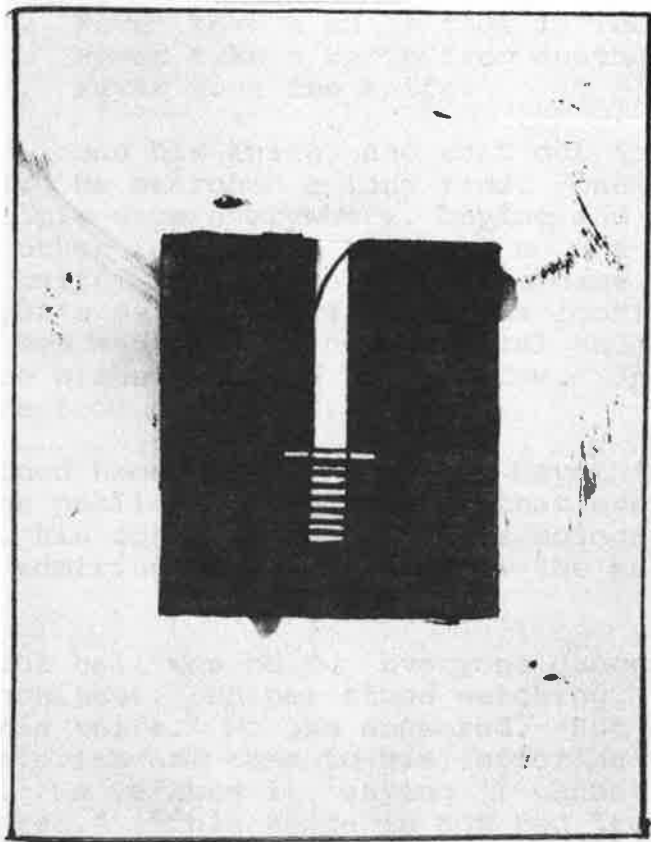


PING CHONG - ROB LIST

Rainer and the Knife



November 15-19, 1982

T • H • E K • I • T • C • H • E • N

484 Broome St New York City

RAINER AND THE KNIFE

ONCE UPON A TIME a boy named Rainer lived alone with his mother. She taught him many things. One day she decided to teach him the most important lesson, that of the knife. There were three things to remember about the knife.

1. Never take a knife that is red.
2. Never take a knife from another man.
3. Never lose the knife.

But Rainer did loose his knife, and went out in the world to look for it. He searched a long time. One day he came to a city. People were everywhere, buying and selling and greeting each other in the street. But no one would tell him about his knife. That same day there came to the market the Mayor's serving girl. She was looking for a knife to kill her master, for he was cruel and made her suffer, and she wished to have her freedom. She purchased the boy's knife from a peddler.

When she returned home, she dressed the Mayor in his finest clothes for the public ball to be held that evening - his vest, his tie, his coat, his medals, his cologne. While the Mayor was admiring himself, she drew the knife and slew him.

That evening the ball was held. Everyone danced to the Comedians Harmonistes. Rainer stood watching. He kept asking about his knife. No one answered. But the serving girl heard his cries and came to him, offering up the murder weapon. He refused it, saying "I cannot take a knife that is red." "This knife is not red," she replied, wiping the blood from the blade. "I cannot take a knife from any man." "But I am a woman. Take the knife. It is yours." So saying, she gave him the knife and escaped.

At that moment, the ball was stopped and an annoucement made that the Mayor had been assassinated. Seeing the boy and the knife, the townspeople quickly seized and tried him. He was found guilty of murder and executed. At his death, his mother was overheard to remark that things would have gone differently if Rainer had not lost his knife.

The Kitchen & The Fiji Theatre Company present

RAINER & THE KNIFE (1981)

a contemporary parable

Dedicated to the original Chicago cast

A collaborative work by PING CHONG & ROB LIST

Additional ballroom choreography by Gail Turner

Cast in alphabetical order:

Marianna Buchwald	Kaja Overstreet
Steve Clorfeine	Ingrid Reffert
Michael Duffy	Mary Schultz
Barbara Duyfjes	Louise Smith
Tannis Hugill	Gail Turner
Trinket Monsod	Catherine Zimmerman
Erik Neumann	

Technical Director: Don Voisine

Technical Consultant and Shroud Design: Paul Krajniak

Music by: Public Image LTD., The Young Marble Giants, Comedian
Harmonistes and Erik Neumann

*This work was composed for the students of Moming Dance & Art Center workshop in Chicago, 1981.

Special thanks to: The Costume Collection, Our House Productions, Inc., Kim Druce, and the Moming Dance & Art Center

THE FIJI THEATRE COMPANY is dedicated to the exploration of new, narrative forms through the use of multi-media in conjunction with live performance. The Fiji Theatre is a non-profit organization. CONTRIBUTIONS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED and are tax-deductible. Contributions can be sent to:

The Fiji Theatre Company, Inc.
260 Elizabeth Street
New York, New York 10012

Ping Chong will be teaching workshops in February through March. If you are interested, please leave your name on the mailing list with a notation. The Fiji Company is also looking for volunteers to work with the Company in either an administrative, technical, or graphic arts capacity.

PING CHONG is the Artistic Director of The Fiji Theatre Company, which is dedicated to exploring new directions in narrative theatre and to the synthesis of live performance with media. Mr. Chong's work has been presented at La Mama ETC, the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, Moming Dance and Art Center, Chicago, the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington DC and elsewhere in the U.S. In Europe, the company was presented in several international theatre festivals including the Holland Festival and the World Theatre Festival in Nancy, France. They have performed at the CRT in Milan, the Cabaret Voltaire in Turin, the Maison de la Culture in Paris, the Stichting Mickery Theatre in Amsterdam, etc. Mr. Chong is a two-time recipient of a CAPS Fellowship, an Obie Award winner, an NEA fellow, and, most recently, winner of The Villager Award for outstanding Author/Director/Designer. In addition to his theatre work, Mr. Chong recently directed two television specials in collaboration with Meredith Monk for PBS which will be released this winter. This spring, Mr. Chong will be collaborating once again with Ms. Monk on a commissioned work for the acclaimed Schaubühne Ensemble of Berlin. Mr. Chong's next project will be Nosferatu, to be presented at La Mama ETC in New York City next fall.

ROB LIST is the Artistic Director of Kite Tails, an experimental mime group from Colorado, which has performed on the West Coast and in Europe since 1974. After meeting Mr. Chong in Amsterdam in 1979, Mr. List appeared in Fiji Theatre productions in New York, other parts of the U.S. and in Europe. Mr. List was the winner of The Villager Award for best actor for his performance in A.M./A.M. - The Articulated Man. He will be presenting a new performance work entitled At The Falls this January at White Dog Studio.

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