

The Kitchen Center for Video and Music

press release

SIMONE FORTI & PETER VAN RIPER

November 15-18, 1979 8:30pm
\$3.50 / \$2.00 members / TDF Dance Voucher
The Kitchen Center, 484 Broome Street
Reservations: 925-3615

The November presentation in the Dancing In The Kitchen series is a joint concert by choreographer/dancer Simone Forti and composer/musician Peter Van Riper. The work, entitled HOME BASE, will be presented November 15th through 18th at 8:30pm at The Kitchen Center. The performance marks the first time in several years that Forti and Van Riper have presented their collaborative work in New York City.



photo by Babette Mangolie

Simone Forti's and Peter Van Riper's collaborative work in dance and music is partly improvisational and partly based on pre-established materials including solos and sound and movement integrations. Peter Van Riper plays several instruments including soprano and sopranino saxophone, recorder and mbira (African thumb piano). His music moves from Western notation to the sounds of World musics and nature. Simone Forti's movement is based on studies of the relationship between the structure of the body and the forces of gravity and momentum. These studies entail comparative observations of animal movement. Her present movements reflect a more recent concern with the natural subject of landscape, i.e. plants, rocks and placement. Forti and Van Riper have performed together extensively throughout the U.S., Europe, Canada and Japan, including appearances at the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, St. Mark's in the Bowery in New York and, last summer, in the sculpture garden of the Museum of Modern Art.

Simone Forti, a pioneer in the use of natural movement, began her career in San Francisco with Anna Halprin and has since worked primarily in New York. In the early 1960s, she presented a concert of her sculpturally oriented dance-constructions, of which Don McDonagh wrote in his book The Rise and Fall and Rise of Modern Dance, "...one of the most influential single concerts ever given by a dancer." Since 1971, she has focused on the nature of kinetics and on a mode wherein the choreography and the music with which it interacts are integral to each other.

Peter Van Riper is involved with music, conceptual performance, graphics and holography. What unites his efforts is the act of calling attention to the direct experience of perception. A graduate of the University of North Carolina, he continued in arts at Tokyo University and the University of Michigan. In Musical America Joan La Barbara writes that "Van Riper's sound seemed at times playful in melodic leaps, or carefully constructed but played with a sense of immediacy that made them seem spontaneous. It's a unique style and sound; Van Riper is a fascinating and compelling performer." His recent record release is Sound to Movement: New Music for Saxophones.

484 Broome Street between West Broadway and Wooster, New York City