

Guild Hall

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Amy Kirwin, Chief Public Engagement & Impact Officer

akirwin@guildhall.org | 631.324.0806 x113

Press-Approved Photos: <https://adobe.ly/4pc9S8C>

Guild Hall Partners with Works & Process for *Dance Out East* featuring Tap Dance Artist Naomi Funaki's *IKAGAI*

Saturday, January 10, 2026



Naomi Funaki. Photo: Ryoko Konami

December 23, 2025 — East Hampton, NY: Guild Hall (158 Main Street, East Hampton) is pleased to partner with Works & Process for the second consecutive year as part of the 2026 [Dance Out East Festival](#) on [Saturday, January 10 at 7 PM with Naomi Funaki's *Ikagai*](#). Dance Out East is a collaboration between Guild Hall, The Church, The Watermill Center, and Works & Process, and highlights the creation of new choreographic work ahead of its continued development within Works & Process' 2026 dance festivals.

Recognized as a 2023 Princess Grace Award recipient in dance, a 2024 Dance Magazine's "25 to Watch," 92NY Artist-in-Residence and 2025 Asian American Jadin Wong Fellow, tap dance artist Naomi Funaki shares an in-process presentation of a new evening-length work, ***Ikigai* at Guild Hall on Saturday, January 10 at 7 PM.** Reflecting on the 2011 Tohoku earthquake & tsunami, Fukushima nuclear disaster, and personal experience, Funaki and her company of dancers will blend rhythm, live music, and narrative to explore resilience, memory, and connection.

This in-process presentation is a culmination of Funaki's weeklong Works & Process Tino and Rajika Puri creative residency at Guild Hall. Consisting of both performance and conversation, the evening offers audiences an intimate glimpse into the work's development and the ideas shaping its evolution prior to its March 8th premiere with Works & Process at Guggenheim New York as part of the Uptown Rhythm Dance Festival.

Naomi Funaki is an award-winning tap dance artist from Tokyo, Japan, currently living in New York City. Since moving to New York in 2016 to pursue her career in tap dance, she has performed at New York City Center, Lincoln Center, The Joyce Theater, Radio City Music Hall, MET Gala, The Guggenheim Museum (New York City and Spain), Vail Dance Festival, and All Arts TV. Naomi is a 2023 Princess Grace Award winner, a 2024–2025 Joyce Creative Residency artist, the recipient of the 2025 Jadin Wong Fellowship, and was recognized as one of Dance Magazine's "25 to Watch" in 2024. She has worked with Ayodele Casel, Caleb Teicher & Company, Music From The Sole, and Dorrance Dance. Choreography credits include Ayodele Casel's *Artists at the Center* at New York City Center, associate choreographer of *Diary of a Tap Dancer* at The American Repertory Theatre, assistant choreographer for *Bzzz* at The Joyce Theater, and assistant tap choreographer for New York City Center's Encores! *Wonderful Town*.

Ikigai was commissioned and created, in part, with the support of Works & Process Residency Tino & Rajika Puri Creative Residency and The Joyce Theater Foundation's Creative Residencies Program made possible by lead funding from TD Charitable Foundation. Additional support provided through residencies at 92NY, CUNY Dance Initiative at Hunter College, Guild Hall of East Hampton, and an Asian American Arts Alliance Jadin Wong Fellowship.

FULL DANCE OUT EAST SCHEDULE

January 10, 2 PM:

The Church in Sag Harbor: *The Lineage Project* by Kristine Bendul & Abdiel

January 10, 7 PM:

Guild Hall of East Hampton: Naomi Funaki: *Ikigai*

January 11, 2 PM:

The Watermill Center: Sekou McMiller & Friends' *Palladium Nights*

Tickets are \$25. Visit [GuildHall.org](https://www.guildhall.org) or [DanceOutEast.org](https://www.danceouteast.org) for make your reservation.

ABOUT WORKS & PROCESS

Championing performing artists and their creative process at each step from studio to stage, Works & Process produces fully funded residencies and presents events that go behind the scenes, blending artist discussion and performance highlights. Works & Process events transcend the proscenium, encouraging audiences to spectate and participate beyond the stage, and culminate in receptions in the Guggenheim rotunda to continue the conversation.

Works & Process produces over 25 creative residencies annually. Expanding from our bubble residency program created during the COVID-19 pandemic, Works & Process now has a network of over a dozen partners in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, and Vermont. In over 100 Works & Process residencies, supporting over 1,000 artists, incubated works have been recognized with awards and grants, and have toured nationally—and internationally with the U.S. State Department. These out-of-town residencies provide industry leading artist fees of \$1,225 per week, 24/7 studio access, on-site housing, a transportation stipend, and health insurance enrollment access. When Works & Process events are presented in New York City, Works & Process provides artists with fees of \$450 per performance.

Beyond the Guggenheim, we also partner with organizations across New York, including 92NY and the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, Jerome Robbins Dance Division. During the summer, we curate and present free outdoor dance programs with Manhattan West and City Parks Foundation's SummerStage.

worksandprocess.org
[@worksandprocess](https://www.instagram.com/worksandprocess)

ABOUT GUILD HALL

Guild Hall is the cultural heart of the East End: a museum, performing arts, and education center, founded in 1931. We invite everyone to experience the endless possibilities of the arts: to open minds to what art can be; inspire creativity and conversation; and have fun.

Guild Hall has served four generations and introduced audiences to the most storied artists and performers of our time. As we approach our centennial, we have completed a state-of-the-art renovation to match the caliber of our artistry for twenty-first-century audiences. The facility-wide Capital Improvements Project & Campaign includes top-of-the-line physical and technological enhancements to better deliver on our mission as an artist-driven, interdisciplinary institution. For more information about Guild Hall, please visit GuildHall.org. Follow [@GUILD_HALL](https://www.instagram.com/GUILD_HALL) on Instagram.