



512 West 19th Street New York, NY 10011  
tel 212 255 5793 www.thekitchen.org

Press Contact: Blake Zidell & Associates  
tel: 718.643.9052  
fax: 718.643.9502  
blake@blakezidell.com

For Immediate Release

## **Ann Liv Young returns to The Kitchen with *The Bagwell in me*, a new theatrical solo performance**

New York, NY, August 21, 2008—Ann Liv Young returns to **The Kitchen** on **October 2-4 (Thursday through Saturday)** with *The Bagwell in me*, a new theatrical solo performance based on the life and loves of George Washington. Featuring original music by Young, *The Bagwell in me* begins with an unconventional retelling of historical events, then takes unanticipated turns as Young explores notions of celebrity, chivalry, Victorian manners, Southern hospitality, and racism in America. Young will be joined by performer **Isabel Lewis**. Performances will begin at **8:00 P.M.** at The Kitchen (512 West 19th Street). Tickets are \$12.

*The Bagwell in me* finds Young, who is best known for dance-theater works, venturing into the genre of music-theater. In it, she performs solo, playing multiple roles: George and Martha Washington as well as one of their female slaves. And while Young's previous works have relied on familiar pop songs as their soundtracks, she composed new, original music for the *The Bagwell in me*. In addition to the story of the Washington clan and their life on Mount Vernon, this new piece also incorporates Young's own family history: her mother's kin, The Bagwells, have roots in the American South dating back to the 18th century. Young therefore brings a personal perspective to the work's central themes of racism and Southern gentility, which also make their way into a fictional cooking show for television that is staged within the performance.

The Kitchen presented the New York premiere of Young's acclaimed *Snow White* in March 2007. Using as its point of departure the original Grimm Brothers' fairytale—a darker predecessor to the well-known animated Disney version—Young transformed the traditional storyline to create new psycho-sexual tensions among the three central characters: Snow White, the Evil Stepmother, and the Prince.

**Ann Liv Young** was born on the Outer Banks of North Carolina and has been creating performance works for over eight years. Her work has been presented at major venues in New York City and Europe, including Dance Theater Workshop, Danspace Project at St. Mark's Church, Brooklyn Museum, Flea Theater, Judson Church, The Children's Foundation of Harlem, Laban Centre London, Impulstanz, Springdance, The Arches, Tanz Im August, Theatre de la Bastille, the Beursschouwburg festival, Motel Mosaique and City of Women.

### **Funding Credits**

This program is made possible with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs and the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency.



### **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.