

# The Kitchen

Center for Video, Music, Dance,  
Performance, Film & Literature

Spring 2010

# The Kitchen

SPRING 2010 PROGAMS-AT-A-GLANCE

Leslie Hewitt:  
*On Beauty, Objects, and Dissonance*  
March 27–May 10, 2010  
Opening reception: Saturday, March 27, 6–8pm

This solo exhibition presents **Leslie Hewitt's** most recent investigations in photography, sculpture, and video installation, which question the contemporary moment through the exigencies of time.

Jay Scheib: *Bellona, Destroyer of Cities*  
Thursday–Saturday, April 1–3 and 8–10, 8pm

Following the critically acclaimed, Obie Award-winning first installment of **Jay Scheib's** performance trilogy *Simulated Cities/Simulated Systems*, The Kitchen presents the world premiere of part two, *Bellona, Destroyer of Cities*, a new theater work based on **Samuel R. Delany's** celebrated science fiction novel *Dhalgren*. Featuring performances by **Sarita Choudhury, Caleb Hammond, Mikéah Ernest Jennings, Jon Morris, William Nadyam, Kaneza Schaal, Tanya Selvaratnam, April Sweeney, and Natalie Thomas**; Post-show discussion with Jay Scheib, Carrie Mae Weems, and Samuel R. Delany on **Saturday, April 3**.

Shana Moulton and Nick Hallett: *Whispering Pines 10*  
Friday and Saturday, April 16 and 17, 8pm

For this latest installment, video and performance artist **Shana Moulton** collaborates with composer-vocalist **Nick Hallett** to transform her celebrated video art serial, *Whispering Pines*, into an electronic chamber opera, woven out of pop melodies, extended vocal techniques, alternative sound controllers, and a flexible instrumentation performed by Hallett along with the soprano **Daisy Press** and harpist **Shelley Burgon**.

Pablo Helguera: *The Juvenal Players*  
Friday and Saturday, April 23 and 24, 8pm

Inspired by the sixteen surviving satires of the classic ancient Roman poet, Juvenal (circa 1 A.D.), **Pablo Helguera** presents the New York premiere of *The Juvenal Players*, a play that merges performance and theater, addressing the crossing of boundaries in art and life, public and private spaces. Directed by **Pablo Helguera** and **Mikhael Tara Garver**. Featuring performances by **Tina Allen, Candace Thompson, Brian Linden, Eric Slater, and Andrea Sooch**.

Luciana achugar: *PURO DESEO*  
Thursday – Saturday, April 29 – May 1, 8pm  
Sunday, May 2, 5pm

Drawing inspiration from paranormal phenomena, the occult, and representations of monstrosity in Gothic film and literature, choreographer **Luciana Achugar** and long time collaborator **Michael Mahalchick** build *PURO DESEO* as an incantation. Choreography and Performance by Luciana Achugar. Dramaturgy, Music and Performance by Michael Mahalchick. Lighting Design by **Madeline Best**.

Mary Halvorson / Kevin Shea  
Thursday and Friday, May 6 and 7, 8pm

Rooted in experimental rock, jazz, and chamber music, composer and guitarist **Mary Halvorson** premieres new music written for her latest ensemble, the Mary Halvorson Quintet, featuring **Trevor Dunn** (bass), Halvorson (guitar), **Tomas Fujiwara** (drums), **Jonathan Finlayson** (trumpet), and **Jon Irabagon** (saxophone).

Composer and drummer **Kevin Shea** presents newly composed pieces of "jazz ensemble-like, experimental weirditude" which combine composed music, improvisation, wild drumming, and absurd events. Shea performs with his newly formed quintet, Kevin Shea's Lonely Gold Mine of Symbiotic Subterfuge, featuring **Sam Kulik** (trombone), **Tim Dahl** (Korg Polysix), **Ron Stabinsky** (piano), **Tom Blancarte** (upright bass), and Kevin Shea (drums).

*Talk Show:*  
An Evening with *Ugly Duckling Presse*  
Monday, May 3, 7pm

*Ugly Duckling Presse* presents *Talk Show*, an evening of interviews, poetry, and unscripted surprises in the format of a late-night talk show. **Andy Fitch** and **Jon Cotner**, authors of *Ten Walks/Two Talks*, co-host the evening with poets **Dodie Bellamy, Rachel Levitsky, Matthew Rohrer, Marina Temkina, Cecilia Vicuña**, and interview-artist **Alex Stein** as their guests.

*Shim Sham*  
Hosted by **Harold Cromer**  
featuring **Theo Hill Trio**  
Monday, May 17, 8pm

Featuring live music by the **Theo Hill Trio**, legendary tap dancer **Harold Cromer** returns by popular demand to host this free open jam session in which some of the finest of New York City's rhythm tap community come together to share and showcase their moves. The jam is open to tap dancers of all levels and concludes with the famous hoofers' international anthem, *Shim Sham Shimmy*.

The Kitchen presents

## Luciana achugar **PURO DESEO**

April 29 through May 2, 2010

Curated by Matthew Lyons

Conceived and Directed by **Luciana Achugar**

Created by **Luciana Achugar** and **Michael Mahalchick**

Additional Music by **Michael Mahalchick**

Lighting Design by **Madeline Best**

Costume Design by **Walter Dundervill**

Sound Consultation by **Stephen Cooper**

The Kitchen's presentation of *PURO DESEO* is made possible with support from The Greenwall Foundation, The Harkness Foundation for Dance, the Jerome Foundation, 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.

*PURO DESEO* was created, in part, with support from the Multi-Arts Production Fund; the Jerome Foundation; the Abrons Arts Center Workspace Program; and through the Artist in Residence Program at BAX/Brooklyn Arts Exchange with support from public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts and NYC Department of Cultural Affairs and with private funds from the Mertz-Gilmore Foundation, the New York Times Company Foundation Fund for Midsize Theaters - a project of A.R.T./New York, The Scherman Foundation, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation New York Theater Program and the New York Community Trust/Lila Wallace Acheson Theater Fund.



## BIOS

**Luciana achugar** is an Uruguayan choreographer based in Brooklyn. She moved to New York in 1995 after graduating from Cal Arts. In New York, she worked as a dancer with several influential choreographers including Luis Lara, Jeremy Nelson, Wil Swanson, Maria Hassabi, Chameckilerner and John Jasperse. From 1999 to 2003, she worked in a close collaborative relationship with choreographer Levi Gonzalez. Since 2002 she has been doing her own independent work. Her work has been presented in NY at Movement Research's MELT Festival; the Ensemble Studio Theatre; The Latino American Dance: Not Festival Project; Dixon Place; CANADA Gallery; Klaus von Nichtssagend Gallery; La MaMa; Abrons Arts Center; Danspace Project and Dance Theatre Workshop; in Minneapolis, at the Walker Art Center; in Cambridge, Massachusetts at the Green Street Studios and in Uruguay at the Festival Iberoamericano de Danza, the Centro Cultural de España, and most recently at the Teatro Solis.

achugar received a BESSIE Award for her first full evening-length piece *Exhausting Love at Danspace Project* (2006). She received a BAX10 "Passing it on Award", from Tere O'Connor in 2008 and the LMCC's President's Liberty Award in 2009.

Luciana achugar is a recipient of the Foundation for Contemporary Arts, 2010 *Grants to Artists Award*. She was a 2008 New York Foundation for the Arts fellow in Choreography, and a 2007 Choreography Fellow of the Maggie Allesee National Center for Choreography at Florida State University.

In May she will be choreographing a new piece commissioned by the Zenon Dance Company in MN. Once back in Brooklyn she will go into a second year residency at BAX during which she will concentrate on research for teaching dance and entering into her next creative process.

**Michael Mahalchick** was born in Pottsville, PA and currently lives and works in Brooklyn, NY. He regularly exhibits at CANADA ([www.canadanewyork.com](http://www.canadanewyork.com)). He was a co-curator of the 2009 Movement Research Spring Festival, ROLL CALL and was most recently seen performing at the historic Starlite Lounge in Crown Heights, Brooklyn. He would like to thank luciana for the privilege of her friendship and her generosity in sharing the adventure of discovering *PURO DESEO*.

**Madeline Best** designs dances, installations, lighting and video. She is the production manager at the Chocolate Factory Theater and works freelance as a production manager, stage manager, and lighting designer/supervisor. She graduated from Bennington College, grew up in Durham NC and currently lives in Brooklyn NY. She has worked in various ways with Brian Rogers and the Chocolate Factory Theater, Luciana achugar, Doug Elkins and Friends Fraulein Maria, The American Dance Festival, David Ferri, Eiko and Koma, Nick Brooke/The Cabinet, Parsons Dance, Big Art Group and many more.

**Walter Dundervill** is a dance artist living in New York City. His most recent work *"Dear Emissary,.."* was presented at The Chocolate Factory in March 2010. Two previous dances were presented at Dance Theater Workshop – *"You Wrote the Book"*, 2008 (on a shared bill with Heather Olson) and *"Would You Read My Poetry?"*, 2007 (part of the Nothing Festival curated by Tere O'Connor). He created a three-hour installation/ performance entitled *"Room"* at Fred Torres Collaborations as part of the Movement Research Spring Festival 2009. In November 2009, he collaborated with Tere O'Connor on the set design for O'Connor's *"Wrought Iron Fog"* at DTW. Dundervill is a co-curator of "Hardcorps," the Movement Research Spring Festival 2010. He is thrilled to be making costumes for Luciana.

## SPECIAL THANKS

I would like to first and foremost thank Michael Mahalchick for his brilliance, rigor, openness and willingness to immerse wholeheartedly into the confusing world of creating a piece with me. To Matthew Lyons for his support and feedback and for the opportunity of having this experience. To Karen, Sam, Bob, Liz and everyone at The Kitchen. To Madeline and Walter for amazing and beautiful work that is not added on but essential to what the work is. To Jennifer Kjos for jumping in last minute to allow me to look at the work from the outside but most of all for her support and super helpful feedback. Also thank you so much for very helpful and supportive feedback to Levi Gonzalez, Melinda Lee, Hilary Clark, Melanie Maar, Kate Ryan, Kayvon Pourazar and Marya Warshaw. Thank you to Marya and BAX for an incredible residency with enough time to explore and a chance to show the work in progress.

And a very special thank you to those that have supported my work through the years as well as this project; Peter Bennett, Susan Brenner, Barbara Cohen, Eileen Cohen, Jane Garmey, Judy Mendelsund, Frederieke Taylor, Lauren Horwitz and Diana Berger.

I would also like to thank Jon Moniaci and Stephen Cooper for helping out with Sound; Meghan Finn and Ben Pryor for their help and support; RoseAnne Spradlin for sharing her knowledge and the SOSO gang for inspiring, sustaining and challenging me!

[www.lachugar.org](http://www.lachugar.org)

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!

Ⓚ The Kitchen Spring Gala Benefit

Wednesday, May 26, 2010

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# The Kitchen

SPRING 2010 PROGRAMS-AT-A-GLANCE (CONTINUED)

Derrick Adams: *Go Stand Next To The Mountain*  
Narcissister: *This Masquerade*  
Friday and Saturday, May 14 and 15, 8pm

Visual and performance artist **Derrick Adams** presents the premiere of *Go Stand Next To The Mountain*, a suite of live performances exploring the complex relationships between man and monuments.

Creating absurd and playful neo-burlesque vignettes, **Narcissister** debuts a new series of performances alongside her cast of masked cohorts to offer up a complex and riotous critique of popular culture's spurious ideas about black femininity.

An Evening with *A Public Space*  
Thursday, June 10, 7pm

As part of an ongoing conversation about literature and culture, **Brigid Hughes**, editor of *A Public Space*, presents an evening of readings and conversation with contributors to the latest issue. *A Public Space* is an independent magazine of art and argument, fact and fiction.

*Opium Live*  
An Evening with *Opium Magazine*  
Wednesday, June 16, 7pm

Reinventing the live reading format by combining the formality of an interview with the excitement of a game show, *Opium Magazine* presents *Opium Live* - a new literary series that features interviews between artists, writers, musicians, and filmmakers along with musical and theatrical performances.

*Undercurrents:*  
*Experimental Ecosystems in Recent Art*  
May 27-June 19  
Opening Reception: Thursday, May 27, 5-8pm

This exhibition considers the concept of ethical cohabitation - how to negotiate our differences within our shared environment. At The Kitchen, visitors are invited to experience or participate in projects and workshops by artists **Rachel Berwick**, **Pablo Helguera**, **Alfredo Jaar**, **Tatsuo Miyajima**, **Spurse**, **Apitchatpong Weerasethakul**, and others.

Donna Uchizono: *longing two*  
Tuesday-Saturday, June 1-June 5, 7pm

**Part 1 at Baryshnikov Arts Center (BAC)**  
Howard Gilman Performance Space, 450 W. 37th St  
**Part 2 continuing at The Kitchen** (transportation provided)

Beginning at the Baryshnikov Arts Center's Howard Gilman Performance Space and continuing at The Kitchen, choreographer **Donna Uchizono's** new work is an exploration of proximity, perception, destination, and arrival as she explores identity in the context of location and cultural perspective. **Hristoula Harakas**, **Anna Carapetyan**, and **Savina Theodorou** join her onstage as her creative collaborators. With an original commissioned score by composer **James Lo**, lighting design by **Joe Levasseur**, costume design by **Wendy Winters**, and set design by **Ronnie Gensler** and **Orlando Soria**.

Robert Melee's *Talent Show*  
Wednesday and Thursday, June 23-24, 8pm

Artist **Robert Melee** returns as the curator of another evening of dance, performance art, music, and video, which unfolds in a talent show format on a stage set of Melee's own design. Melee also adds to the showcase with the presentation of a new performance. Participating artists include **Blanco + Noiry**, **Gerald Casel**, **Erin Dunn**, **Jacolby Satterwhite**, **Bruce LaBruce**, **Austin McCormick**, **Mirror Mirror**, **Marilyn Minter**, **Tom Melee**, and **Robert Melee**.

*The Absolutely Other*  
June 25 - August 7  
Opening Reception: Friday, June 25, 6-8pm

This group exhibition features New York-based artists who make work with, for, and about strangers. The resulting projects realign and sometimes undermine extant social relations and artistic intentions, engaging and confounding issues of authorship, exchange, generosity, and chance. Artists include **Einat Amir**, **Daniel Bozhkov**, **Xavier Cha**, **Eteam**, **Hope Hilton**, **Nancy Hwang**, and **Dave McKenzie**.

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