

press release

THE KITCHEN

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THE KITCHEN AND THE BROOKLYN MUSEUM PRESENT

ROBERT LONGO

PERFORMANCE WORKS: 1977-1985

AT: THE BROOKLYN MUSEUM
200 EASTERN PARKWAY, BROOKLYN, NY

ONE NIGHT ONLY - SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 1985 at 7:30 and 9:30 pm

Admission: \$12/\$10 Museum and Kitchen Members, Students with I.D., Senior Citizens.

Ticket Information: Advance purchase for festival seating can be made on an unreserved basis beginning March 15 at The Brooklyn Museum during regular museum hours or at The Kitchen between 2-6 pm Tuesday-Saturday.

Directions: By subway take the 2 or 3 to Eastern Parkway/Brooklyn Museum or take the 4 or 5 to Nevins St. and change there for the 2 or 3. By car, take Manhattan Bridge to Flatbush Avenue to Grand Army Plaza to Eastern Parkway.

The Kitchen is pleased to announce this special co-production with The Brooklyn Museum of Robert Longo's Performance Works, 1977-1985 in conjunction with his installation Temple of Love (The Brooklyn Museum, Grand Lobby through May 6).

Works to be presented include re-staged versions of Sound Distance of a Good Man (1977) and Surrender (1979) combined with the premiere of a new performance in a trilogy format specifically designed for the Brooklyn Museum's Third Floor Court.

Featured performers will include Peggy Atkinson and Eric Barsness. Original music by Joe Hannan.

Although best known for his large format sculptural combines, Robert Longo has worked extensively with performance, continuing the themes articulated in his two and three-dimensional work into that arena. In particular, it is the element of spectacle, which has always been implied in his drawings and reliefs, that is made especially evident in his performances. Through his blending of staging, live action, music and film, Longo constructs unique tableaux which result in a suggestion of epic imagery, confronting the audience with its power to convince. In doing so, he reveals the role of spectacle within the mass psychology of seduction, describing culture itself as a kind of spectacle of seduction. Most importantly, Longo underscores the political consequences of culture as spectacle, pointing out the dangers of its life cycle - as does the narrator from Empire: A Performance Trilogy: "Culture...begins with order, grows with liberty and dies in chaos."

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Sound Distance of a Good Man was originally presented at Franklin Furnace in 1977 and was later incorporated as the opening section of Empire: A Performance Trilogy at the Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. (1981) and Sound Distance Parts I & II at The Kitchen (1982). It was most recently presented this year as part of the Art of the Spectacle series sponsored by Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions (LACE) in Los Angeles along with Surrender. Surrender premiered at The Kitchen in 1979 and was also subsequently incorporated as a section of Empire. Surrender has toured extensively including engagements at the Modern Museet, Stockholm; Amerika Haus, West Berlin; American Center, Paris; Van Abber Museum, Eindhouden, Holland; and D.C. Space, Washington, D.C. Other performances by Robert Longo include the final section of Empire: A Performance Trilogy and Sound Distance Part II: Iron Voices.

Robert Longo has presented his sculpture and drawing throughout the United States and Europe. Recent one-person exhibitions include: Brooke Alexander Gallery, NY (1983); Metro Pictures and Leo Castelli Galleries (1983); Akron Art Museum, Akron, Ohio (1984) and Larry Gagosian Gallery, Los Angeles (1984). Recent group exhibitions include: Documenta 7, Kassel, West Germany; The Whitney Biennial (1983) The New Art, Tate Gallery, Houston (1984); The Sydney Biennial, Sydney, Australia; International Survey of Painting and Sculpture, Museum of Modern Art, NY (1984); and Currents, Boston ICA (1984).

Robert Longo is currently working on a feature-length film.