

THE KITCHEN VIDEO MUSIC DANCE PERFORMANCE FILM

512 West 19th St. (Btwn 10th & 11th Aves) New York, NY 10011

Reservations: 255-5793

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50 cents boys

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Review/Dance

Passion and Rage in 2 Parts

By JACK ANDERSON

"Heat" evoked city streets on sweltering nights, and its emotional temperature was that of passion fueled by rage. Conceived and choreographed by Jawole Willa Jo Zollar and directed by Ms. Zollar and Laurie Carlos, the ambitious multimedia production was offered Saturday night at the Kitchen by Urban Bush

Women, Ms. Zollar's dance company; members of a group of writers and performers called Thought Music, and Craig Harris and his band, the Dirty Tones.

"Heat" consisted of two parts: "New Moon Fantasies" (which was subdivided into shorter sections called "Lipstick," "Red Lights" and "New Moon Fantasy") and "Shelter." Throughout the work, dancers recited poetry while moving and poets danced, and everyone looked accomplished in all their varied artistic assignments.

The first act emphasized images of women trapped into conforming to the sexual images expected of them. They put on lipstick, primping to lists of the fantastic names that lipstick shades can have. Later Mr. Harris sang songs that praised "red lights and party nights" and that urged everyone to "get loose and let your hair down." Without descending into crude polemics, the production could have made more of the irony implicit in the contrast between the unthinking hedonism of the lyrics and the grimness of the choreography. Yet the act came to a fierce conclusion with a scene that included a dance of despair for Ms. Zollar.

"Shelter" was impressive throughout. The dancers raced, trembled and fell. Tottering, they tried to support one another, but to no avail. Ms. Carlos was joined by Jessica Hagedorn and Robbie McCauley of Thought Music, and with bitter poetry and canine pantings they indicated that we live in a dog-eat-dog world. "Shelter" was a powerful depiction of people unable to find a resting place for either their weary bodies or their aching hearts.

In addition to Ms. Zollar, the dancers included Theresa Cousar, Anita Gonzalez, Christina Jones, Viola Sheely, Robin Wilson, Marlies Yearby and Pyeng Threadgill.