

VIDEO, MUSIC, DANCE, PERFORMANCE & FILM

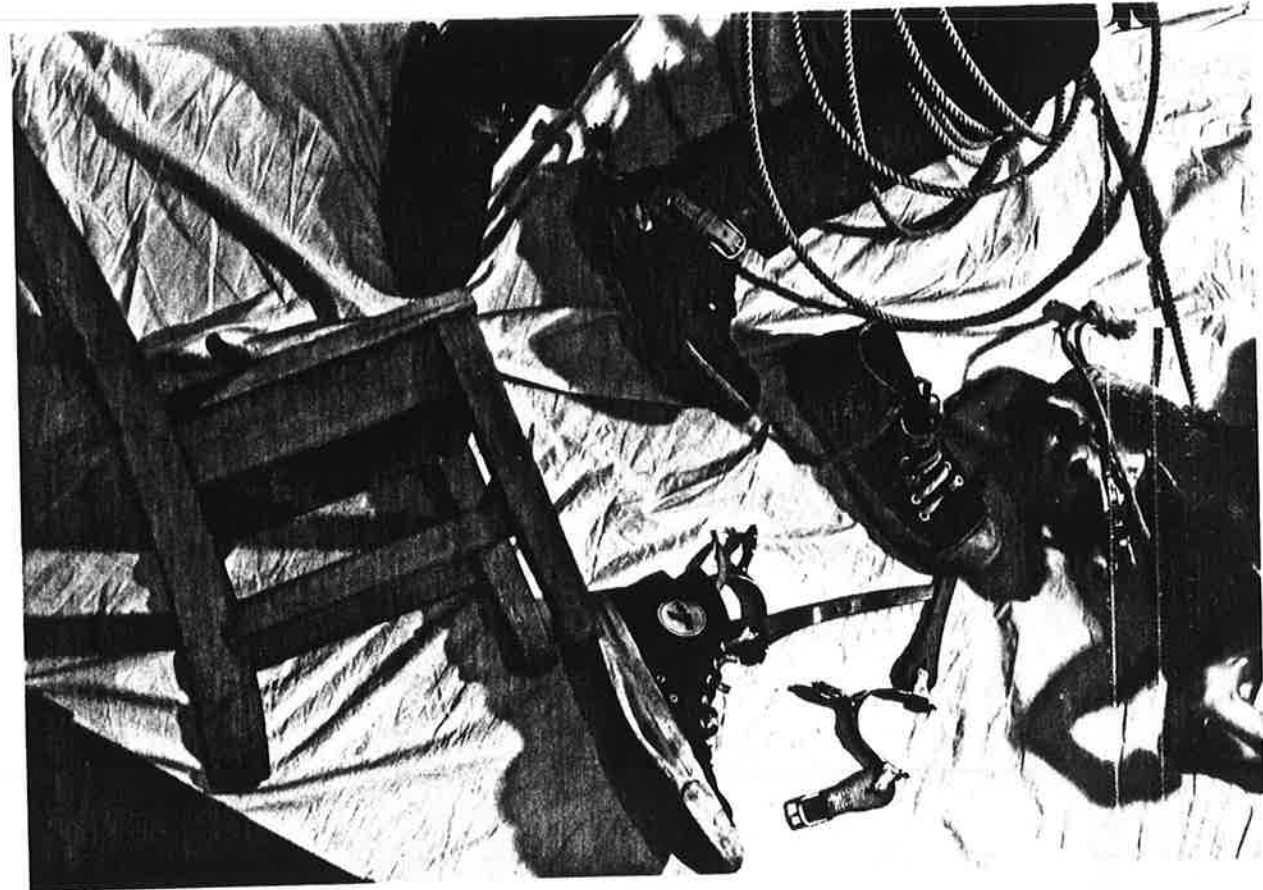
THE KITCHEN

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COWBOYS, DREAMS, & LADDERS



FEBRUARY 23 - 26, 1984

ISHMAEL HOUSTON-JONES

FRED HOLLAND

COWBOYS, DREAMS, AND LADDERS

an improvisation

Directed and structured by FRED HOLLAND and ISHMAEL HOUSTON-JONES

Additional dance by YVONNE MEIER

Assistant to the directors: John Jeffrey Bernd

Set/visual images by Fred Holland

Lighting design by Carol McDowell

Ambient sound by Aural Fixation

Slides by Ursina Lys

Technical direction by Peggy Ahwesh, Herr Lugus, & Neil White

Film by Fred Holland

PERFORMERS

Fred Holland, Ishmael Houston-Jones, and Yvonne Meier

with

Brieinin Bryant, Estelle Eichenberger, Sam Nisson, Hank Smith,
Steve Staso

COWBOYS, DREAMS, AND LADDERS is dedicated to Carlos A. Foster
and the work of the Urban Western Riding Program.

Flyer Photo: Esin Goknar; Flyer Design: Fred Holland

FRED HOLLAND and ISHMAEL HOUSTON-JONES' ongoing improvisational process began in Philadelphia in 1976. Their most recent collaborations include Babble; First Impressions of the White Man produced by Dance Theater Workshop in March 1983 and an untitled duet performed for the Tenth Anniversary Celebration of Contact Improvisation at St. Mark's Danspace. Excerpts from Cowboys, Dreams, and Ladders will be produced this spring in Montreal as part of the New York/Montreal Exchange Festival.

FRED HOLLAND is from Ohio where he received a BFA in painting. In Philadelphia he became involved in movement via Akido and Contact Improvisation, and worked with A Way of Improvising, Zero Moving Company, and the Philadelphia Contact Collective there. In 1977 he moved to West Berlin where he taught and performed at Tanz Fabrik and formed Moving Target with Christine Vilardo. In 1980 he received a Notgemeinschaft der Kunst grant for his production of Mass. Since moving to New York in 1981 he has worked with Meredith Monk as well as with Ishmael Houston-Jones. His Supple Burden was produced by Danspace and Jack Johnson (Notes) by Franklin Furnace. Fake, Dead and Scary will premiere at P.S. 122 in Fall 1984.

ISHMAEL HOUSTON-JONES is a recipient of a 1984 choreographer's fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts. He was born in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania in 1951. In 1974, upon moving to Philadelphia, he formed the performance trio, A Way of Improvising, with Terry Fox and Jeff Cain. Since moving to New York in 1979, Ishmael Houston-Jones' work has been produced by the Danspace Project, the Whitney Museum/Downtown, Dance Theater Workshop, and by theaters and art centers in Philadelphia and West Germany. In addition to his own solo work and frequent collaborations with Fred Holland, he has submitted to the direction of John Bernd, Ping Chong, Brian Moran, John Saylse, and Stephanie Skura. His solos f/i/s/s/i/o/n/i/n/g and Another Self-Indulgent Piece of Crap, Parts 1-4, will be produced at P.S. 1 this June.

YVONNE MEIER came to New York from Zurich in 1979. For the past two years she has worked with Pooh Kaye and Stephanie Skura. Her own solo work has been presented at P.S. 122, Franklin Furnace, and at the Women's One World Festival. She has performed and taught classes in Releasing Technique in Switzerland and Berlin, as well as in New York. She has appeared in Holland/Houston-Jones' Babble... and in Houston-Jones' Dead Can't Dance.

BRIENIN BRYANT attends the Spence School and takes classes at the Joffrey School. She has performed with the Royal Danish Ballet and in performance pieces by Kaylynn Sullivan and Julia DeMare,

ESTELLE EICHENBERGER worked with Fred Holland in Berlin 1979-80. She recently graduated from Temple University in Philadelphia and now performs with Seminole Works there.

SAM NISSON attends the Hunter College Junior High School and doesn't think about what he wants to be when he grows up.

HANK SMITH has performed as a mime, clown, actor, and dancer. He is currently on the faculty of the School for Visual Arts where he teaches the history of the Black performer and mime.

STEVE STASO is a painter from Detroit who lives in New York City. He has appeared in Holland/Houston Jones' Babble.... He currently has a show of paintings at the Medelsohn Gallery in Pittsburgh.

CAROL McDOWELL grew up in Honolulu and is a graduate of Bennington College. She moved to New York five years ago, and has designed lights from Christina Svane, Wendy Perron, Stephanie Woodard, and internationally for Kei Takei's Moving Earth. She is also a performer.

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Nanette DeCillis, Susan Brahm, Tanis Hugill, Esin Ili Goknar, Yoshiko Chuma, Jackie Shue, Jane Barrell, 2 Bridges Associates, Karin Elmore, Dona McAdams, Robert Flynt, Randy and Di, Alyson Gilmore, Johanna Boyce, Tim Miller, Antja Kennedy, Gale Tufts, the Open Movement Project, the National Endowment for the Arts, Jamie Avins and the staff at The Kitchen, Everyone we've forgotten, and a very special thanks to John Bernd and all of the performers for making this happen.

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