

For Immediate Release

CROSSING **CL** THE LINE
2012

**FIAF AND THE KITCHEN PRESENT U.S. PREMIERE OF
DD DORVILLIER'S *DANZA PERMANENTE*
AS PART OF THE 2012 *CROSSING THE LINE* FESTIVAL**

**Performed in Near Silence, New Work Transposes the Score of a
Beethoven String Quartet Into Movement for Four Dancers**

Danza Permanente

DD Dorvillier/human future dance corps

Co-presented by The Kitchen and

The French Institute Alliance Française (FIAF)'s 2012 *Crossing the Line* festival

The Kitchen (512 West 19th Street, NYC)

Wednesday – Sunday, September 26 – 30 at 8:00 P.M.

Tickets: \$15, www.thekitchen.org, 212.255.5793 x11

“Ms. Dorvillier has a gift for creating a kind of irrational theater that is held together by the strength of a single imaginative vision.” — The New York Times

New York, New York, August 29, 2012—The Kitchen and the French Institute Alliance Française (FIAF), New York's premiere French cultural center, present the U.S. premiere of *Danza Permanente*, from **DD Dorvillier** and her **human future dance corps**, as part of the 2012 *Crossing the Line* festival. *Danza Permanente* transposes the score of a Beethoven string quartet into movement for four dancers, each of whom takes the part of a single instrument. The work is performed in near silence with bursts of recorded sound by **Zeena Parkins**, who also serves as music director.

Performances of *Danza Permanente* will take place **Wednesday through Sunday, September 26–30 at 8:00 P.M.** at **The Kitchen**, which is located at 512 West 19th Street, NYC. Tickets, which are \$15, are available online at www.thekitchen.org and by phone at 212.255.5793 x11.

In *Danza Permanente*, the performers embody the musical structure and dynamics of the string quartet, behaving as sound, in silence. The transposition of the score is by choreographer **DD Dorvillier** and composer/music director **Zeena Parkins**, with dancers **Fabian Barba, Nuno Bizarro, Walter Dundervill,**

Naiara Mendioroz, and rehearsal assistant **Heather Kravas**. The lighting design by **Thomas Dunn** and the acoustic environment by Parkins follow the score, framing the silence and the dance.

Of creating *Danza Permanente*, Dorvillier has said, “I chose to work with the score of Ludwig Van Beethoven’s *String Quartet #15, in A Minor, Op. 132*, not so much for the man Beethoven himself, but for the music, which is at once moving, demanding, rigorous, and extreme in contrasts, colors, and mood changes. This infamous and beloved music has an intellectual and affective power that is akin to literature. It is thinking music. *Danza Permanente* originates from a curiosity about how, without words, music, through its unique properties, induces thought and feeling.”

About the Artists

DD Dorvillier (choreographer) Puerto Rico, 1967. Choreographer, dancer, and teacher in New York City since 1989. Bessie Awards for choreography (*Dressed for Floating*, 2003) and performance (*Parades & Changes, replays*, 2010). In 1991, Dorvillier and dancer/choreographer Jennifer Monson created the Matzoh Factory. For over a decade, the studio was a grassroots site for wild experimentation where choreographers and artists congregated for low-tech/low-cost shows, rehearsals, parties, and readings. Dorvillier has worked with and been deeply influenced by Jennifer Monson, Zeena Parkins, Jennifer Lacey, Yvonne Meier, Sarah Michelson, and Karen Finley, among others. She has been an MR Artist in Residence, curator of the MR Festival, and co-editor the MR Performance Journals “Release” and her awards include NYFA Choreography Fellowship (2000), Foundation for Contemporary Arts Fellowship (2007), and Guggenheim Fellowship (2011). Her work has been presented in NYC at The Kitchen, Dance Theater Workshop, Danspace Project, and PS 122, and others. Internationally she has presented her work at ImPulsTanz, Vienna; DeSingel, Antwerp, STUK, Leuven; Hau/Hebel am Ufer, Berlin; Frascati, Amsterdam; Zagreb Dance Weeks, Zagreb; Springdance Dialogues/TSEH Festival, Moscow; and many others.

Zeena Parkins (composer, musical director) multi-instrumentalist, composer, improviser, sound artist, well-known as a pioneer of the electric harp, has also extended the language of the acoustic harp with the inventive use of unusual playing techniques, preparations, and layers of digital and analog processing. Parkins has received commissions to provide scores for film, video, chamber orchestras, theater and dance. She has long-term creative relationships with Neil Greenberg, John Jasperse, Jennifer Monson, Jennifer Lacey, DD Dorvillier, and Emmanuelle Vo-Dinh, and has also appeared with the Merce Cunningham Dance Company, who commissioned a new work for Experiments in the Studio. She has appeared in festivals worldwide and on countless recordings. Some collaborators include: Kim Gordon, John Zorn, Bjork, Yoko Ono, Christian Marclay, Fred Frith, Elliott Sharp, Thurston Moore and filmmakers Cynthia Madansky, Mandy McIntosh and Daria Martin. Zeena has received three Bessies for her extraordinary work in music within the dance and performance field in the United States and abroad for over two decades.

Funding Credits

Danza Permanente is a human future dance corps production. Commission: The Kitchen; the French Institute Alliance Française (FIAF)’s Crossing the Line 2012; STUK Kunstencentrum; Rencontres choréographiques internationales de Seine-St. Denis; the Centre national de danse contemporaine Angers; and PACT Zollverein. *Danza Permanente* has received major production support from The MAP Fund, primarily funded by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, with additional support from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation; from FUSED (French-US Exchange in Dance), a program of the National Dance Project/New England Foundation for the Arts, the Cultural Services of the French Embassy in New York, and FACE (French American Cultural Exchange) with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Florence Gould Foundation, and through a fellowship in choreography from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. *Danza Permanente* was created during residencies at STUK, PACT, Performing Arts Forum, and CNDC Angers, and supported by the Menagerie de Verre, Paris in the frame of studiolabs, as well as the



french institute
alliance française

22 East 60th Street
New York, NY 10022

T. 212 355 6100
F. 212 935 4119

info@fiaf.org
www.fiaf.org

studios at the Centre National de la Danse in Pantin, France. The NYC performances are made possible in part with public funds from the Manhattan Community Arts Fund, supported by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council and administered by Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, and with public funds from the Fund for Creative Communities, supported by New York State Council on the Arts and administered by Lower Manhattan Cultural Council.

About Crossing The Line

Crossing the Line is the French Institute Alliance Française (FIAF)'s annual fall festival presenting interdisciplinary works and performances created by artists from around the world in New York. The festival provides opportunities for New Yorkers to explore the dialogue between artist and participant, examine how artists help re-imagine the world, and engage in the vital role artists play as critical thinkers and catalysts for social evolution. Curated by Lili Chopra, Artistic Director of FIAF, Simon Dove, Director of the Herberger Institute School of Dance at Arizona State University, and Gideon Lester, Director of Theater Programs at Bard College, *Crossing the Line* is initiated and produced by FIAF in partnership with leading cultural institutions and takes place this year from September 14–October 14, 2012.

Inaugurated in 2007, *Crossing the Line* has enjoyed increasingly strong audience response from diverse segments of the New York City area, as well as critical acclaim. The festival was voted “Best of 2009” and “Best of 2010” by *Time Out New York*, *The New York Times*, and the *Wall Street Journal*. *The New York Times* has said, “The French Institute Alliance Française’s annual *Crossing the Line* has carved out a particular identity as an invigorating, unpredictable, occasionally provocative mix of genres and disciplines...It’s the artistic equivalent of a splash of water on the face.” www.fiaf.org/ctl

About the French Institute Alliance Française (FIAF)

FIAF's mission is to create and offer New Yorkers innovative and unique programs in education and the arts that explore the evolving diversity and richness of French cultures. FIAF seeks to generate new ideas and promote cross cultural dialogue through partnerships and new platforms of expression. www.fiaf.org

About The Kitchen

The Kitchen is one of New York City’s oldest nonprofit performance and exhibition spaces, showing experimental work by innovative artists, both emerging and established. Programs range from dance, music, and theatrical performances to video and media arts exhibitions to literary events, film screenings, and artists’ talks. Since its inception in 1971, The Kitchen has been a powerful force in shaping the cultural landscape of this country and has helped launch the careers of many artists who have gone on to worldwide prominence.

Box Office Information:

212.255.5793 ext. 11

Tue-Sat, 2-6pm

The Kitchen

512 West 19th Street

New York, NY 10011

www.thekitchen.org

Merci!

FIAF would like to thank the following for their generous support of *Crossing the Line* 2012:

Nespresso, Presenting Sponsor of *Crossing the Line* 2012

American Airlines, the Official Airline of FIAF; 972, the Cultural Services of the French Embassy; Institut français; Florence Gould Foundation; The French-American Fund for Contemporary Theater, a Program of FACE; Fondation d'entreprise Hermès; New York State Council on the Arts; New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; The Enoch Foundation; The Peter Jay Sharp Foundation; Interaudi Bank; The Museum for African Art; Institut français / Paris / Afrique en créations; Société des Auteurs et Compositeurs Dramatiques; NRW Kultursekretariat Wuppertal; Netherlands Cultural Services; The Netherland-America Foundation; FUSED (French-US Exchange in Dance) Program; The Hemispheric Institute; APAP Cultural Exchange Fund; the Consulate General of France in Quebec; Anonymous; and Robert de Rothschild.

Special thanks to Arizona State University.

**Press Contacts: John Wyszniwski and Yuri Kwon at
Blake Zidell & Associates: 718.643.9052, john@blakezidell.com and yuri@blakezidell.com.**

####