

BLAKE ZIDELL & ASSOCIATES

For Immediate Release
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PERFORMANCE SPACE 122 AND THE KITCHEN PRESENT NEW YORK PREMIERE OF *a quartet* BY HEATHER KRAVAS, AS PART OF PS122'S 2014 COIL FESTIVAL

a quartet

Heather Kravas

Commissioned by PS122, co-presented by PS122 and The Kitchen

The Kitchen (512 W. 19th Street, Manhattan)

January 8, 9, 10, 12 at 5pm; January 11 at 10pm; January 13 8pm

\$20 (\$15 students, seniors);

90 minutes with no intermission

As part of the ninth edition of the COIL festival, **Performance Space 122** and **The Kitchen** present the New York premiere of *a quartet* by **Heather Kravas**. In *a quartet*, devoted experimentalist **Heather Kravas** uses a kaleidoscopic ballet, a mutating folk dance and a titillating cheer to explore the possible outcomes of individuals dancing together. *a quartet* features choreography and direction by Kravas, sound design by **Dana Wachs** a.k.a. **Vorhees**, lighting design by **Madeline Best** and scenic design by **Jason Starkie**, along with performances by **Oren Barnoy**, **Cecilia E**, **Jennifer Kjos** and **Liz Santoro**.

Performances of *a quartet* will take place **January 8–13** (see schedule above) at **The Kitchen**. The running time is 90 minutes with no intermission. The Kitchen is located at 512 West 19th Street in Manhattan. Tickets, which are \$20 (\$15 students/seniors), are available online at thekitchen.org and by phone at 212.255.5793 x11.

At once precise and overwhelming, *a quartet* drastically reduces then reiterates its vocabulary to examine the politics of societal fidelity. How do disparate beings become one faction? What is the nature of exclusion and opposition? Where is the end of us and the beginning of them? Desire, communism, preteens, servitude, black holes and the pastoral cross paths with tradition. Conventions are considered through a minimalist lens – it is an aim toward the singular from the multitude and back again.

Heather Kravas grew up in Pullman, WA where, under the tutelage of Deirdre Wilson, she studied classical ballet and the experimental theater exercises of Jerzy Grotowski. In the early 90's, she moved to Seattle, began a contemporary dance practice, co-founded the repertory company D-9 and performed with Amii LeGendre. There, she created her first dances in collaborations with Maureen Whiting, Karn Junkinsmith and Jack Magai. An independent artist working, and working to work in New York City since 1998, she has performed for choreographers Marion Ballester, Jennifer Allen, Amy Cox, Yvonne Meier and most significantly, DD Dorvillier & human future dance corps, who she has worked with for the past decade both in the capacity as interpreter and rehearsal assistant.

In 2010, she was a featured re-performer in Marina Abramovic's MOMA retrospective *The Artist is Present*. From 2003-2008, Kravas collaborated choreographically with Canadian/European artist, Antonija Livingstone, generating several works, including two, multi-evening performance events, XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX – *a situation for dancing*, and (*no more village*), both of which toured in the United States, Canada and throughout Europe. Her choreography has been presented at On the Boards (Seattle), P.S.122, Movement Research @ Judson Church, the Kitchen, Danspace @ St.Mark's Church, Dance Theater Workshop, Tonic and Chez Bushwick.

Kravas' 2011 evening-length project, *The Green Surround*, was named as one of Art Forum's Top 10 choreographic works of the year. Heather lives and works between New York, Seattle and Montesquieu Volvestre, France.

Credits

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About The Kitchen

The Kitchen is one of New York City's most forward-looking nonprofit spaces, showing innovative work by emerging and established artists across disciplines. Our programs range from dance, music, performance, and theater to video, film, and art, in addition to literary events, artists' talks, and lecture series. 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.

Facebook: facebook.com/TheKitchenNYC

Twitter: twitter.com/TheKitchen_NYC

About Performance Space 122

Performance Space 122 (PS122) provides incomparable experiences for audiences by presenting and commissioning artists whose work challenges boundaries of live performance. PS122 is dedicated to supporting the creative risks taken by artists from diverse genres, cultures and perspectives. We are an innovative local, national and international leader in contemporary performance.

Beginning in 2011, PS122 embarked on one of the most unusual and potentially radical shifts in its history, including a re-structuring of artist support, a business model overhaul, and the renovation of our building. As PS122's East Village home undergoes a much-needed interior renovation supported primarily by the City of New York, DCA and DDC, PS122's core activity continues to be providing audiences with contemporary live performance.

For over 3 decades, Performance Space 122 has been a hub for contemporary performance and an active member of the cultural community. Under the curatorial vision of Vallejo Gantner (Artistic Director 2005 – present) PS122 has developed a set of programs designed to re-establish the value of live performance, provide singular experiences for audiences that inspire critical thinking, and sustain the creative process for artists throughout their career. Largely in partnership with peer organizations, PS122 currently presents artists in all disciplines in spaces all over the city during an annual fall & spring season and COIL festival in January.

In addition to the commissioning and presenting of artists from NYC across the US, and around the globe, PS122 has increased our activity off the stage to provide audiences with a variety of access points and context for the work on stage. These activities include both talkbacks with the artists as well as in depth conversations that bring together luminaries from non-arts disciplines to discuss a variety of topics including everything from religion, to migration, to queer real estate and cultural diplomacy. PS122 encourages the asking of questions and debate of contemporary society's issues in both artistic practice and audience experience.

Website: ps122.org

YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/PerformanceSpace122>

Twitter + Instagram: @PS122

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/ps122/>

**For more information, please contact Blake Zidell or John Wyszniwski at
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