

Sable Elyse Smith's *If you unfolded us* Artist and performer bios

Sable Elyse Smith is an interdisciplinary artist and writer based in New York. Using video, sculpture, photography, and text, she points to the carceral, the personal, the political, and the quotidian to speak about that which is potentially imperceptible.

David Dominique is a musician and writer who lives in Richmond, Virginia. He is currently writing a speculative-fiction opera, and recently completed an instrumental album, *Something Might Amount*, for ensemble and electronics. Dominique is the recipient of recent Guggenheim and Radcliffe fellowships, and is an associate professor at William & Mary.

Shala Miller, also known as Freddie June when they sing, was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio, by two Southerners named Al and Ruby. Miller works across photography, film, writing, music, and performance as a means of meditating on the conjunction of desire, mourning, pain, and pleasure.

STARR busby is a Black experimental artist who sings, acts, composes, educates, and is committed to the liberation of all people. They are a 2024 NYSCA Grant recipient, a 2024 Lucille Lortel Award Winner and 2024 Drama Desk Award Nominee for *pray*, and a 2019 Drama Desk Award winner for *Octet*.

Melanie Charles is a Brooklyn-born singer-songwriter, actress, and flutist of Haitian descent, with a creative fluidity spanning jazz, soul, experimental, and Haitian roots music. Heralded as a "Vocal Activist" by *Downbeat* magazine, Charles has released and produced a number of albums, establishing her as a progressive voice in the Black American music pantheon. Charles holds a BFA in vocal jazz performance from the New School and is the founder of the grassroots movement Make Jazz Trill Again.

New York City-based violinist, violist, electric bassist, and composer **Josh Henderson** leads a multifaceted career that ranges from solo performances with orchestras to playing electric violin in rock bands. A player in the groups Contemporaneous and W4RP (né Warp Trio), among others, he regularly performs all over the globe and loves playing music of all styles.

Originally from Uniondale, New York, first-generation Filipino American **Jay Julio** serves as assistant principal viola in the Opera Philadelphia Orchestra and violin III/viola in the Broadway tour of *Hamilton*. They have appeared on national radio and TV, on the cover of *British GQ*, and in the pages of *Vogue* magazine as musician and abolitionist.

Ryan Ferreira is a guitarist currently living in Brooklyn. After graduating from Eastman School of Music he moved to New York City in 2003. He has played with Ralph Alessi, Sam Amidon, Bill Frisell, Colin Stetson, Alarm Will Sound, Clarice Jensen's ACME Ensemble, and many others. Ferreira has worked on over 45 recordings, most recently a few for ECM, and from 2014 to 2017 he was part of the faculty at the University of Washington. Lately, Ferreira has been exploring analog/digital processing through modular synths to create slowly unfolding ambient and immersive soundscapes.

Cellist **Wayne Smith** gave his recital debut at the Kennedy Center in 1996 to critical acclaim. He is a member of the Harlem Chamber Players String and was in the orchestra for the acclaimed 2023 Broadway production of *Sweeney Todd*. He is a frequent performer at Bargemusic and has played with the New Jersey Chamber Music Society, the Manhattan Chamber Orchestra, the National Chamber Orchestra, and the Orchestra of St. Luke's, among others. Before his recent return to New York, he enjoyed an active teaching career, serving on the faculties of Amherst College and the Deerfield Academy.

Caroline Bryan is a professional harpist, a licensed professional counselor associate, and a board-certified music therapist. She is passionate about facilitating spaces for people of all ages to be expressive, honor their affinities and imaginations, and craft life narratives that serve their unique journeys.

Cameron Ralston is cofounder of and in-house bassist/producer for Spacebomb, a production house-based studio and record label in Richmond, Virginia. As the bass-playing anchor of the Spacebomb House Band, he can be heard on countless recordings made in Spacebomb's studio. Ralston's eclectic list of performance and recording credits also includes Justin Vernon, k.d. Lang, Mary Chapin Carpenter, Lonnie Holley, Bonny Light Horseman, Beth Orton, Natalie Prass, Matthew E. White, Foxygen, Hiss Golden Messenger, Fruit Bats, Tim Heidecker, Aja Monet, Steven Bernstein, Ben Watt, Bedouine, DJ Harrison, Sam Evian, and many others. Ralston is one half of Revelators Sound System with MC Taylor (Hiss Golden Messenger), for which he is producer, multi-instrumentalist, and string and horn arranger. He is also currently the bass player for the Grammy-nominated folk supergroup Bonny Light Horseman.

Curt Sydnor has toured and recorded with artists such as Peni Candra Rini, Janka Nabay, and Greg Saunier (Deerhoof). He has released six albums under his own name and recently premiered his chamber symphony, *The Fall of Richmond*. In 2023 he received a songwriting grant from the Virginia Commission for the Arts. He holds music degrees from Vanderbilt University, Indiana University, and the Russian Academy of Music.

Zachary James Ritter is an interdisciplinary artist and collaborator who has built a career out of playing the laptop at venues like National Sawdust, Roulette Intermedium, and New York City's finest basements and streets. His work focuses on comforting sounds with an ear toward meditation and grounding.