



The Kitchen
Center for Video, Music, Dance,
Performance, Film & Literature

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For Immediate Release

The Kitchen presents a new choreographed dance by Maria Hassabi

March 16, 2006 – The Kitchen presents a new commissioned work by choreographer **Maria Hassabi**, who creates raw, emotional dances that reflect an ongoing investigation of the frenetic experience of city life. The work, titled *Still Smoking*, is performed by **David Adamo, Caitlin Cook, Ori Flomin, Jessie Gold, Hristoula Harakas, and Maria Hassabi**, and is curated by **Sarah Michelson**. The performances will take place at **The Kitchen** (512 West 19th Street) on **Thursday, April 13 at 8pm, Friday, April 15 at 7pm and 9:30pm, and Saturday, April 15 at 8pm. Admission is \$12.**

Still Smoking creates a rich theatrical environment by combining Hassabi's distinctive movement vocabulary with stylized visual elements, including lighting by **Joel Fitzpatrick**, music by **Ben Brunner** and **Dorit Chrysler**, costumes by **ThreeAsFour**, and set design by **Maria Hassabi**.

About the artist

Maria Hassabi was born in Nicosia, Cyprus and moved to New York City in 1994 after receiving a BFA from California Institute of the Arts. Since 1999, Hassabi has created two evening-length works and seven smaller pieces. Her work has been presented in NYC dance venues and art spaces including Dance Theater Workshop, P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center, Movement Research at Judson Church, Dixon Place, Danspace Project at St. Marks Church, The Kitchen, the Diana Von Furstenberg Theater, DTW's Benefit Gala at the Joyce Theater, and The Kitchen's Benefit Performance at the Chelsea Museum. Internationally her work has been shown at the *Fringe Tomar International Festival of Contemporary Dance* in Tomar, Portugal, the *Biennale of Young Artists of Europe and the Mediterranean* in Sarajevo-Herzegovina, and in Athens, Greece. In 2004, she participated in LEXDance's *Under the Radar* Residency Program at Lexington Center for the Arts in Greene County, New York. In July she will participate at the *TSEH-Springdance/Dialogue*, Moscow, supported by The Suitcase Fund of Dance Theater Workshop, with funds from the Trust for Mutual Understanding. As a dancer, Hassabi has been a member of the Chamecki/Lerner Dance Company since 1998, and has worked with independent choreographers Jeremy Nelson, Luis Lara, Wil Swanson, Miguel Gutierrez, and Michael Portnoy.

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Dance programs at The Kitchen are made possible with sponsorship support from Altria Group, Inc. and with generous grants from The Harkness Foundation for Dance and the Mertz Gilmore Foundation.



ABOUT THE KITCHEN

The Kitchen is one of New York City's oldest nonprofit performance and exhibition spaces, showing experimental work by innovative artists, both emerging and established. Programs range from dance, music, and theatrical performances to video and media arts exhibitions to literary events, film screenings, and artists' talks. Since its inception in 1971, The Kitchen has been a powerful force in shaping the cultural landscape of this country and has helped launch the careers of many artists who have gone on to worldwide prominence.

Box Office Information:

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Tue-Sat, 2-6pm

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