

# THE KITCHEN

VIDEO

MUSIC

DANCE

PERFORMANCE FILM

512 West 19th St. (Btwn 10th & 11th Aves) New York, NY 10011

Reservations: 255-5793

## The New York Times

The Arts: News and Reviews

### Improvisatory Double Bill

Thursday's double bill at the Kitchen was a bit less than gripping. While good portions of a piece by Lawrence (Butch) Morris played by the Spring Quartet had some tension, the work lasted too long. And while the music and poetry played and read by the Marilyn Crispell trio — which doubles as three-quarters of the Anthony Braxton quartet — also had carefully thought-out moments, it, too, overstayed its welcome.

The night opened with Mr. Morris's piece. The quartet — Vincent Chancey on french horn, Janet Grice on bassoon, Marion Brandis on flute and Jason Hwang on violin — played through it well, articulating its different sections clearly. The piece worked with contrasts: a section would open with written parts played

by the violin and flute, redolent of a pastoral mood. Another section would sneak up, and Mr. Hwang might improvise freely, plucking strings, interrupted by riffs called on by Ms. Brandis.

The night ended with Ms. Crispell's trio, including Mark Dresser on bass and Gerry Hemingway on drums. Ms. Crispell, after reading some of her slightly saccharine poetry from off stage, came out to play a set of miniatures that as often as not were built around solos by the members of the trio. At best her pieces, orchestrated to let her melodies stop and start, had a kind of playfulness and emotional variety. But when Ms. Crispell let the entire group improvise, the pieces quickly became indistinguishable from one another.

PETER WATROUS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1989