

press release

THE KITCHEN

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For press reservations,
contact Donna Meeks
925-3615

PERFORMANCE:

Ping Chong

in collaboration with ROB LIST present:

RAINER & THE KNIFE

a Fiji Theatre Company production.

Wednesday, Thursday & Sunday, December 15, 16 & 19:

Admission \$5.00/\$3.50 members/TDF+\$1

Friday & Saturday, December 17 & 18:

Admission \$7.00/\$5.00 members/TDF+\$3

Two shows per evening, 8 & 10pm; limited seating.

Reservations: 925-3615

The Kitchen

484 Broome Street, 2nd Floor

New York City

On December 15-19, The Kitchen presents the New York premiere of Rainer & the Knife, a Fiji Theatre Company production created by Ping Chong in collaboration with Rob List.

Originally commissioned by the MoMing Dance and Art Center in Chicago where the work had its premiere in 1981, Rainer & the Knife is a primal tale of a young boy who ignores a grave warning and goes out into the world in a search that results in the loss of his life. In this production, The Fiji Theatre Company continues its exploration of live performance in conjunction with media. The production has a cast of thirteen including Gail Turner and Mary Schultz, members of Meredith Monk/The House, performance artists Tannis Hugill and Steve Clorfeine and Louise Smith and Barbara Dufyjes, who last appeared in The Fiji Company's Anna Into Nightlight.

This will be the last Fiji Theatre Company production prior to embarking on national and European tours.

"...an engrossing combination of modern technology and ancient ritual that has produced a story unfolded and illustrated with the formal, awesome serenity of a fairy tale."

(Richard Christiansen,
Chicago Tribune)

"Chong and List have an uncanny ability to extract mythic qualities from pedestrian activities and common materials... Rainer is stark and clean performance art. It manages to strike us both visually and viscerally. It is like watching a serialized dream."

(J.L. Conklin,
The Chicago Reader)

PING CHONG is the Artistic Director of The Fiji Theatre Company, which is dedicated to exploring new directions in narrative theatre and to the synthesis of live performance with media. Mr. Chong's work has been presented at La Mama, the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, Walker Art Center (Minneapolis), MoMing Dance and Art Center (Chicago), the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (Washington, DC) and elsewhere in the United States. In Europe, the company was presented in several international theatre festivals including the Holland Festival and the World Theatre

(cont. other side)

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mail: 59 Wooster Street, New York, New York 10012 (212) 925-3615

press release

(December Performance, cont.)
212-352-3512

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Festival in Nancy, France. They have performed at the CRT in Milan, the Cabaret Voltaire in Turin, the Maison de la Culture in Paris, the Stichting Mickery Theatre in Amsterdam, etc. Mr. Chong is a two-time recipient of a CAPS Fellowship, an Obie Award winner, an NEA fellow and, most recently, winner of The Villager Award for outstanding Author/Director/Designer. In addition to his theatre work, Mr. Chong recently directed two television specials in collaboration with Meredith Monk for PBS which will be released this winter. This spring, Mr. Chong will be collaborating once again with Ms. Monk on a commissioned work for the acclaimed Schaubühne Ensemble of Berlin. Mr. Chong's next project will be Nosferatu to be presented at La Mama in New York City next fall.

ROB LIST is the artistic Director of Kite Tails, an experimental mime group from Colorado which has performed on the West coast and in Europe since 1974. After meeting Mr. Chong in Amsterdam in 1979, Mr. List appeared in Fiji productions in New York, Washington and in Europe. Mr. List was the winner of The Villager Award for best actor for his performance in A.M./A.M. - The Articulated Man. He will be presenting a new performance work, At the Falls, this January at White Dog Studios.

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484 Broome Street, 2nd Floor
New York City

On December 15-19, The Kitchen presents the New York premiere of Rainier & the Knife, a Fiji Theatre Company production created by Ping Chong in collaboration with Rob List.

Originally commissioned by the Hoffman Estate and the Center in Chicago where the work had its premiere in 1981, Rainier & the Knife is a primal tale of a young boy who ignites a fire and is sent out into the world as a season that results in the loss of his life. In this production, The Fiji Theatre Company continues its exploration of live performance in conjunction with media. The production has a cast of thirteen including Paul Turner and Mary Schmitt, members of the Rainier & the Knife performance group. Other cast members include

"...an exploration of the combination of modern technology and ancient ritual that has produced a story untold and illustrated with the formal, awesome serenity of a fairy tale"

(Richard Christensen,
Chicago Tribune)

"Chong and List have an uncanny ability to extract mythic qualities from pedestrian activities and common materials... Rainier is stark and clean performance art. It manages to strike as both visually and conceptually. It is like watching a realized dream."

(L.A. Conklin,
The Chicago Reader)

PING CHONG is the Artistic Director of the Fiji Theatre Company, which is dedicated to exploring new directions in narrative theatre and to the synthesis of live performance with media. Mr. Chong's work has been presented at La Mama, the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, Walker Art Center (Minneapolis), Moving Dance and Art Center (Chicago), the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (Washington, DC) and elsewhere in the United States. In Europe, the company was presented in several international theatre festivals including the Holland Festival and the World Theatre

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