

Dixon Place presents

Wednesday, September 23, 2015 at 7:30pm

I Step On Air

-PLUS-

On Paper

I Step On Air

by Oxana Chi

Choreography, Dance, Directing & Costume Design By
Oxana Chi

Live-Music (Saxophone, Kalimba, Sounds) & Spoken Word
By
Layla Zami

Poetry Written By
May Ayim

Translated Into English By
Prof. Marion Kraft

I STEP ON AIR takes the audience through May Ayim's historical engagement as a poet, writer, activist and academic in 1990s Germany and her experience as a Black German woman tracing her roots to Ghana. The encounter of contemporary global African theater, innovative body language, and atmospheric music results in an entertaining and meditative piece USA Premiere.

OXANA CHI is an award-winning choreographer, dancer, filmmaker, curator and publisher. She was born in Germany of Eastern Nigerian and Eastern European descent and has been choreographing and performing her own pieces since 1991. Her repertoire is comprised of 17 feature-length productions recently performed at international festivals in France, USA, Indonesia, Germany, Taiwan, Martinique and Singapore. Oxana has received various awards and grants including the Cite des Arts Residency (Paris), Berlin City Council for the Arts, Gerda Weiler Feminist Foundation and European Union programmes 'Fonds Soziokultur'. She performs a deeply personal fusion of traditional and contemporary African, European and Asian styles and combines aesthetic dance, dramatic expression, sociohistorical relevance, and poetic storytelling. www.oxanachi.de

LAYLA ZAMI is an artist and scholar working with music, writing, and visual art. She was born in Paris of Afro-Indian-Caribbean and Jewish-Russian-European descent. She is a Visiting Research Scholar at UCSD and an ELES Talents Program fellow for her doctoral research on diasporic memory in contemporary dance. She has received the

French Governmental Award "Envie d'Agir" for her contribution to "Dancing Through Gardens" directed by Oxana Chi. www.laylazami.net

Piece originally commissioned by Natasha Kelly, Humboldt-University Berlin for EDEWA 2012. Made possible in part thanks to: lichiverein association, ELES Jewish Talents Program, Heinrich-Boell-Foundation Arts program

On Paper

Rosamond S. King

Rosamond S. King is a creative and critical writer, performer, and artist whose work is deeply informed by the cultures and communities she is part of, by history, and by a sense of play. King's staged and guerilla performance art has been presented around the world, including at the African Performance Art Biennale (Zimbabwe) and at the Encuentro (Canada) and Call & Response (USA) festivals. She recently published the award-winning book *Island Bodies: Transgressive Sexualities in the Caribbean Imagination*, and her poetry has been published in more than two dozen journals and anthologies. She earned a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature (with Performance Studies as an additional focus) from New York University, and is Associate Professor at Brooklyn College, part of the City University of New York.

On Paper is a work in progress, and all inquiries about and support for developing this performance are welcome: info@rosamondking.com
www.rosamondking.com

Costume Design: Marea Judilla

Aerial Consultant: Lani Corson

Stage managers: Randi Rivera & Lindsay Hope Pearlman

Documentation: Julia Gang, Laurie Prendergast & Charles Dennis

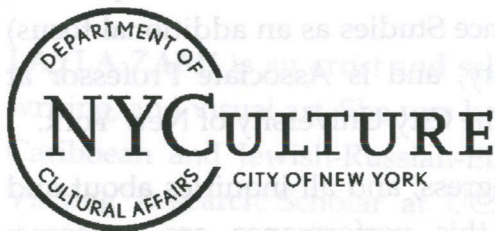
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The first video in *On Paper* is excerpted from "Not Really," by RSK, inspired by Howardena Pindell's "Free, White and 21" (1980).

"A Brief History of the Resume" is excerpted from "The 500-Year Evolution of the Resume" by Donna Collins (2011).



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