

press release

1983

THE KITCHEN

video • music • dance • performance

CONTACT:

MaryAnne McGowan
925-3615

YOSHIKO CHUMA & THE SCHOOL OF HARD KNOCKS

December 8-11, 1983, 8:30 p.m.
\$6.00/\$4.50 members/TDF + 1.50
The Kitchen, 59 Wooster Street
Reservations: 925-3615

Yoshiko Chuma and her company, The School of Hard Knocks, will perform a program in two parts at The Kitchen on December 8 - 11. The first section will be her solo, Pikkadon, and the second will be a premiere of a group piece, I Left Her Behind You.

Pikkadon, which was performed only once in New York in 1982, is the result of the collaboration between dancer/choreographer Yoshiko Chuma, visual artist Jeffrey Isaac, and composer/performance artist Christian Marclay. It involves an inter-reaction between the 120 brilliantly colored slides designed by Isaac, the sound environment (recorded on tape) created by Marclay, and the energetic and parodic movements performed by Chuma.

I Left Her Behind You will be performed by Chuma herself, along with the members of The School of Hard Knocks: Donald Fleming, Kaja Gam, Brian Moran, Gayl Taft, and Nelson Zayas. The piece is based on a simple narrative involving six elementary school desks. The functions of the desks change throughout the piece, creating a total of five different "locations". Borrowing from film imagery, particularly in the way the movements are rendered, the various "tableaux" will follow one another in abrupt sequence, as in a "cut" between two shots or scenes in a movie. The movements will have a different (idiosyncratic) rhythm for each performer and will range from energetic pacing to slow motion, resulting in a work of compact and dense imagery. The set for the piece is designed by Carol Mazurek and the music is by David Fulton. Lighting for both I Left Her Behind You and Pikkadon is by Carol Mullins.

Japan-born Yoshiko Chuma moved to New York City in 1977 to study post-modern dance and performance art. She first showed her own choreographic work at The Kitchen in 1978, Thick as Thebes and Untitled Movement, both collaborative pieces based on the relationship between movement, images, unusual props, and various locations. Ms. CHUMA'S pieces create multi-media environments, whereby the performer(s) subvert(s) the audience's perception of ordinary things like movement, space, time, sound, energy, and their relationships to each other.

(OVER)

484 Broome Street (between West Broadway and Wooster) New York City
mail: 59 Wooster Street, New York, New York 10012 (212) 925-3615