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THE KITCHEN

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The
Kitchen
Center
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For immediate release,
March 13, 1993
Contact: Eric Latzky or Meg Daly
212-255-5793

TERE O'CONNOR

Thursday, May 20 - Sunday, May 23, 1993

Thursday - Saturday, 8:30pm

Sunday 3pm

Tickets: \$15, Members \$10

The Kitchen is pleased to present choreographer Tere O'Connor and company in an evening of new dance. Mr. O'Connor will present *Psycho-Sweet Civilization*, a quartet made by reworking material created in a work commissioned for the Rotterdamse Dansegroep in Holland. Incorporating many dance styles, Tere O'Connor uses choreography as a means for exploring "the conversation between human facade and what lurks beneath." He will also present a new, as yet untitled piece (a co-production with the Holland Festival in Amsterdam) which will explore the elements of abstraction, fantasy and tangibility involved in desire. The dancers will be Nancy Coenen, Sarah Perron, Chrysa Parkinson, Jack Gallagher, Chad Courtney and Tere O'Connor. Music for both pieces is by Mr. O'Connor, with lighting design by Brian MacDevitt.

Central to the focus of these new works is the theme of primal expression. Extensively trained in classical and modern dance techniques, Tere O'Connor's work has drawn on a codified dance language, partially recognizable to the audience. He intends to push past established movement vocabularies to locate the primitive and natural physical impulse to dance. This deliberately unschooled approach gives a sense of poignant naivete.

Mr. O'Connor says: "I aspire to a form of dance where the entire stage image becomes a setting against which the frenzy of emotions ricochet, where individual players are both larger than life and dwarfed against the immensity of the background. . . commensurate with the size of what is happening on earth."

Tere O'Connor and company have performed extensively in New York and throughout Europe and South America. In 1988, O'Connor received a "Bessie" New York Dance and Performance Award for his choreographic achievement in creating *Heaven Up North*. His work has been presented in New York at The Kitchen, the Danspace Project at St. Mark's Church, Dance Theater Workshop, and as part of Dance Chance. Mr. O'Connor has been a ballet instructor at New York University for the past five years. He has also held numerous workshops teaching repertory, technique and composition.