Emily Johnson is an artist who makes body-based work. She is of Yup'ik decent, is originally from Alaska and is currently based in Minneapolis. She creates work that considers the experience of sensing and seeing performance. Her dances function as installations, engaging audiences within and through a space and environment—interacting with a place's architecture, history, and role in community. Emily is trying to make a world where performance is part of life; where performance is an integral connection to each other, our environment, our stories, our past, presents, and futures. She receives inspiration from the annual migration of salmon, who swim upstream for thousands of miles because they must. She has watched these salmon swim up waterfalls and she believes humans can also be called to do amazing things. Recently, someone told her that she makes dance for “the dance snobs” and she makes dance for “people who generally don’t like dance.” She would like to think that is true; she would like to think that her dances are for everybody and that maybe they enlighten small aspects of our existence. Emily is a Bessie award winning choreographer who received a 2014 Doris Duke Artist Award and her work is currently supported by Creative Capital, Map Fund, a Joyce Award, the McKnight Foundation, New England Foundation for the Arts, and The Doris Duke Residency to Build Demand for the Arts. Emily is a current Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study at the University of Minnesota, a 2014 Fellow at the Robert Rauschenberg Residency, and a 2015 Artist in Residence at Williams College.