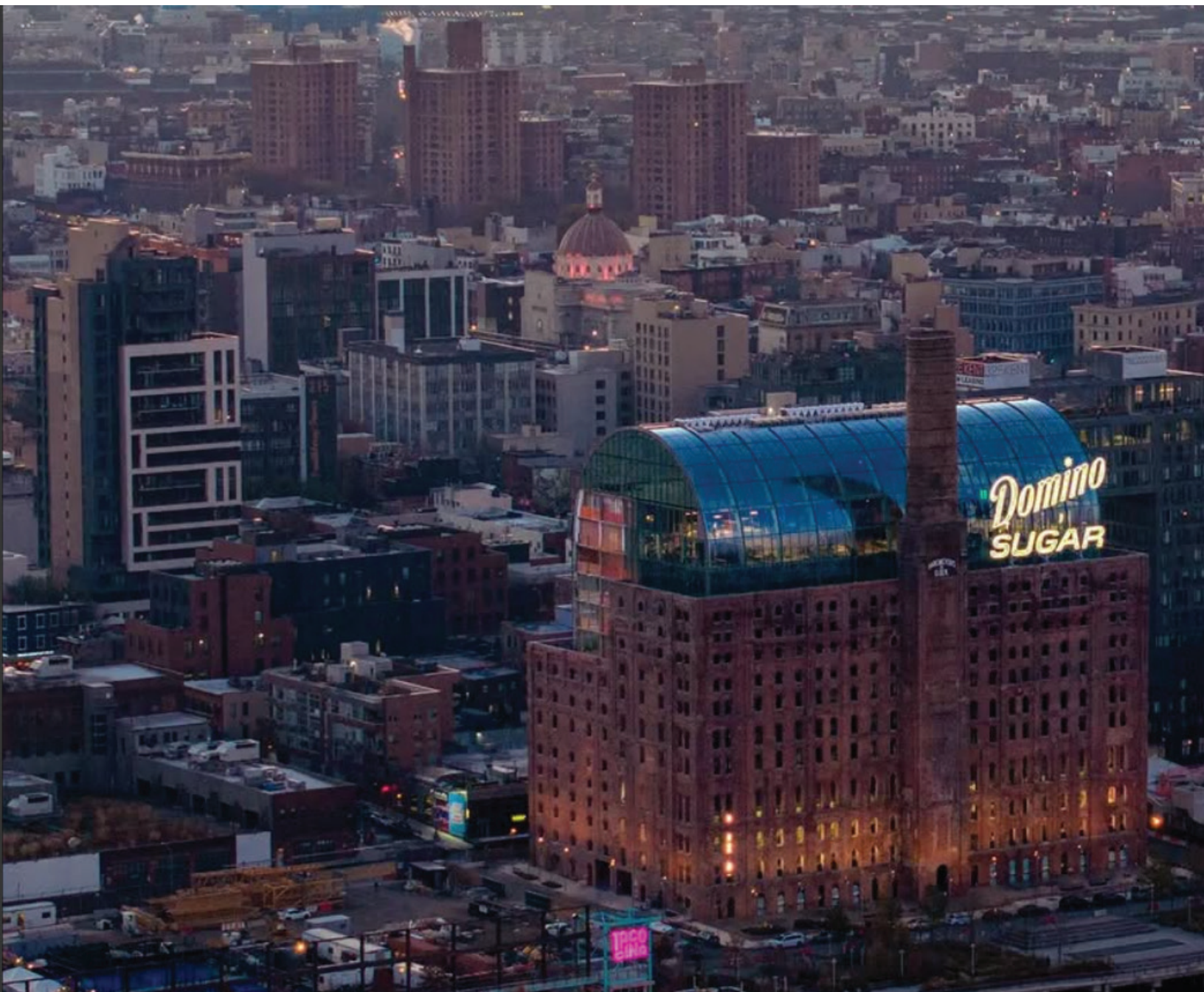


UNFOLDING



MOVEMENT

CONTEXT





In the evolving landscape of New York City's cultural scene, "Unfolding Movement" finds its place as a vital, contemporary response to how art, fashion, and community converge. As immersive experiences become the norm for gathering, this event reimagines the role of the exhibition—not as a static display, but as a dynamic, participatory act of communal expression. "Unfolding Movement" reclaims fashion and performance as tools for inclusivity, experimentation, and grassroots support. In an era when philanthropy is increasingly driven by experience-based giving, this event invites audiences to contribute not only financially but creatively, fostering a sense of ownership and connection to the artists and their work. By blurring the lines between donor and participant, the exhibition becomes a model for the future of arts fundraising—one that centers accessibility, collaboration, and lived experience at its core.

INTRODUCTION



Performance and design merge at “Unfolding Movement,” an immersive exhibition that transforms the traditional boundaries between fashion, dance, and visual art. Reflecting on the rich history of theater and production design, this collaborative project unites emerging designers with contemporary dance artists to create a living, breathing gallery where garments become catalyst for expression.

Through interactive performances and participatory installations, the exhibition celebrates the profound human capacity for expression while making the often exclusive worlds of high fashion and performance art accessible to all.



INTRODUCTION

Visitors are invited not merely to observe, but to participate in this dance exploration—experiencing firsthand how costume influences movement and how movement breathes life into design.

More than a showcase, “Unfolding Movement” serves as a fundraising platform for NYC’s vibrant arts community, culminating in a retail experience where visitors can purchase wearable art pieces that continue the conversation between body and fabric long after they leave the exhibition space.



SITE



Skylight at The Refinery is an upcoming venue space within the domed penthouse of The Refinery at Domino. Located on the Williamsburg waterfront, at the center of Domino Park, the Refinery combines the charm of a historic building and new construction, within the setting of the city's most dramatic skyline

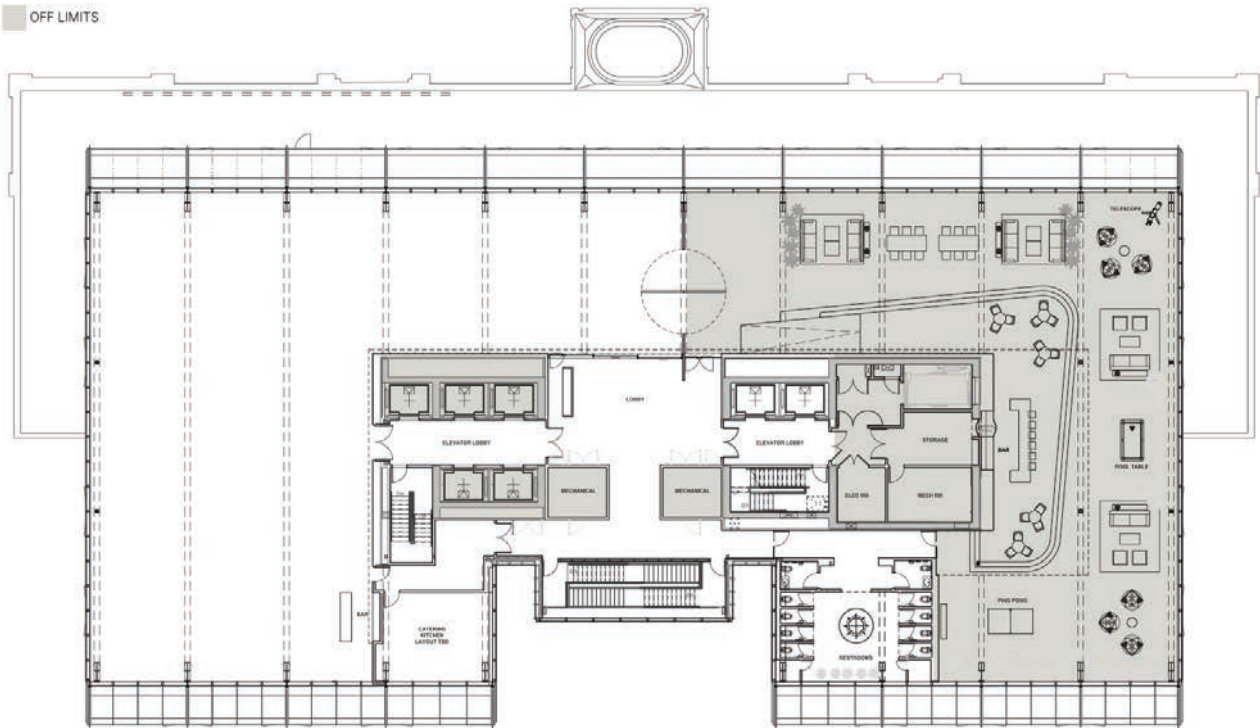
- 7,500 square foot penthouse venue with 30' ceilings at peak
- Full glass dome structure with 360° skyline views—notably of Williamsburg.



Skylight

Skylight at The Refinery
Penthouse

OFF LIMITS



ENVIRONMENT





Guests will arrive during golden hour, just as the sun is beginning to set behind the Manhattan skyline. Theatrical stage lighting and 3D sound system with moving audio establish an immersive atmosphere.

COLOR, MATERIAL, FINISH

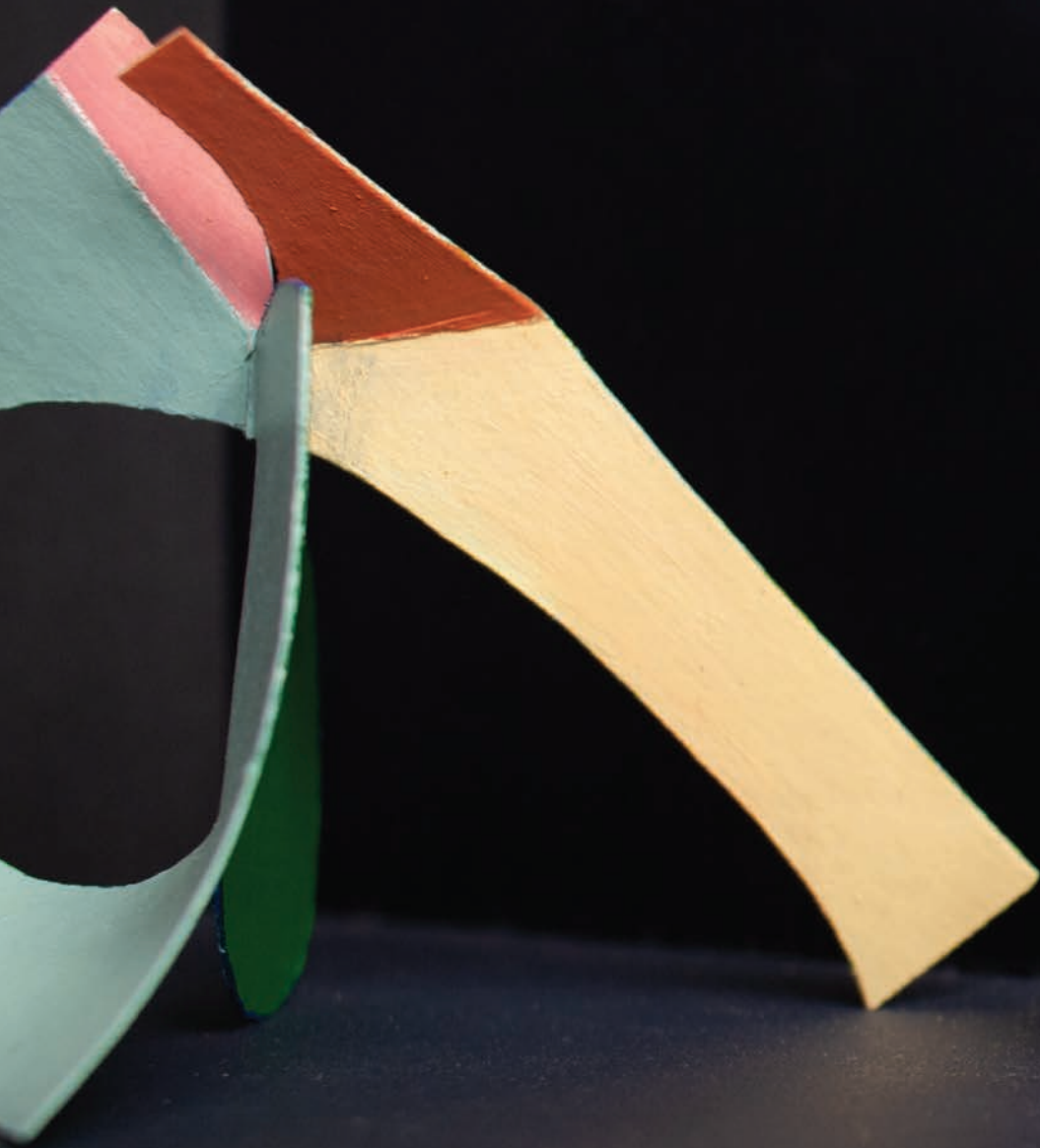


Theatrical lighting and dark walls mimic the atmosphere of backstage: subtly shifting the role of visitors from audience to performer.



Carolina Herrera at The Shed
Fall 2020
Neutral flooring allows garments to take center stage

ENTERING THE EXPERIENCE



UNFO

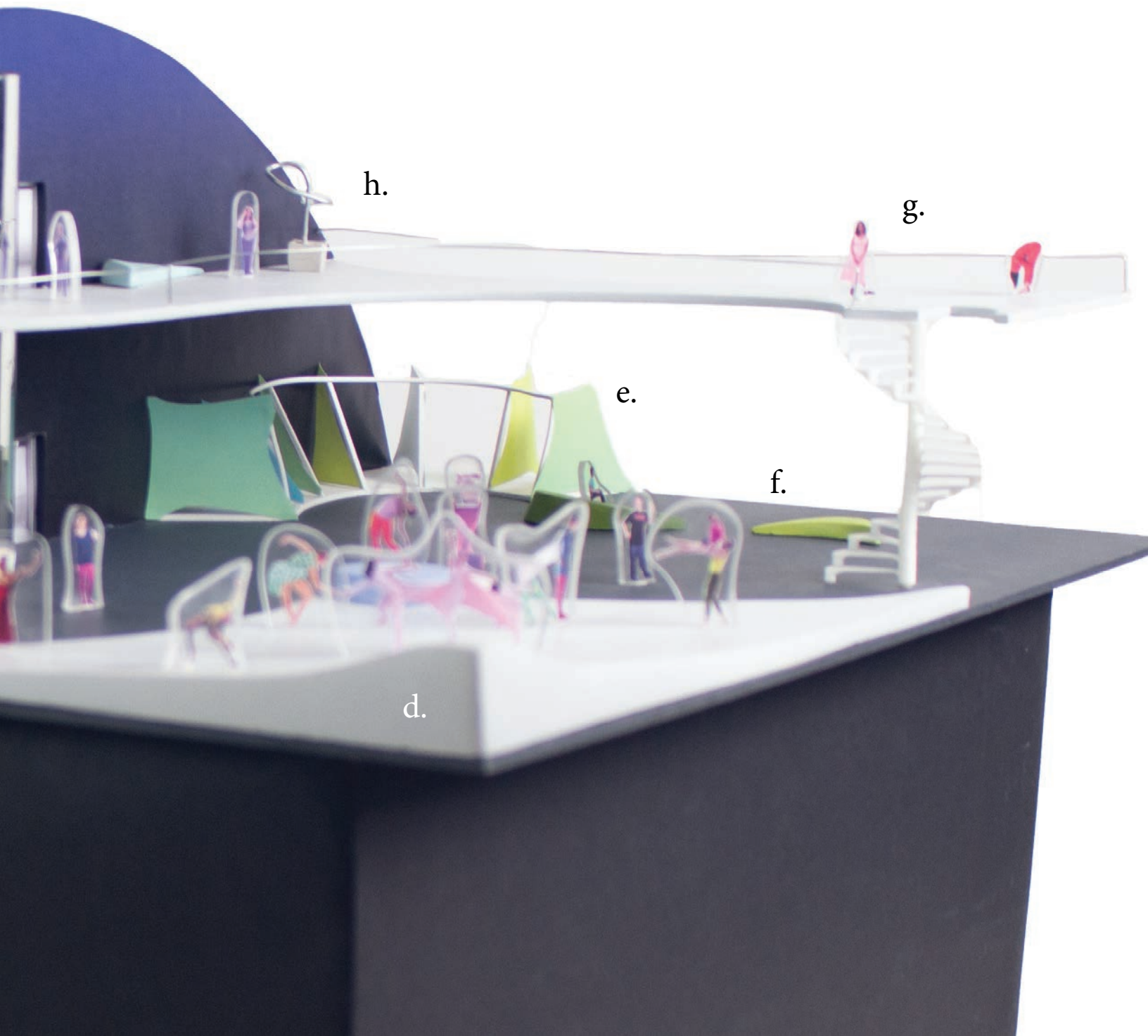
LDING MOVEMENT



- a. Entry Performance Pedastals
- b. Historical Gallery
- c. Cocktail Bar
- d. Main Performace Stage
- e. Dresing Rooms



- f. Seating Area
- g. Upper Catwalk Viewing Platform
- h. Sculpture Installations
- i. Central Mirror Column



HISTORICAL GALLERY

Examples of designer-choreographer collaborations are displayed as a contextual gallery wall near the entrance to the space.



Errand into the Maze, 1947
Set design by Isamu Noguchi
Choreographer Martha Graham



Scenario, 1997
Costumes by Rei Kawakubo
for Choreographer
Merce Cunningham



Minutiae, 1954
Set Design by Robert Rauschenberg
for Merce Cunningham



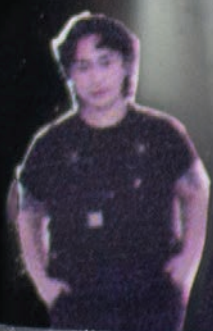
Inscape, 1977
Costumes by Rudi Gernreich
Choreographer Bella Lewitzky



2015
Unitards by Humberto Leon
for New York City Ballet

DRINK & MINGLE







TRY-ON EXPERIENCE



Guests are invited to select a costume from the variety of designs “displayed” by the moving performers. Via interactive touchscreens positioned on the perimeter of the space and on the second floor, guests can make a selection of garments which will be prepared for them by a staff member. When their dressing room has been prepared, each guest will receive an alert, prompting the try-on experience.

Guests are encouraged to enter onto the dance floor to view their new look in the central mirror, and experience how the garment may prompt or enhance their movement and dance potential.

MUSIC AND CHOREOGRAPHY



Curated Playlist

Unfolding Movement was choreographed as a sonic journey through texture, rhythm, and emotion, guided by a carefully curated playlist. The performance opens with a contemplative mood that gradually dissolves into buoyant, electronic sounds, instigating fluid and experimental motion during the surreal interlude. The latter half of the piece explores themes of momentum and release with selections like Daft Punk's "Veridis Quo," and "Throwing Lines" by Kelly Lee Owens, each influencing shifts in tempo and spatial dynamics. The journey culminates in the introspective tones of Blood Orange's "S'Cooled," leaving the audience in a reflective state. Each song was chosen not only for its auditory richness but for how it could be embodied, allowing the dancers to explore transformation through sound and motion.







Thank you.
Lily Rosa Allen
2025

SOURCES

“Against Time: The Noguchi Museum 40th Anniversary Reinstallation - the Noguchi Museum.” The Noguchi Museum, 22 Jan. 2025, www.noguchi.org/museum/exhibitions/view/against-time-the-noguchi-museum-40th-anniversary-reinstallation/.

Chris Vidal Tenomaa. “Issey Miyake AW 1996 (Fashion TV).” YouTube, 4 June 2024, www.youtube.com/watch?v=ucf5IDZfnwU. Accessed 14 May 2025.

“Dance Works III: Merce Cunningham / Rei Kawakubo.” Walkerart.org, walkerart.org/calendar/2012/dance-works-iii-merce-cunningham-rei-kawakubo.

“Dance & Fashion | Fashion Institute of Technology.” Wwww.fitnyc.edu, www.fitnyc.edu/museum/exhibitions/dance-and-fashion.php.

“Edges of Ailey.” Whitney.org, 2024, whitney.org/exhibitions/edges-of-ailey.

“Greer Lankton in the Contortionist - by Joyce Randall.” Wwww.youtube.com, www.youtube.com/watch?v=FIc3br4Vgh8. Accessed 17 Feb. 2024.

Moore, Booth. “Rudi Gernreich “Fearless Fashion” Exhibition Opens at Skirball Center.” WWD, 9 May 2019, wwd.com/eye/lifestyle/rudi-gernreich-fearless-fashion-exhibition-opens-in-l-a-1203127300/.

