

# press release

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## PERFORMANCE

# ROBERT LONGO

### SOUND DISTANCE Part I & II

May 6-8, 1982 8:30pm  
\$5.00/\$3.50 members/TDF+\$1  
The Kitchen, 484 Broome St.  
Reservations: 925-3615

For three nights only, May 6-8, The Kitchen will present Robert Longo's Sound Distance Parts I & II. Comprised of staging, lights, film, music and live performers, Sound Distance is a unique blend of sculptural, film, and performance tableaux. The result is a suggestion of epic imagery that confronts the audience with its power to convince, as in a movie, but remaining palpable - existing in real space. Evocations of grace, beauty, myth and the seductiveness of that power to convince are obtained in Part I by a film-frame flanked by slow-motion wrestlers surmounting a rotating platform, accompanied by an operatic soprano. A political subtext is gradually revealed in a slow cross-fade to another tableau, this time of soldiers performing a drill routine. Transversing a long ramp perpendicular to the audience, a phalanx of saxophone players builds musically with ever-increasing intensity towards the chaotic conclusion. Part II continues the theme of the seductiveness of power but underscores its consequences: a decline into a state of disintegration. Featured performers will include Peggy Atkinson, Eric Barsness and Bill T. Jones.

ROBERT LONGO has worked in a number of different media including performance, sculpture, drawing, music and film. His performance work includes Sound Distance of a Good Man, Franklin Furnace, New York City (1978); Surrender, The Kitchen (1979) and Moderna Museet, Stockholm; Amerika Haus, West Berlin; American Center, Paris; and Van Abbermuseum, Eindhoven, Holland (1980); and Empire: A Performance Trilogy, The Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. (1981). Perhaps best known as a visual artist, Longo is represented by Metro Pictures and has participated in over 65 group and one-person exhibitions in the United States and Europe. Some of these include "Westkunst: Today Section", Cologne, "New Work in Black and White", The Museum of Modern Art Penthouse Exhibition, and "Eight Artists: The Anxious Edge" at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis. Currently he is exhibiting in the group show "The New Reliefs" at the School of Visual Art Gallery and in "Focus on The Figure: Twenty Years" at the Whitney Museum. In June he will be exhibiting at Documenta 7 in Kassel, West Germany. Recently he began work on his first feature-length film, Empire.