

**New York
needs artists.**

**Artists
need space.**

ChaShaMa

ChaShaMa

Your space becomes:



Space to Create

We provide artists with low-cost studios in a professional, supportive, creative environment.

Space to Present

We provide artists with free exhibition and performance space, enabling them to realize their creative visions.

Space to Connect

We provide artists with professional development workshops, visiting curator opportunities, and financial, logistical, and marketing resources to help them achieve creative success.

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150 Presentations.

Our presentation spaces allow artists to exhibit visual art, dance performances, and music for free.

1000+ Artists.

We grant free and affordable space to create and present to over 1000 artists.

20+ Locations.

We programmed 20+ locations with visual and performing artists throughout New York City.

144 Studios.

One of the largest affordable studio programs in New York City with spaces in Brooklyn, Queens, and Manhattan.

\$82k Grants.

Over \$82,000 in grants and stipends were made to artists.

22 Years.

Founded in 1995, chashama is the largest provider of affordable space for artists in New York City.

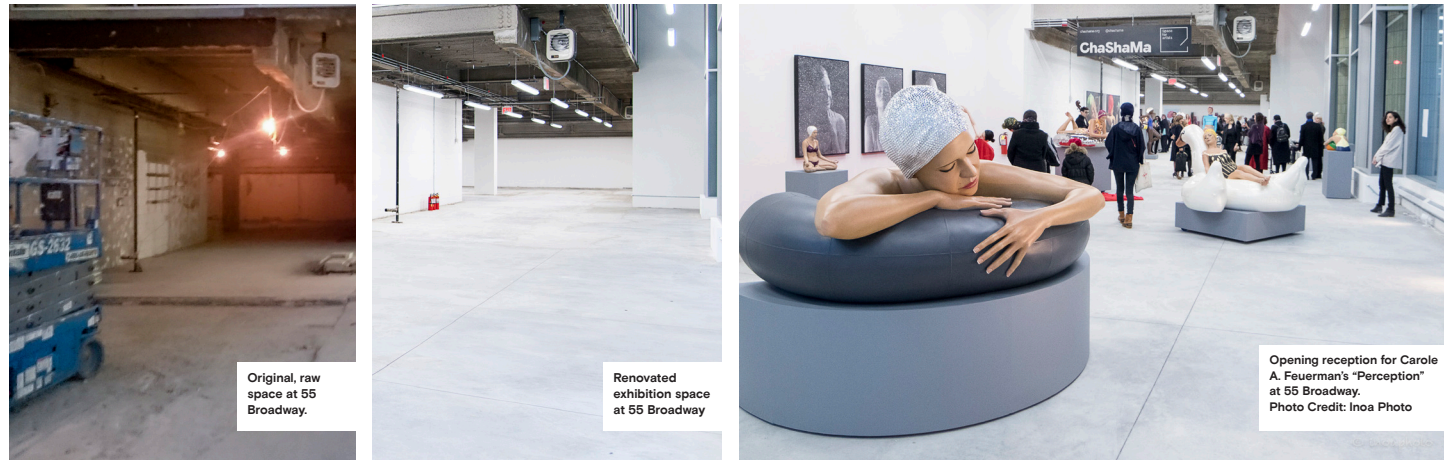
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\$1.5 Million.

worth of real estate transformed into space to create and present.

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Transforming Unused Space



Original, raw space at 55 Broadway.

Renovated exhibition space at 55 Broadway

Opening reception for Carole A. Feuerman's "Perception" at 55 Broadway. Photo Credit: Inoa Photo



“chashama brought a new audience into the neighborhood and all the benefits that come along with additional exposure.”
 Justin Elghanayan, President
 Rockrose Development Corporation

Our Partners

History

chashama, which means “to have vision” in Farsi, was founded in 1995 by Anita Durst, to celebrate the legacy of theater artist Reza Abdoh, and support artistic work embodying his spirit of experimental productions in unexpected places. The organization initially focused on presenting theater performances in vacant properties along 42nd Street. After the success of initial productions, Durst began fielding a steady stream of requests from artists asking to use the spaces during off-nights.

Recognizing that the lack of affordable work and presentation space was a great threat to sustaining a diverse, dynamic, and provocative cultural environment in New York City, Durst’s vision was to find a way to connect artists and performers with the untapped reserves of temporarily vacant commercial real estate: empty storefronts, office spaces between tenants, in-transition raw spaces or pre-demo developments.

Since 1995, chashama has been able to support the work and ideas of over 12,000 artists through free and low-cost gallery, studio and window space programs, which have brought arts programming to approximately 2 million viewers. In recent years, chashama has continued to reach new audiences through its youth programming, lobby curation and affordable artist housing.

chashama has supported some of New York City’s most renowned contemporary visual and performing artists, giving them a home for courageous experimentation, and nurturing their careers and creative focus. By bringing edgy, contemporary theater and visual art to the forefront, chashama has created and exhibited art in some of the most prominent and dynamic spaces in the city.



“I simply cannot say enough good things about their mission, business model, and leadership..We could not have attracted such a wonderful buyer without chashama having improved the block!”
 Andrew M. Manshel, President
 Greater Jamaica Development Corporation



“They made the move in/move out process very easy, and while they occupied the space they were very careful to maintain and actually improved the property.”
 William Abramson, Director
 of Brokerage Buchbinder & Warren Realty
 Group LLC



Chashama's mission is to support the process of the artist by giving them **space to create and present.**

Chashama's two primary programs, Space to Present and Space to Create, are its main vehicles for realizing its mission. Space to Present provides visual and performing artists with free, highly visible venues in which to publicly present their work. Space to Create provides artists with low-cost work space in a supportive and professional environment. Additionally, chashama offers a range of professional development services designed to provide artists with the necessary resources to achieve and sustain their creative goals.

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