

NEW YORK



FALL PREVIEW THEATER

Logic of the Birds

The Kitchen
October 2 to October 13
(212-255-5793).

Persian version Iranian-born video artist Shirin Neshat has been red-hot recently, championed by critic Arthur C. Danto and adored at the Whitney Biennial. Now, to celebrate



the Kitchen's thirtieth anniversary, Neshat is integrating video with live performance for the first time.

Bird-watching Neshat is best known for her feminist takes on Islamic society, but for this new work she's turned to a mystical twelfth-century Persian fable about itinerant birds. "My works are usually more political in nature," says Neshat. "This is more symbolic, but it still deals with some of the same issues."

Dream team She's back with her regular collaborators, the writer Shoja Azari, filmmaker Ghasem Ebrahimi-an, and the shockingly talented singer-composer Sussan Deyhim (pictured), who plays *Logic's* protagonist, both onscreen and onstage.

No channel-surfing allowed Her new work has a cast of 30, and still uses plenty of video. She took her film crew from a shadowy Pennsylvania coal mine to a bright Massachusetts limestone quarry. No surprise she calls this "the largest and most ambitious thing we've ever done." The Kitchen is small and the run is short, so tickets will be hard to get.

Photograph: top, Greg Barrett. Illustration by Glenn Hilario.

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