

*The Kitchen Center for Video · Music · Dance  
Performance · Film and Literature*  
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## BLONDELLE: CHANGING IDENTITIES

### A PROGRAM OF DANCES BY BLONDELL CUMMINGS; A CELEBRATION OF THE SIXTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF CYCLE ARTS FOUNDATION

Thursday, May 12 - Sunday, May 15, 1994, 8pm

Tickets: \$15, Members \$12

Information / Reservations: (212) 255-5793

Advance tickets available through TicketMaster, (212) 307-7171,  
or at The Kitchen, Monday - Friday, 10am - 5pm

The Kitchen continues its 1994 Spring Dances with "Changing Identities," a program of dances by choreographer Blondell Cummings, Founder and Artistic Director of Cycle Arts Foundation. Ms. Cummings' engagement at The Kitchen, evenings of excerpts from full-length works, is in celebration of sixteen years of creating performance art that embraces cross-cultural and contemporary issues.

"This anniversary season," says, Ms. Cummings, "is a chance to see the development of different pieces that are related by a multi-textured sense of changing identities." In addition to Blondell Cummings, performers include John Funk, Robert Kemp, Laura Marchese, David Maurice Sharp and others.

The group performance *For J.B.*, based on the life and spirit of the legendary Josephine Baker, features music composed by Lester Bowie and was commissioned and produced by District Curators. Writer and French consultant to Ms. Cummings was Didier Rousselet, founder of Le Neon French-American Theater Company in Washington, D.C.

*Relationships: Intimate and Not So Intimate* is Ms. Cummings' duet with Robert Kemp. This dance theater piece is a portrait of an interracial couple who redefine their identities and come to accept their similarities and differences.

*Flash: My Redhead Aunt From Redbank is Missing* (a solo which will evolve into a full length work) symbolizes and acknowledges the evolution and transition in one's life, both physically and emotionally.

*Harlem On My Mind* is an audience interactive, improvisational solo about growing up in Harlem.

Choreographer and performer BLONDELLE CUMMINGS was an original member of Meredith Monk/The House and was seen in Philip Glass' *The Photographer-Far From The Truth* directed by Joanne Akalitis. In 1978, Ms. Cummings founded the Cycle Arts Foundation, a multi-disciplinary arts collaborative incorporating dance, theater, visual, media and literary arts, manifested through workshops, media and performances.

Ms. Cummings tours extensively throughout the United States, Europe and Asia. Her work *Commitment-Two Portraits* premiered nationally the PBS show *Alive From OffCenter* in 1988. Michael Blackwood's film *Dancing on the Edge* profiled the choreographer and her work. Blondell Cummings is the recipient of numerous fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, New York Foundation for the Arts, the Jerome Foundation, and a land grant from the Harkness Center Foundation. Ms. Cummings has spent residencies in Japan on grants from the U.S.-Japan Friendship Commission and the Asian Cultural Council.

The creative direction of the CYCLEARTS FOUNDATION is to use artistic/creative processes to explore contemporary issues that are cross-cultural in scope. Cycle Arts Foundation is a project oriented organization which focuses on the concerns of both the artist and audience. Although the approach is non-traditional, the material is usually personal and universal.