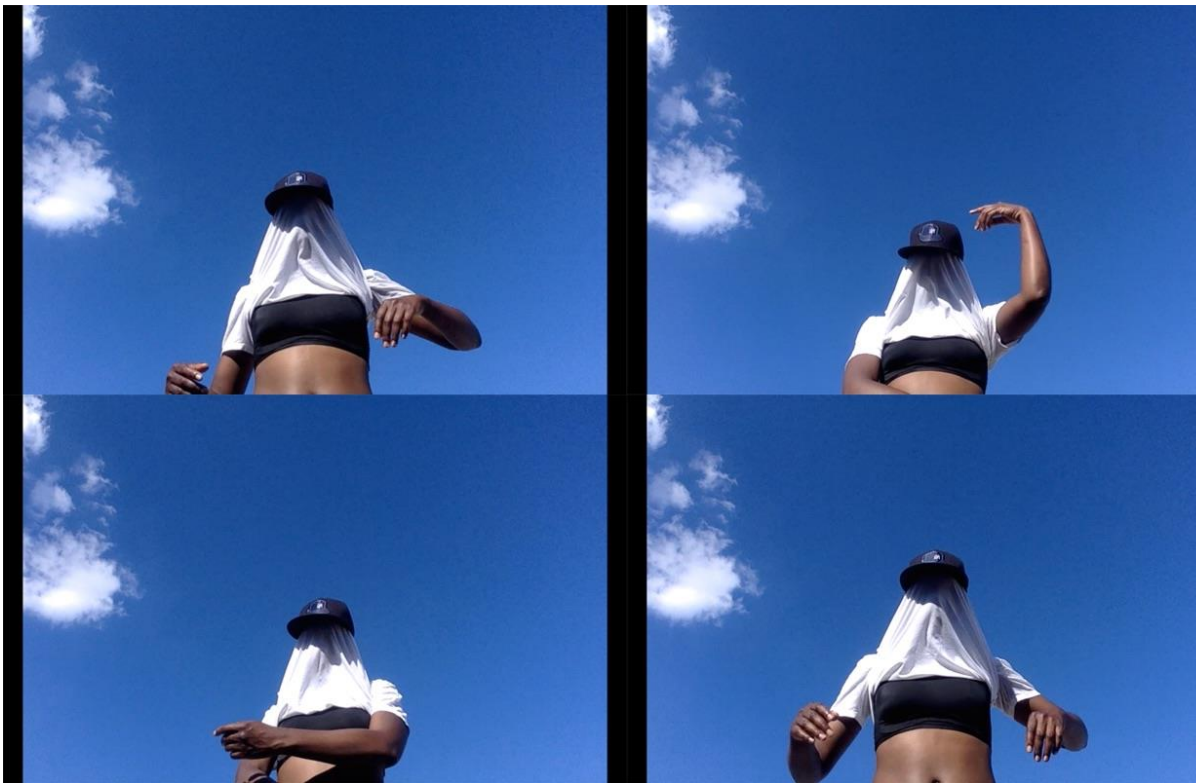


**NEW**  
**235 BOWERY**  
**NEW YORK NY**  
**10002 USA**  
**MUSEUM**

**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, *form in a sentence*; 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.

*form in a sentence* unfolds daily over NIC's social media accounts in the month of June 2021 and includes a [New Museum Instagram](#) takeover the week of June 14. To view *form as a sentence* follow @okaynickay for frequent posts on Instagram, Twitter, TikTok, and Facebook. Periodic content can also be viewed on YouTube.

**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.

## Public Programs

Visit [newmuseum.org/residencies/nic-kay](http://newmuseum.org/residencies/nic-kay) for more information and to register for programs.

### Premiere Screening of “keep at it” and Conversation with NIC Kay

Thursday, July 29, 7-8pm EST

As director, choreographer, and performer of their newly commissioned dance video, *keep at it*, NIC draws from memories of childhood dance routines and navigating the racially-coded environments of gated playgrounds, stifling brick housing, and ragged sidewalks.

### Sonic Situation with NIC Kay

Friday, August 20, 6-8pm EST

NIC Kay creates a two-hour sonic experience jam-packed with echoes of the internet past and present. NIC highlights audio from viral videos, dance challenges, and software. Through their selections, they will create a social environment primed for remembrance and pleasure.

### Dancing for the Internet: A Workshop with NIC Kay

Saturday, August 21, 2-4pm EST

This two-hour workshop centers self-identified Black people who are interested in experimenting with movement in virtual space, whether to share with community or for each participant's personal archive. Participants will be asked to consider how point of view, composition, color, and light play important roles in dancing online and translating live choreography for the internet. Capacity for this workshop is limited.

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## 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.

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## 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.

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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