

For Immediate Release**The Kitchen presents Yasuko Yokoshi's *Reframe the Framework DDD***

New York, NY, March 24, 2008—On **Thursday, April 24, Friday, April 25** and **Saturday, April 26, The Kitchen** presents Bessie award-winning choreographer **Yasuko Yokoshi's** new dance work, *Reframe the Framework DDD*. Yokoshi's new work considers the complex intersections between inspiration, re-interpretation, and creative process, using **David Gordon's** 1984 dance-theater piece, *Framework*, as a point of departure. Yokoshi revisits Gordon's influential performance, relating it to the history of post-modern dance as well as to her personal development as a choreographer. Performances will take place at **8:00 P.M.** at The Kitchen (512 West 19th Street). Tickets are \$12

Developed during an intensive year-and-a-half collaboration with a small group of high-school students from Battleboro, Vermont, this new work—performed by the students—recontextualizes Gordon's original in the present moment, exploring ideas about generational difference and the reinvention of history.

Reframe the Framework DDD features **Valda Setterfield** from the original cast of *Framework*, **Genevieve Amarante, Danielle Crouch, Lindsay Crouch, Helga Gardner, Caitlin Greves, Chelsea Hausrath, Andrew Marchev, Sarah McKinney, and Nicole Thomas**, as well as sound design by **So-ichiro Migita** and lighting by **Ayumu "Poe" Saegusa**.

For *Reframe the Framework DDD*, Yokoshi did extensive research on transformation and progression of postmodern dance. The project rigorously challenges conventions of dance creation and explores how creative development is processed and transformed by questions, observations and acceptance, rather than by answers, definitions and control. Through workshops, rehearsals, and interviews, Yokoshi invited teenagers to question the aesthetics of the work; she joined them in looking closely at a video documentation of *Framework*, with Mr. Gordon's permission. The students came up with their own interpretations and applied them to the creation of their own movements and text.

Reframe the Framework DDD is thus a multi-layered exploration of how culture, art and history are transferred, transgressed and reinvented. In the project, Yokoshi acts as the medium by which the visual and conceptual information between two generations of performers is transferred—engaging a new generation of dancers and artists in America by providing them with a creative environment in which to explore their perceptions of dance and dance tradition in their own country, culture and their own lives.

The genesis of *Reframe* began in February 2006 when Vermont Performance Lab invited Yokoshi for a two-day visit to Windham County, Vermont, where she met students and faculty of the Performing Arts/Dance program of the Windham Regional Career Center (WRCC) at the Brattleboro School of Dance. Following this winter visit, Yokoshi proposed an experimental project idea that would involve collaborating with teenagers from the program. With the support of Vermont Performance Lab, the Brattleboro School of Dance and the Performing Arts/Dance Program of the WRCC, Yokoshi began working in July 2006 with seven students (age 15 to 17), conducting a weeklong intensive performance workshop at the Brattleboro School of Dance. In September 2006, five more students agreed to work with Yokoshi on an experimental dance project and have worked together on weekends and during holiday breaks throughout the fall and winter to develop material *Reframe the Framework DDD* (Dance-Docu-Drama).

Born in Hiroshima, Japan, **Yasuko Yokoshi** is a contemporary dance choreographer based in New York City. Emerging from the contemporary performance scene of downtown New York, Yokoshi's work is known for its

ferocity, drawing upon her Japanese heritage to make social and political commentaries on gender, acts of terror, sexuality, spirituality, tradition and modernity. In September 2006, Yokoshi won a second, consecutive New York Dance and Performance Bessie Award for her most recent work what we when we after receiving a Bessie for her solo work *Shuffle* in 2003. Yokoshi's first autobiographical book, *Once in A Life Time*, received the acclaimed Japanese Ogai Mori Literary Award and was published by the Gakken Publishing Company in 1991. Yokoshi made her first documentary video on her complex family history, *Last Sokoshi*, which received Grand Prize at the Luminous Video Competition in 1990. Yokoshi's works—which reflect her interests in combining disciplines and mediums—have been presented at festivals and theaters nationally and internationally, including the Guggenheim Museum, Whitney Museum of American Art, Brooklyn Academy of Music/651 Arts Center, Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art, Portland Institute for Contemporary Art, Danspace Project, Performance Space 122, The Kitchen, Dance Theater Workshop, Japan Society, Taipei Theater, Festival A/D Werf (Holland), Festival Sommer SZENE (Austria), Frascati Theater (Holland), and Korea-Japan Dance Festival in Seoul and Tokyo. She has been a choreographer fellow at Maggie Allesee National Center for Choreography, and served as an artist-in-residence at Djerassi Art Center, Joyce Theater/Joyce Soho, Movement Research and Brooklyn Arts Exchange.

Valda Setterfield is a British born dancer and actor. She has worked with JoAnne Akalaitis, Woody Allen, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Caryl Churchill, Merce Cunningham, Graciela Daniele, Richard Foreman, Maria Irene Fornes, Brian DePalma, Ain Gordon, David Gordon, Ivo van Hove, Don Mischer, Marie Rambert, Yvonne Rainer, Donald Saddler, Michael Sexton, Jeanine Tesori, James Waring, Robert Wilson and Mark Wing-Davey. Setterfield has performed at venues including BAM, NYTW, DTW, PS 122, Danspace Project, Soho Rep, The Public, A.R.T., A.C.T., Adirondack Theatre Festival and Mark Taper Forum. She recently appeared with Paradigm at the Joyce Theater in July 2006 and performed in The Seventh International Festival of Movement and Dance On The Volga in Yaroslavl, USSR in August 2006. She has been a member of the Pick Up Performance Co(S.) since its inception and received an OBIE for *The Family Business*, a 1984 Bessie for Outstanding Achievement and another Bessie, for Performance, in September of 2006.

Funding Credits

This work is made possible with generous support from The Greenwall Foundation and the Multi-Arts Production Fund. It is co-produced with the Battleboro School of Dance and the Performing Art/Dance program of the Windham Regional Career Center in Vermont. The project was created, in part, during the artist residency hosted by Vermont Performance Lab and The Putney School.

The Kitchen's presentation is made possible with generous support from Altria Group, Inc., The Harkness Foundation for Dance, The Jerome Robbins Foundation, the Mertz Gilmore Foundation, and with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs and the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency.



ABOUT THE KITCHEN

The Kitchen is one of New York City's oldest nonprofit performance and exhibition spaces, showing experimental work by innovative artists, both emerging and established. Programs range from dance, music, and theatrical performances to video and media arts exhibitions to literary events, film screenings, and artists' talks. Since its inception in 1971, The Kitchen has been a powerful force in shaping the cultural landscape of this country and has helped launch the careers of many artists who have gone on to worldwide prominence.

Box Office Information:

212.255.5793 ext. 11
Tue-Sat, 2-6pm

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