

The Kitchen Center for Video and Music

# press release

# MEREDITH MONK'S MUSIC

January 24, 25, 26, 27 at 8:30 pm  
\$5.00 / \$4.00 members / TDF Music + \$1.00  
The Kitchen Center  
484 Broome Street

On January 24th-27th, Meredith Monk and an ensemble of musicians will perform an evening of Monk's vocal compositions. Highlighting the program will be the New York premier of DOLMEN MUSIC. (The title of this piece comes from the prehistoric stone slab tables found in Britain and France, which archaeologists believe to be funeral monuments.) Also on the program are two pieces drawn from Monk's theatre epics, VESSEL SUITE and solos from QUARRY, and TABLET, a revival of a purely musical piece.

Performing with Meredith Monk will be Andrea Goodman, Bob Een, Monica Solem, Paul Langland and Julius Eastman. This versatile group will vocalize in the singular style forged by Monk, and several will double as instrumentalists, playing cello, pianos and recorders. Most of these performers have worked extensively with the composer in the past.

The vocal style used in these pieces is a unique synthesis of such diverse approaches as Balkan singing, yodeling, chanting, operatic singing, modern formant modification and lilting folk song. The songs themselves, though often wordless, often have the characteristics of ballads, lullabies, calls to prayer or sing-song internal monologues. Although the songs cannot always be tied to specific styles or genres, more often than not they work in a mysterious way as a kind of sonic archetype, striking a resonance in the listener.

Meredith Monk is well-known for her dance theatre pieces such as Quarry, the Plateau series and Vessel. For the past 5 to 6 years music has increasingly become the focus and center of her work. The Kitchen is especially pleased to highlight the work of Meredith Monk, composer.

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For further information on this concert series, contact Joe Hannan, Publicity Associate, or Rhys Chatham, Music Director, at 925-3615.