

1971 **20** 1991

THE KITCHEN

VIDEO MUSIC DANCE PERFORMANCE FILM LITERATURE

For immediate release,

October 28, 1991.

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MEG STUART

Disfigure Study

Wednesday, November 20 - Friday, November 22, 1991

8:30pm each night

Tickets: Wednesday and Thursday, \$10, Members \$5

Friday, \$12, Members \$7

Disfigure Study is an evening length work that is both brutally stark and intensely intimate. Developed during the last two years, *Disfigure Study* examines an emotionally disturbing landscape through the physicality of the body. The work is non-narrative; it unfolds through a series of physical encounters — between different parts of a single dancer's body, or between two dancers sharing the same space. *Disfigure Study* is characterized by an innovative movement vocabulary void of superfluous decoration. Bold and bare presentation of collapse and support, leading and following, distortion and release, are used as metaphoric building blocks in the construction of the world inhabited by the three dancers.

In the solo *Thought Object*, developed in the Working In The Kitchen process earlier this year, Stuart's limbs are contorted against her body surfaces as she attempts to find rest and support on her own body. Stereotypes of femininity are confronted through images of distortion. *Held*, a duet developed in The Field in collaboration with Phebe Enfield, is a ballad of trust — one dancer supporting and manipulating the head of the other. The conflict between passivity and aggressiveness is stripped down to its essential form.

Disfigure Study is set to an original score which will be performed live by Hahn Rowe. Joining Stuart are Portuguese dancers Francisco Camacho and Carlota Lagido. Costume design is by Eva Goodman. Lighting design is by Randy Warshaw.

Meg Stuart has been making dances since 1982. Her choreography has been seen at the Klapstuk '91 Festival (Leuven, Belgium), Working In The Kitchen, The Field and elsewhere. Since 1986, Meg has danced with the Randy Warshaw Dance Company in New York, and has performed and taught with them throughout the United States and Europe at major festivals and venues. She has also performed in the works of Lisa Kraus, Frederico Restrepo, as well as in Marcus Stern's production of *Phebe's Got Three Sisters* at La Cucharacha. She graduated from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts in 1986.

The production and presentation of this work are the result of a unique international cooperation initiated by the Klapstuk '91 Festival a new works commission from The Kitchen with funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, and Streaks of Crimson (Brussels). Additional support is provided by Arts International, Luso Americana Foundation and the Meet the Composer/Composer Performance Fund. Following these performances at The Kitchen, *Disfigure Study* will be performed at Acarte in Lisbon, Portugal.