

The Kitchen Center for Video · Music · Dance Performance · Film and Literature



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CONFINEMENT IN DANCE
JENNIFER MONSON'S SENDER PREMIERS AT THE KITCHEN
FELMARY 6-9, 1991

Sender is a new dance and music collaborative work choreographed by Jennifer Monson and composed by Zeena Parkins for six dancers and four musicians. It will make its world premiere at The Kitchen from February 6-9, 1997. The piece, constructed in three sections, explores ideas of confinement and resistance, force and enforcement, and reflects upon the rise of imprisonment as a means of social control in our contemporary culture. Inspired by books, films, correspondences, and political activism around prison issues, Sender also investigates the subversive languages and codes used by the body to navigate imposed structures of power.

Through an intimate choreographic process, the performers - Eduardo Alegria, Heather Cunningham, DD Dorvillier, Christine Pichini, Daniela Pinto, and Monson - will glean personal gesture and imaginary narratives, and structure them into spatial architectures. The dancing uses confined and effortful movement, material regimented by rhythm, and full-bodied flying to create a dense, exciting, and at times disturbing work. Sender will be a wild and unpredictable performance as Monson, "has the physical control of an athlete, tipping often into quick, wildly off-kilter stances, then righting herself into a lunge in another direction or tilting into an equally wild fall or roll." Combined with the innovative music of Zeena Parkins, with whom Monson has been collaborating since 1985, Sender promises to be a dynamic and unique interplay of movement and music.

Jennifer Monson has been choreographing, performing, and teaching in NYC since 1983. The open physicality of her work encompasses trust and delicacy with a fierce commitment to intense kinetic states. Monson's work has received recognition and support from numerous national and international sources including the NYSCA, the Jerome Foundation, The Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust, Joyce Merz-Gilmore, Creative Time Inc., and the Martha Porter Fund.

Zeena Parkins, a multi-instrumentalist and improviser, is active in the New York and European New Music and Free Improvisation scenes as a sought after contributor and collaborator. Parkins enjoys exploring the possibilities of prepared and electronic processing to the harp and composes extensively for a number of different choreographers including Monson, Cyndey Wilkes, Neil Greenberg, and John Jasperse.

Sender will be presented from February 6-9th, 1997 at The Kitchen. Tickets are \$15. Call 212.255.5793 for reservations. The Kitchen is located at 512 West 19th Street, between 10th and 11th Avenues.