

“Really and truly something for everyone... leading us on imaginative and nuanced paths through a web of musical exchange and connectivity.” -*Celine Thackston, Big Ears Festival*

# mosaic

A woman in a pink shirt and dark pants stands on a rocky peak under a starry night sky. The word "mosaic" is written in large white letters across the center, with the woman standing on the letter 'a'. The background is a dark blue night sky filled with stars and the Milky Way galaxy. The foreground shows dark, jagged rock formations. The entire image is framed by white geometric lines forming a large hexagon.

Mosaic is a suite of interdisciplinary works journeying through the liminal spaces that reveal our deepest humanity. Artists from Morocco, Kurdistan, Palestine, Indonesia, South Africa, West Virginia, and New York weave together worlds hidden between past and present, sleeping and waking, spirit and substance.



This work is presented in three suites --

Memories, Dreams and Rituals.



Each suite features Mosaic artists immersed in the sounds, stories, and images of their home communities, featuring audio and visual material gathered from workshops. The pieces were developed during a year of workshops in Palestine, Turkey and central Appalachia.



**MEMORIES** weaves together the stories, poetry, imagery and singing traditions of Kurdish women from Turkey and women in central Appalachia in a meditation on love, longing and womanhood. Created by Kyla-Rose Smith, Alexia Webster, Eva Salina, and Ali Tekbas. With special thanks to Fidel, Medine, Edule, Ali's family, the women of Hakkari, Rubar Güngör, Nell Fields, Janet Marie Pace, and Mae Boggs. In loving memory of Edule Kılıç.

*Running time: 40 min*



**DREAMS** is an exploration of how the unbound imaginative world of children washes up against and over the physical wall that surrounds their society, using original music and visuals inspired by the nighttime dreams and daydreams of a group of children living along the West Bank wall in Palestine. Created by Christopher Marianetti, Alexia Webster, and Asma Ghanem. Special thanks to Meghan Judge, Nada, and all the kids from Qalandiya who shared their dreams.

*Running time: 30 min*



**RITUALS** transposes healing rituals of Morocco, Appalachia, and Java into the structure of the gnawa lila ceremony, which navigates the seven colors of the spirit world. Rituals journeys between the physical plane and the land of the djinns. Created by Jeremy Thal, Mehdi Nassouli, and Ben Townsend. Foot washing ceremony from In the Good Old Fashioned Way by Herb E. Smith courtesy of Appalshop Archive. Additional video footage by Hatim Belyamani.

*Running time: 1 hr*

## PERFORMERS

Peni Candra Rini - Indonesia | Voice, Puppets  
Mehdi Nassouli - Morocco | Guembri/Voice  
Ben Townsend - West Virginia | Fiddle/Banjo  
Ali Tekbaş - Turkey | Voice  
Zafer Tawil - Palestine | Oud/Percussion  
Jeremy Thal - New York | French Horn  
Eva Salina - New York | Voice  
Gideon Crevoshay - Vermont | Voice  
Kyla-Rose Smith - New York | Violin, Electronics  
Christopher Marianetti - New York | Keys, Electronics



## CREATIVE TEAM

Ashley Tata - New York | *Director & Production Designer*  
Elena Moon Park - New York | *Project Director*  
Alexia Webster - South Africa | *Visual Artist*  
Ezra Tenenbaum - New York | *Production Manager*  
Chris Botta - New York | *Sound Design*  
Eamonn Farrell - Virginia | *Video Designer*



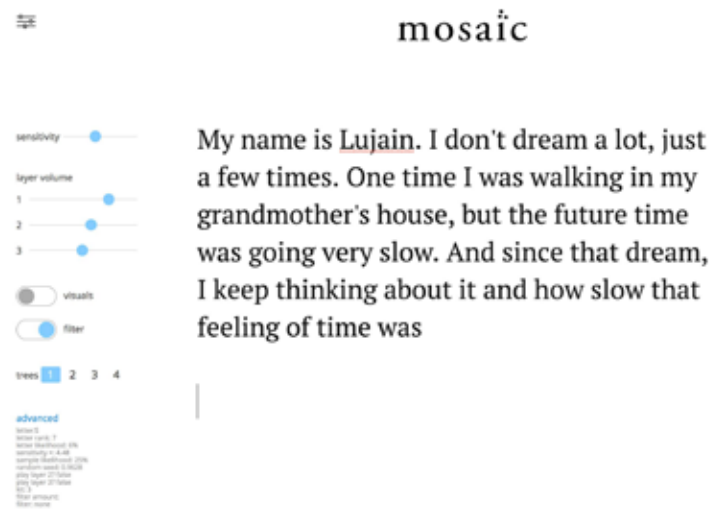


Mosaic can be presented as three stand-alone works, or as one evening-length piece. Total running time is approximately 2 hrs 15 min, excluding intermission. The staging and design of the work is modular, and can be flexible depending on the space. Each production includes video projection from multiple angles (3 projectors), fabrics and mesh video screens, and multiple stage setups.

The production requires approximately 3 days of setup and 1 day of tech, and is best booked to run for at least 3 days. If in residence at a venue, and pending a budget, the team will also organize a community dinners recipe and remedy exchanges, youth workshops, and song shares.

Each Mosaic performance includes engagement with communities in each performance location:

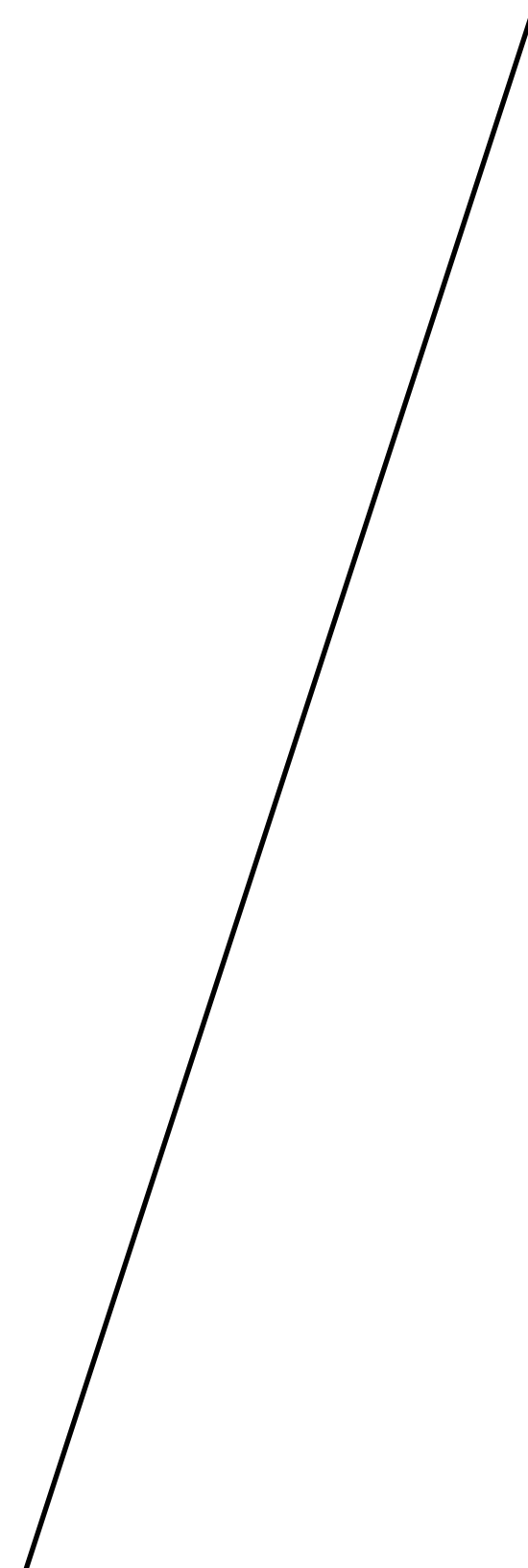
**WORKSHOPS** include music sharing and education sessions with Mosaic artists (Moroccan gnawa rhythm and dance, Indonesian gamelan scales, old-time fiddle and banjo, vocal workshops); youth workshops in visual arts and music composition; panel discussions and lectures on global music traditions, cross-cultural collaboration, music and spirituality.



The **DREAM TYPEWRITER** turns dreams or stories into music. The typewriter is an online tool made up of hundreds of musical ideas. As you type, these musical elements are ordered, processed, layered, filtered, and repeated according to the words you choose and the speed at which you type them. The more words you type the deeper you dive into a unique musical ecosystem specific your dreams-stories. Participants can play back and save their dream-compositions online.



**RECIPE + REMEDY EXCHANGES** take place at community dinners hosted by local partners, in collaboration with the Mosaic team. These dinners showcase local food traditions and allow for a food and cooking exchange with Mosaic artists. During the dinner, a "Recipe + Remedy Exchange" invites attendees to write down and share a recipe or remedy that has been passed down from their elders. This could be your mother's family recipe for apple pie, your grandmother's tried and tested cure for the common cold, or the secret to mending a broken heart.



I don't know if I can put into words how moving each one was. Musical ecstasy of such a primal nature that it reached to the core of me, yes, especially in the combinations of modal traditional songs melding and interweaving from Turkey to Appalachia; visuals ranging from the bright colors and joyous playing of the musicians to the films of Kurdish women, parties, children telling their dreams and playing amongst the houses and the rubble in Palestine; and the live actions of singer Eva Salina as she moved amongst us, taking the laundry from the lines strung around the theatre. And then the scents of the incense carried along by the entrance of the parade of musicians. In each instance the melding of cultures so diverse and supposedly miles apart, prove that the distinctness of each is mirrored and matched by the others, all becoming a shared human experience, a musical statement and allegory so desperately needed to be heard and felt on a much larger scale in this time of rampant nationalism and global insularity.

- *Andy Nagy, audience member*

I was deeply moved by my experience at Mosaic Interactive as a part of the Big Ears Festival. My first instinct leads me to say something kind of generic, like the range of musical territory covered means that it had "something for everyone" but when I poke at that idea, it really and truly was something for everyone in a much deeper sense, leading us on imaginative and nuanced paths through this web of musical exchange and connectivity. It was so thoughtful and well-conceived in its narrative, and was - by far - my favorite part of the festival. I can't wait to see how it grows and develops.

- *Celine Thackston, Big Ears Development Director*

I'm very grateful to the whole Mosaic team for bringing such beauty, inspiration, and international connection to a place that doesn't always get given the benefit of the doubt for being deserving of it.

- *Rachel Garringer, Whitesburg, KY*





# mosaic

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