Georgiana Pickett has been a steadfast contributor to the arts environment on local, national and international levels for 21 years. After entering the field in the visual arts in her hometown Buffalo, New York, Georgiana moved to Miami where she became the Artistic Director at Miami-Dade College's globally recognized Cultural Affairs Department. Georgiana served at Miami-Dade College for 6 years where she became a valued member or contributor to many regional and national arts organizations and an advocate for multiple artist and community-based projects. She served on the Boards of CEPA Gallery, Tigertail Productions and the Association of Performing Arts Presenters in the early part of her career. Georgiana Pickett now lives in New York City. She spent two years there as an arts management consultant serving artists and arts organizations in the areas of project and resource development, programming, production and research. Some of her clients included the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, The Harlem Arts Alliance, The August Wilson Center for African American Culture as well as many individual artists. In 2004 she joined 651 ARTS and has served as its Executive Director since then. Based in Brooklyn, 651 ARTS is an internationally recognized presenter and producer of contemporary performing arts form the African Diaspora. Based on the BAM Harvey Theater, 651 ARTS presents an annual season of contemporary dance, theater, and music events in venues throughout Brooklyn as well as provides services and resources for artists to develop new work. 651 ARTS’ flagship program Africa Exchange brings artists from Africa to the United States and send US based artists to Africa to perform, develop new work, conduct research and to engage in international dialogue and exchange. Happily, Georgiana also travels to Africa at least once a year to further this program. Georgiana also serves on the Board of the Downtown Brooklyn Partnership and is a member of the Dean’s Advisory Council of the State University of New York at Buffalo.

Jill Sigman is a choreographer, performer, improviser, and teacher. Trained in classical ballet, modern dance, analytic philosophy, and the visual arts, Sigman has been making dances and performance installations since the early 90s. In 1998 she founded her company jill sigman/thinkdance as a vehicle for these artistic experiments. In the same year she received her Ph.D. in philosophy from Princeton University. Sigman juxtaposes physical movement with elements such as video, text, and light to create layered landscapes of meaning that explore pressing questions of our time. To engage audiences as intellectual partners, she has gravitated to alternative spaces, socially conscious topics, and work that plays with the boundaries of dance. Born in Brooklyn, Sigman was trained extensively in classical ballet at the Joffrey Ballet and Ballet Center of Brooklyn. She discovered modern dance at Princeton University where she received a Certificate in Theater and Dance and studied with Ze'eva Cohen, Jim May, Mark Taylor, and Sally Hess. Sigman went on to perform with...
Ze'eva Cohen Chamber Projects before forming her own company. She has also been rehearsal director of the Belgian Irma Vandenbroucke! Danstheater and has collaborated with the Brooklyn-based collective Red Dive. Known as a compelling solo performer, Sigman has created numerous solo shows. "Sigman is riveting," the Village Voice wrote of Vision Begins, "an elf with the rebelliousness of the '60s avant-garde, the piscine fluidity of a Tharp dancer, and the charisma and athleticism of today's virtuosos." Her work for large groups grows out of her exploration of solo performance. As an educator, Sigman gives workshops in technique, improvisation, composition, and dance theory, as well as educational presentations at colleges, high schools, and community centers. She has been a member of the dance faculty at Princeton University, a Movement Tutor at the Imaginary Academy in Grozjnan, Croatia, a professor of aesthetics at Brooklyn College, and a frequent guest teacher in Belgium. Sigman writes and lectures on art theory and has been published in The Journal of Philosophical Research and Midwest Studies in Philosophy, and profiled for her integration of body and theory in the Serbian feminist journal Pro Femina. She has been a guest editor of the Movement Research Performance Journal. In 2003, Sigman left 200 texts about why she makes art around NYC- in buses, phone booths, public bathrooms, and supermarket freezers.

Sixto Wagan (Co-Executive Director/ Performing Arts Curator, DiverseWorks Artspace Houston, TX) places particular emphasis on commissioning new works, the process and transparency of an artist's creative development, and on providing needed funds and space for mid-stage development. Commissioned works include projects by Pat Graney, Elia Arce, Michelle Ellsworth, Miguel Gutierrez, Aaron Landsman, The Suicide Kings and Tere O'Connor, among others. He has served on the board of the National Performance Network and as a Hub Site for the National Dance Project. Mr. Wagan has been part of FUSED (French – US Exchange for Dance), the Contemporary Art Centers consortium and the Performing Americas Project (a partnership between the National Performance Network and the Latin American consortium La RED); and has previously served as Dance Down Under Ambassador for the Australian Arts Council and the board president for Q-Fest: The Houston Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. Wagan has been a speaker at Rice University, Dance USA, the National Performance Network's annual meeting, the Association of Performing Arts Presenters conference, and the National Performing Arts Conference in Pittsburgh.