

jfreeman | Po'chop

ITSPOCHOP@GMAIL.COM | WWW.ITSPOCHOP.COM

SELECTED PERFORMANCES

UPCOMING

2025 *Creator, Performer, THICK: a crumbling freak show*, Columbia College Chicago Dance Center

Creator, Performer, excerpts from THICK: a crumbling freak show, Chicago Cultural Center

Creator, Performer, THICK: studies in refusal with Court Theater, Chicago

2024 **Headliner, Hostess City Hoedown**, Savannah

Headliner, Nudie Nubies Nationwide, Minneapolis

Performer, FORCE! An opera in 3 parts, MCA, REDCAT, PICA,

2023 **Headliner, What the Funk? BIPOC Burlesque Festival**, Seattle

2022 *Featured Performer, TedXChicago, Harris Theater*, Chicago

Headliner, Colorado Burlesque Festival, Denver

Bamalama Legs, In Progress, MCA, Chicago

2020 *Featured Performer, Jeezy's Juke Joint*, San Francisco

Featured Performer, Front Row Paul's Burlesque Expo, Indianapolis

2019 *The People's Church of the G.H.E.T.T.O, Gallery Blanc*, Chicago

Headliner, Radical Queer Performance, Minneapolis

Headliner, Savannah Burlesque Festival, Savannah, GA

Dynamite, IN>TIME Festival, Chicago

The People's Church of the G.H.E.T.T.O (WIP), Pivot Arts Festival, Chicago

Starting Before You're Ready, Steppenwolf LookOut Series, Chicago

Featured Performer, Jamila Woods Legacy! Legacy! Unfolded, Chicago

2018 **Thank the Lorde! Steppenwolf Lookout Series**, Chicago

The People's Church (WIP), Elevate Chicago Dance, Chicago

Dynamite, International Chicago Underground Queer International Symposium, Chicago

In Progress: Perfect Worlds/ Propositional Attitudes, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago

The People's Church (WIP), Rootwork Art Gallery, Chicago

Featured Performer, Jeezy's Juke Joint, Chicago, St. Louis

The People's Church (WIP) & Black As Eye Wanna Be, Monocle, St. Louis

2017 **Dynamite, Links Hall & Elevate Chicago Dance**, Chicago

Black As Eye Wanna Be, Steppenwolf LookOut Series, Chicago

Dynamite, Sovereign Festival, Seattle

Headliner, Jeezy's Juke Joint, St. Louis, Chicago, Nashville, Minneapolis

2016 *Featured Performer, Show Me Burlesque Festival*, St. Louis

Featured Performer, Fireball Masquerade, Madison, WI

Headliner, The Roux Burlesque Festival, New Orleans

2015 *Featured Performer, Platforms: Ten Years of Chances Dances*, Chicago
Featured Performer, Windy City Burlesque Festival, Chicago
Performer, Grown & Sexy Pride ft. Peaches, Minneapolis
Featured Performer, The Roux: A Spicy Burlesque Show, New Orleans
Featured Performer, Minneapolis Burlesque Festival, Minneapolis

2014 *Featured Performer, Fierce International Burlesque Festival*, Madison
Featured Performer, Jeezy's Juke Joint, St. Louis
Featured Performer, By Women For Women, Center on Halsted, Chicago
Featured Performer, Sunni Stephen's Clubesque, Atlanta, GA
Black As Eye Wanna Be, Chicago Fringe Festival & Crimson Glow, Chicago

2013 *Featured Performer, Dyke March*, Chicago
Guest Performer, Black Hearts Burlesque, Minneapolis
Guest Performer, Sunni Stephen's Clubesque, Kansas City, MO
Performer, New Orleans Burlesque Festival, New Orleans

FILM + VIDEO PERFORMANCES

2023 *Choreographer, Jamila Woods'*, Boomerang & Tiny Garden Video, VAM Studio

2022 *Featured Performer, THAW*, Links Hall

2021 *Featured Performer, Chicago Takes 10*, Walder Foundation

2020 *Featured Performer, The Real Dance*, Nora Sharp

2020 *Creator / Performer, LITANY (a five part dance film)*, VAM Studio
Performer, Shea Coulee's Collide Music Vide, VAM Studio

2018 *Featured Performer, Jamila Woods' Giovanni Music Video*, VAM Studio
Featured Performer, Mykele Deville's Type Love Music Video

2017 *Featured Performer, Jamila Woods' LSD Music Video*, VAM Studio
Featured Performer, Jamila Woods' Holy Music Video, VAM Studio
Creator / Performer, Home I Here (short experimental film), VAM Studio
Featured Performer, Netflix Original Show Easy, Joe Swanburg

COLLABORATIVE PERFORMANCES

2024- *Dancer, Website Designer FORCE!: An Opera in 3 Acts*, Anna Martine Whitehead

2020

2023 *Choreographer, Brightest Thing*, About Face Theatre, Chicago

2022 *Choreographer, Magnolia Ballet*, About Face Theatre, Chicago
Choreographer, Our Dear Dead Drug Lord, Steep Theatre, Chicago
Performer & Scenic Design, Priestess of Twerk, Nia Witherspoon

2020 *Project Discussion/Performer, Tend*, Khecari

2019 *Choreography, The Buttcracker*, Jaq Seifert, Chicago

GRANTS, AWARDS & RESIDENCIES

2024 Illinois Art Council Creative Catalyst Grant

2024 Bawdy Suit's Juneteenth Jumpoff Jubilee Star Award

2024 Self-Made Residency | House of the Lorde | Funded by Reva & David Logan Foundation

2023 Portland Institute of Contemporary Art Artist Exchange Resident

2022 United States Artist Fellow

2022 DCASE Together We Heal In Place

2022 Dance/USA Fellow

2021 Foundation of Contemporary Art Grant for Artist Recipient
2021 Illinois Art Council Artist Fellowship
2020 Urban Bush Women Choreographic Fellow
2020 Rebuild Foundation Chicago Dancer in Resident
2020 Columbia College Chicago Virtual Dance Resident
2020 Virtual Resident Artist at Hyde Park Art Center
2020 Voted #10 21st Century Burlesque Magazine Most Influential Burlesque Figure
2019 Urban Bush Women Choreographic Center Initiative Fellowship Candidate
2018 Chicago Dancemakers Forum Lab Artist
2017 3ARTS Make a Wave Recipient
Links Hall Co-Mission Resident Artist, Chicago
2016 Regional Dance Development Initiative Participant, Champagne-Urbana
2015 Chance Dances Mark Aguilar Awardee

TEACHING

2024 *Honey Moves, Fly Honey* | Guest Instructor
Camp Shimmy in the Pines (Atlanta) | Guest Instructor
2023 School of the Art Institute of Chicago | Guest Lecturer for Contemporary Practice Class
2022- Roosevelt University | Adjunct Professor | Performance Art
present

2022- House of the Lorde | Freelance Movement Instructor
Present

2020 Columbia College Chicago | Guest for Black Feminist Choreographers
University of Chicago | Guest Teacher for the Study of Gender and Sexuality
Northwestern University | Teacher + Choreographer for Student Body Burlesque Group
Independent Instructor of Uses of the Erotic: Burlesque as Power

2018 School of the Art Institute of Chicago | Guest Teacher for Campus Life Programming
Northwestern University | Guest Teacher for Student Body Burlesque Group
Burlycon (Seattle, WA) Invited Presenter at BurlyCon
New Orleans Burlesque Retreat | Guest Instructor

2011- Vaudezilla Studios
2020

CURATION & PRODUCING

2022- **Notes on Masculinity**, Chicago
Present

2019 **The People's Church of the G.H.E.T.T.O**, Chicago

2018 **Thank the Lorde**, Chicago

2017 **Black As Eye Wanna Be**, Chicago
Queer Lines, Chicago

2016 **Queer Lines**, Chicago

2014 **Black As Eye Wanna Be**, Chicago

2013 **FREEDOM! Queer Performance and Dance Party**, Chicago

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS / GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

2025 The Black Social Dance: ChicagoLand Moves

2024 *Chicago Archives + Artists Festival*, Sixty Inches from Center
Never So Free, Arts + Public Life

2023 *Queering Career: a Conversation with Queer Chicago Dancemakers*, Elevate Chicago Dance

2022 *Chicago Dancemakers Forum Lab Artist*, Grant Panelist

2021 “Black While....: A Creative Justice Mixtape”, University of Louisville
Synapse Arts, Artist Mentor / Eyes in the Room

2020 *What Are We Rehearsing For?*, Arts + Public Life, Chicago, IL
Anti-Racist Art Practice at Home and Abroad, Hyde Park Art Center

2019 *Queer Forms*, University of Minnesota

2018 *In/Motion Dance Film Festival*, Loyola University Chicago
High Concept Labs, Chicago, Grant Panelist

P R E S S

-Smith, Corey and Lindsey, Rachel *Sixty Inches From Center* (May 27, 2025) <https://sixtyinchesfromcenter.org/thick/>

-Boyd, D'onminique Boyd *See Chicago Dance* (November 10, 2020): <https://seechicagodance.com/review/pochops-brown-pages-and-litany-say-her-name-resurrect-her-spirit>

-Hoyer, Sharon *Newcity Stage* (November 3, 2020): <https://www.newcitystage.com/2020/11/03/ritual-and-legacy-burlesque-artist-jenn-freemanpochop-explores-black-femininity-and-spirituality-in-dance-film-litany/>

-Hsiao, Irene *The Chicago Reader* (August 12, 2020): <https://www.chicagoreader.com/chicago/torchy-brown-lights-way-for-litany/Content?oid=82012235>

-Johnson, Holli-Me Johnson *21st Century Burlesque Magazine* (June 22, 2020): <https://21stcenturyburlesque.com/black-burlesque-directory-all-white-lineups-tokenism-inexcusable-pochop/>

-Chen, Carolyn *Free Spirit Media* (October 17, 2019): <https://youtube.com/watch?v=v+VumftSQMVAs>

-Keys, Venise *Sixty Inches From Center* (October 31, 2019): <https://sixtyinchesfromcenter.org/jenn-freeman-pochop-and-the-peoples-church-of-the-g-h-e-t-t-o/>

-Wiederholt, Emmaly *Stance on Dance* (November 11, 2019): <http://stanceondance.com/2019/11/11/uplifting-voices-through-burlesque-and-dance/>

P U B L I C A T I O N S

2019 “Letter to my Ma”, **Columbia College Process vs Product Festival**: <https://dancecenterblog.wordpress.com/2018/03/09/letter-to-my-ma/>

2017- Present *Creator, Writer, Designer & Publisher, The Brown Pages*, An artistic blogline
www.itspochop.com/thebrownpages

2016 “Why The Fashion Police Cannot Defeat ISIS”: **The Clyde Fitch Report**:
<https://www.clydefitchreport.com/2016/09/fashion-isis-women/>

2015-
Present Creator of The Black Burlesque Directory, An archive of Black performer
Internationally: <https://www.itspochop.com/black-burlesque-directory>

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Workman, Michael. (2018) Jenn Freeman (aka Po'Chop). *Perfect Worlds: Artistic Forms & Social Imaginaries*, Vol. 1 (21-57).

EDUCATION

2003-2007: Columbia College Chicago, Dance Major Prospect