



The Kitchen Center
for Video · Music · Dance
Performance · Film and Literature

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Footnotes:

Six Choreographers Inscribe the Page

October 20 [Tue] 8 PM \$10

Performance\Reading

Elena Alexander in collaboration with
Douglas Dunn, Marjorie Gamso, Ismael Houston-Jones,
Kenneth King, Yvonne Meier, and Sarah Skaggs

With the participation of Jill Johnston

Dance as writing and writing as dance. Look into the mind of some of today's most acclaimed dance makers as they take a figurative leap into the written medium. Edited by poet, writer, and lapsed performance artist Elena Alexander, *Footnotes: Six Choreographers Inscribe the Page* (Gordon & Breach, 1998) compiles the meditations of six choreographers: Douglas Dunn, Marjorie Gamso, Ismael Houston-Jones, Kenneth King, Yvonne Meier, and Sarah Skaggs. Asked to use the page as they would with an empty space, they hold forth on politics, art, love, death, *and* dance. On October 20, The Kitchen presents the artists of *Footnotes* in an evening that is both a literary event and a performance—and promises to be whimsical, thoughtful and provocative.

“Alexander has taken the unique step of asking six choreographers to approach writing, not as an illustration of their respective processes or principles, but as an act itself” writes Jill Johnston (Foreword of *Footnotes*).

Over...

About the Artists:

Elena Alexander, lapsed performance artist and dancer, wrote text and commentary for *Footnotes: Six Choreographers Inscribe the Page*. Her poetry, fiction, and nonfiction have been published in anthologies by, among others, *Serpent's Tail*, *Henry Holt*, and *Penguin*, and in various periodicals such as *BOMB*, the *minnesota review*, and *LUNGFULL!*

Douglas Dunn danced with *Merce Cunningham & Dance Company* (1968-1973), *Yvonne Rainer & Group* (1968-1970), and *Grand Union* (1970-1976). He began presenting his own work in 1971 and formed *Douglas Dunn & Dancers* in 1978.

Marjorie Gamso grew up in New York City. *The Enlightenment* is a series of solos for women of various (chronological) ages, each dancing with a lamp that evokes a particular (historical) age. She is also writing a play based on the relationship between Hannah Arendt and Martin Heidegger.

Ishmael Houston-Jones's improvised dance and text work have been performed in New York City, across the United States, as well as in Canada, Europe, and Latin America. Houston-Jones's essays, performance texts, and fiction have appeared in *Out of Character*, *Caught in the Act*, *Performance Talk*, *Best American Gay Fiction: Volume Two*, *Contact Quartely*, *FARM*, *Porn Free*, *Mirage*, and *Movement Research Journal*.

Kenneth King is a dancer/choreographer and writer. As Artist Director of *Kenneth King & Dancers/ Company*, he has presented a wide variety of multimedia dance, theater, text and performance works. He has received fellowships from *The John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation*, *National Endowment for the Arts*, *New York Foundation for the Arts*, and *Creative Public Service Program*.

Yvonne Meier, originally from Zurich, Switzerland, has lived and worked in New York City since 1979. She often collaborates with *Ishmael Houston-Jones*, and *Jennifer Monson*. In 1993, she received a *BESSIE* (New York Dance and Performance Award) in choreography for *The Shining*.

Sarah Skaggs has been choreographing her work since 1983. She performed in New York, and toured around the world with *Dana Reitz and Dancers* from 1981-85. She also collaborated with *Reitz* and sculptor *James Turrell* in *SEVERE CLEAR*. She has received six *Choreography Fellowships* from the *National Endowment for the Arts* and two from the *New York Foundation for the Arts*. She has been working on *Paradise*, a large-scale, interactive dance and film event, to take place in 1999.

The Kitchen is located at 512 West 19th Street, between 10th and 11th Avenues. For more information or to reserve press comps, please call 212.255.5793.