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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

LEEWAY FOUNDATION AND INTERCULTURAL JOURNEYS LAUNCH THE 12 x 12 PERFORMANCE SERIES

On **Wednesday, May 9**, [Leeway Foundation](#) and [Intercultural Journeys](#) launch the brand new **12 x 12 Performance** series. On second Wednesdays through September, artists who are Leeway grant recipient artists will perform 12 minutes of new, and in most cases in-progress work, followed by 12 minutes of exploration into the artist's practice and 12 minutes for audience questions. All performances take place in nontraditional performance venues.

12x12 showcases Leeway's commitment to incubating original art and providing artists with new platforms for showcasing it in a short format where people can see the performance and respond to it in real time. The series also highlights Intercultural Journeys' commitment to fostering dialogue through the performing arts in ways that inspire and transform the audience and the artist.

“This is the ideal collaboration between Leeway and Intercultural Journeys because this series allows us to support artists’ development of their work while building potential audiences and community connections,” says Denise Beek, Leeway’s communications director.

“At the same time, we are fostering a deeper relationship between audiences and artists. Each event gives the audience the space and time to participate in an intimate dialogue they might not otherwise get to have, and a moment for the artist to expand on their practice both performatively and through dialogue,” says Carly Rapaport-Stein, executive director of Intercultural Journeys.

The 12 x 12 series is also a fitting way to celebrate Leeway’s milestone year: 2018 marks 25 years of grantmaking and community building among Philadelphia-based artists, cultural producers, and organizers.

Leeway and Intercultural Journeys have fostered dialogue and transformation through their art-focused programs and events. Both organizations have also demonstrated a commitment to championing artist and creating platforms for their work to be experienced in new and deepening ways.

12 X 12 SERIES SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Suggested ticket price for all performances is \$12 (\$1 minimum).

[Wednesday, May 9, 7pm: Elba Hevia y Vaca at Pearlstein Gallery](#)

Passionate and determined, feminist flamenco artist Elba Hevia y Vaca dances with purpose: to challenge the male-centric, hyper-sexualized narrative of flamenco. Delight in Elba’s 21st-century interpretations, grounded in the richness of historical flamenco, as she explains and expands on her artistic practice.

[Wednesday, June 13, 7pm: Gabriela Sanchez at West Kensington Ministry](#)

What is an invisible disability? Do you have one, or does the person sitting next to you? The Hidden Disabilities Project will be Power Street Theatre Company’s next foray into experimental theatre making. With this new and exciting piece created by a Womyn of Color-led, multicultural theatre company in Philadelphia, take an immersive journey exploring the gray areas of having an invisible disability in a black and white world.

[Wednesday, July 11, 7pm: Kavindu “Kavi” Ade at Brandywine Workshop](#)

What is the emotional toll of living in a world in opposition to your existence? In what ways do we disassociate as an act of survival? How often do we stifle our own grief or distill our righteous anger into something more palatable? Kavi Ade’s poetry is a lamentation, a leaning in to what haunts the spirit of a Black Trans Queer body. With poems that are deeply personal while inescapably political, Ade’s work grapples with being set at the throne of violence. Join Kavi Ade for a mixed media performance that moves through time, chronicling despair, grasping at hope, and exploring the ways a body can learn to survive.

[Wednesday, August 7pm: LaTreice Branson at African American Museum in Philadelphia](#)

High-functioning fatigue. Pride in overworking and extending yourself. Getting the job done at all costs. It's the "exhaustion complex" in full force. Join artist and educator LaTreice Branson in this vivacious and personal exploration of the challenges of being an exhausted woman. Follow LaTreice's musical journey from exhaustion to relaxation and self-love, and then join in, resetting your heart, mind, and body, with a joy-filled, interactive drumming finale.

[Wednesday, September 12, 7pm: Eiko Fan at Fleisher Art Memorial](#)

In Eiko Fan's Live Wood Sculpture performance, wooden creations come to life. Wearing wood sculpture costumes, each performer creates a unique shape and environment with body movements. Watch the sculptures come to life, listen to Eiko's life story and artistic journey, and then try out the sculptures for yourself!

About Intercultural Journeys

[Intercultural Journeys](#) seeks to promote understanding in pursuit of peace among people of diverse faiths and cultures through dialogue and the presentation of world-class performances in music, dance, the spoken word, and other art forms.

About Leeway Foundation

The [Leeway Foundation](#) supports women and trans* artists and cultural producers working in communities at the intersection of art, culture, and social change. Through our grantmaking and other programs we promote artistic expression that amplifies the voices of those on the margins, promotes sustainable and healthy communities, and works in the service of movements for economic and social justice.

*Leeway is a trans-affirming organization committed to gender self-determination, and uses the term "trans" in its most inclusive sense, as an umbrella term encompassing transsexual, transgender, genderqueer, Two-Spirit people, and anyone whose gender identity or gender expression is nonconforming and/or different from their gender assigned at birth.