy dark brown hair. Manual and power wheelchair user with arthrogryposis (some joint/muscle contracture and atrophy). Tattoos, which could add to characterization or be covered with make-up.**

**Playing age: 23-33**

**Playing race: Black, person of color, mixed race, racially ambiguous**

**Playing gender: Woman, femme, trans-man, non-binary, genderqueer, androgynous**

**Voice type: Soprano, Legit and Low to High Belt, Strong Mix C3-C6#**

**Theatre, Dance Theatre and Performance Art**

**2020**

**- *Vote Art Vote!*, (singer, songwriter, dancer, solo performer) anthology of shorts by queer artists of color, conceptualized by raja feather kelly, curated by Dani Tirrell, facilitated by Washington Ensemble Theatre (WET), Seattle and online**

**- *THE RACE*, (ensemble cast member) Sojourn Theatre, through Intiman Theatre Emerging Artist Program 2020: IEAP Alumni Iteration**

**2019**

**- "hope is dangerous thing for a #\*\$!?!?#\* like me to have" (dance improviser and dance reader) a personalized one to one dance experience meant to give the viewer what they need in the moment, part of SOW QUEER curated by HATLO, Town Hall, Seattle**

**- *Lover of Low Creatures* (writer/creator, choreographer, vocal composer, multi-media performer, played all roles onstage including leads Neige and Ann) co-produced with Velocity Dance Center and PlayThey Studios, directed by Sara Porkalob, featuring musical composition and performance from Evan Flory-Barnes and JOY MA, Velocity Dance Center, Capitol Hill**

**- \* excerpt performed at *I wanna be with you everywhere* a festival of disabled artists created by a steering committee of 12 disabled New York based artists, in collaboration**

**and with support of Performance Space New York, the Scottish arts organization Arika, and the Whitney Museum of American Art**

**2018**

**- "I guess this means I am the sun" (choreographer, writer/composer, solo performer) donated to Velocity Dance Center's *Fall Kick Off* in honor of Tonya Lockyer's career as Artistic and Executive Director for nearly a decade, Velocity Dance Center, Capitol Hill**

- *Legally Blonde* (played Kate, Whitney, and Judge, featured roles, ensemble) book by Heather Hach, music and lyrics by Laurence O’Keefe and Nell Benjamin, directed by Megan Brewer, Seattle Musical Theater, Magnuson Park

- *Schism* (played Katherine, lead role) written by Athena Stevens, directed by Amanda Friou, curated by Andrea Kovich and co-presented by Sound Theatre Company for the reading series *ILLUMINATE: 6 Plays by Deaf and Disabled Playwrights*, Center Theatre, Seattle Center

- *Bet Ya UnGodly Things* (played Fonn/Snow, lead actress, dancer, and singer) self written, directed, and produced, Gay City Arts, Calamus Auditorium, Seattle

- *You Can’t Take it With You* (played Gay Wellington, comedic and physical role) written by George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart, directed by Teresa Thuman, Sound Theatre Company, Center Theatre, Seattle Center

2017

- “Incidentally, my body” (solo choreographer, dancer, writer, performer) *Tender Provocations of Hope and Fear and the Take Care Symposium*, Hebbel Am Ufer, Berlin, Germany and *Sick Fest*, Oakland, CA (debuted 2016)

- *Rising Up* (played Syre, lead actress and co-director) written by Sarah Rosenblatt and Ebo Barton, self co-directed with Ebo Barton, Gay City Arts, Calamus Auditorium, Seattle

2016

- *Sins Invalid Presents: Birthing, Living, Dying, Becoming Crip Wisdom* (dancer, choreographer, performer, co-writer) directed by Patricia Berne, Sins Invalid, ODC Theater, San Francisco

- “Mirror, Mirror, On the Chair” (writer, choreographer, dancer, performer) *Love, Origins, Family: QTPOC Stories By Us, For Us*, Gay City Arts, Calamus Auditorium, Seattle, WA

2014

- “Bardragon” (writer, actor/dancer, cabaret performer as cast) *Whipped: QTPOC Stories of Love, Sex, and Disaster- Mangos with Chili Cabaret-Valentine's United States Tour*, various venues between Vancouver, BC and New Orleans, LA

2012

- *Swallow, Beauty. You are already inside the body you fear.* (writer, director, choreographer, performer- lead and with ensemble) Canal Gallery, Holyoke, MA

- “Look At Me” (choreographer, dancer) *Penny's Big 21*, curation by Aaron Richmond Havel, Hampshire College grounds, Amherst, MA

2011

- *The Sexual Liberation of Mammy* (played Adanne, lead role) written and directed by JD Stokely, Hampshire College Theatre, Amherst

## **Professional Companies and Collectives**

### **2019 - the present**

- *Mouthwater*, a fine and gross art company focusing on the creation of Black, queer, non-binary femme, access-centered live musical dance theatre and dance/art films for the entertainment, healing, and complex liberation of us all

### **2018 - the present**

- *Lover of Low Creatures LLC* self founded and directed creative and access-centered consulting, dance education and movement training, and performance art/choreography company

- *PlayThey*, Board of Directors, multi-media production and community event organizing company/art crew

### **2016 - the present**

- *Access-Centered Movement ® Collective*, creators of the access-centered movement ethos and curriculum for movers and movement teachers alike

## **Work for Employer, Volunteering, and Internships**

### **2020-the present**

- *Dance Educators Association of Washington* (Vice President/President Elect)

### **2019-the present**

- *South Seattle Emerald* (Arts Reviewer/Critic/Contributing Poet) Seattle. Duties: Pitch topics and events to write on, receive and respond to editor's assignments, complete an article of 800-1200 words within 48 hours after viewing/reading/experiencing/absorbing, and send it to editor, along with an invoice to the finances department. Stay up to date on things happening in Seattle, especially South Seattle, be open with an eye and ear towards justice. Be voracious and ready to learn and think complexly.

- *Westside Unitarian Universalist Congregation* (High School Age Youth Group Advisor) Seattle. Duties: Meet with high schoolers every Sunday and support their autonomy, agency, and spiritual and religious exploration via pre-planned curriculum and active collaboration with the youth. Understand a UU youth- led ethos of ministry and community, empowering youth to nourish their spirits, minds, and hearts. Chaperone youth group overnights include regional district conferences and camp outs. Support youth in planning youth led services and other events for the whole congregation. Be a trusted adult with whom high school age youth can be safe, listened to, encouraged, and supported in their journey as growing and coming of age Unitarian Universalists.

- *Pacific Science Center* (Science Interpretation Program Volunteer) Seattle. Duties: Sign up for weekly available volunteer shifts. Check in at the volunteer computer at the loading dock, then proceed to the SIP administrative offices to check day's schedule. In rotations of 1-2 hours,

support other volunteers and staff by leading or assisting at exhibits meant to inspire and ignite curiosity and love of science in Science Center visitors of all ages. Exhibitions I teach, engage, and facilitate safety and excitement at include: The Butterfly House Exit and Insect Corner including Cockroach Handling, Puzzle Place, Pocket Science (small science experiments or paraphernalia meant to get guests' attention in various areas of the museum), Building 4 What is Reality Virtual Reality Exhibit include single and two player VR games, Tide Pool/Touch Pool, Science on a Sphere and Outer Space exploration simulations, Dinosaurs then and now, and related prehistoric creatures, plus more! Part of my duties include proper radio protocol and maintaining safety of guests, animals, and myself.

**2018**

- *Velocity Dance Center* (Operations and Administration Front Desk Intern) Seattle. Duties: Be the first friendly face people see when they come in, Register people for classes, facilitate class card and ticket purchases, Answer emails and direct people to appropriate resources, Communicate via social media and promote Velocity in community, Answer phone calls and direct callers to appropriate resources, Administrative duties including qualifying orders and managing contacts on Patronmanager/salesforce, Sort and file paperwork involving teachers and students and staff of Velocity, Communicate as Velocity and represent the center organization positively and appropriately.

**2017-2018**

*Westside Unitarian Universalist Church* (Religious Exploration Teacher for 4th and 5th Graders) Seattle. Duties: Implement and teach social justice informed Harry Potter themed curriculum, Assist students in making wands and other craft projects, Assist and protect all students in age and role appropriate ways, Teach students for duration of allotted time and make sure students connect with their parents in the social hall afterwards, Answer students' questions to the best of their ability, Encourage student growth and exploration in the areas of spirituality, religion, social justice, equity, and creativity.

**2014-2015**

*A Woman's Place* (On Call Peer Counselor- with special interest in arts therapies), San Francisco. Duties: work with on-site arts therapist and clinician doing intakes for drug treatment program and in group therapy, provide counseling to clients and refer them to appropriate resources, handle conflicts with compassion and diplomacy, assist with getting clients to meetings, to bed, and to meals, serve breakfast and dinner, assist in maintaining cleanliness of facility, attend to necessary shift paperwork, attended regular staff meetings, answer phone calls and record data.

**2011-2012**

*Sins Invalid* (Promo and PR Intern) Berkeley, California. Duties: spearhead web streaming series of Sins Invalid annual shows, write and update Sins Invalid blogs, direct and act in Sins Invalid promotional videos, work as party planner and promoter, fundraise for Sins Invalid and design

**Sins Invalid fundraising events, design and facilitate community discussions on disability justice themes including topics on Freak Shows and Erotic Healing, develop ongoing relationship with Sins Invalid as educator, promoter, and performer.**

## **Grants, Awards, Residencies**

**2020**

**- *Critical Acts Artist-in-Residence*, University of Washington Bothell, Departments of Dance, Theatre, Film, Women & Gender Studies**

**- *Pina Bausch Fellowship for Dance and Choreography*, Pina Bausch Foundation and the North Rhineland Westphalia Foundation for the Arts**

**2019**

**- *CityArtist Grant for Lover of Low Creatures*, City of Seattle Office of Arts and Culture**

**2018**

**- *PNW Afro X Research Fellowship for Lover of Low Creatures*, Seattle Public Library and the Central District Forum**

**- *SmArt Ventures Grant for Bet Ya UnGodly Things*, City of Seattle Office of Arts and Culture**

**2017**

**2015**

**- *Hypatia-in-the-Woods* at Holly House (artist-in-residence) Shelton, WA**

## **Education and Training**

### **College/University**

**2008-2012**

**- *Bachelor of Liberal Arts with concentration in performance, film, and disability studies*, Hampshire College, Amherst, MA**

### **Certification**

**2018**

**- *National Academy of Sports Medicine*, NASM Certified Personal Trainer, valid with renewal and CEUs every 2 years**

### **Acting Training (post grad)**

**2018 - *The Intiman Theatre Emerging Artist Program, Certificate of Completion*, the Alhadeff Studio in the Cornish Playhouse, Seattle Center (filmed for Seattle Channel)**

### **Dance Training (post grad)**

2019 - *ChoreoLab 2*, Axis Dance Company, guided by Artistic Director Marc Brew, Oakland, CA

2018 - *Disabled Choreographer's Laboratory (Choreolab 1)*, Axis Dance Company, guided by Artistic Director Marc Brew, Oakland, CA

2017 - *Physically Integrated Dance Teacher Training*, Axis Dance Company, Oakland, CA College or University

Musical Training (post grad)

2017- present

Private vocal instruction with Rosy Betz-Zall (Sing with Rosy, Wallingford, Seattle)

**Special Skills:** *Strong Singer, Dancer/Choreographer/Improviser, Director - Knack for Comedy and Conveying Heartfelt Emotion- Engaging and Skilled Creative and Non-fiction Storyteller- Eloquent Public Speaker- Performance Artist-Co-Founder and Director of a Queer and Women Centered Improvisational Dance Space- Event Planning and Promotion Experience-Social Media and In Person Networking Skills-Enthusiastic Learner- Big Reader-Lover of and Strong Understanding of Performance and Visual Arts- Big Picture Thinker with an Attention to Detail-Crafty and Good with Overall Aesthetic Design- Team Player- Great Memory- Patient- Great Customer Service and Community Relations - Relationship to Many Inter-connected, Resistant, Marginalized and Subcultural Communities - Relationship to and Involvement in Local Arts Communities- Compassion- ate Conflict Resolution and Mediation Skills –Extensive Facilitation and Community Organizing Experience- Embodiment and Sexual Health Education Experience- Dance and Movement Teach- ing Experience – Theatre Teaching Experience -Physically Integrated Dance Technique Training – Unitarian Universalist Youth Camp Counselor – Anti- Oppression Training and Facilitation (recip- ient and teacher) – Office and Computer Skills including Google Drive and all its iterations, Mi- crosoft Office Suite, Data Entry, Social Media Management, Photoshop, and FinalCut Pro, Transcription and Captioning experience, Consulting Experience in Creating Accessible Events, Classes, and Experiences, Conversational American Sign Language skills*