Through an appropriation of the scientific method, the work aims to demonstrate its rigor through satire while nodding towards the incommensurability of embodying process in the locus of performance.

As a product of my own practice of excess, this work takes pleasure in its status as a "bad" approximation of a live rehearsal, digital archive of stories, installation, ballet class, dance party, wardrobe fitting, and academic conference. It is quite literally too much and not enough.

Together, we will revel in the play invoked by the rehearsal space, thinking, dreaming, and dancing towards a something that is not-yet-here.

If the performance is an ephemeral endeavor that only leaves remains, the scraps edited out during rehearsals are the remains of a process that leads to remains.

Through an autobiographical analysis of my own dance rehearsal practices, the ballet Swan Lake, sexual play, sewing practices, and kinship ties, this work seeks to invite audience members into a rehearsal practice, so that we may defamiliarize what the "before" of performance does.

What is the relationship between the rehearsal as a process and the performance as an opening towards futurity? How does the rehearsal process function as the discursive conditions through which worlds are made?
R and D

Rehearsals and Dicks | Research and Dance | Relationships and Development

By Michael Landez

R and D is an exploration of the scraps left before the world-making capacities of performance - on our bodies, in our minds, in the studio, in the workshop, in the closet, and in the bedroom.

A moment of gratitude for the countless live that remain in the rehearsal space of my life before this performance of PhD-ness, and are alive in this work in some way:

Julie and Peter Landez, Nancy Landez, Terri Landez, Danny Landez
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Nadine George-Graves, Marcela Fuentes, Rebekah Kowel, Meredith Alexander, Kim Marra
Donna Summer

And many thanks to the completed works that inform this project’s skeleton:
Kemi Adeyemi, Kareem Khubchandani, and Ramón Rivera-Servera Queer Nightlife (2021)
Clare Croft Queer Dance (2017)
Tim Dean Unlimited Intimacy (2009)
Michel Foucault Discipline and Punish (1975) and The History of Sexuality (1976)
Vida Midgelow Reworking the Ballet (2007)
José Esteban Muñoz Disidentifications (1999), Cruising Utopia (2009), Sense of Brown (2020)
Peggy Phelan "Ontology of Performance" from Unmarked (1993)
Ramón Rivera-Servera Performing Queer Latinidad (2012)
Juana Maria Rodríguez Sexual Futures, Queer Gestures, and Other Latina Longings (2014)
Peter Stoneley A Queer History of Ballet (2006)
Pyotr Tchaikovsky Swan Lake (1875)

This interactive exhibit will feature moments of light flashes, crude language, and mature subject matter. If at any time you need to exit the space, please do so. There are chairs positioned around the space and participation is encouraged though not required. If you would like to be an active participant, and give consent for the performer to gently touch you for guidance during movement sequences, please find a piece of scrap fabric on the floor and safety pin it to yourself in a visible place.