

For Immediate Release

Media Contacts: Natascha Bodemann | 646 388 6677 | [nbodemann@fiaf.org](mailto:nbodemann@fiaf.org)

CROSSING **CT** THE LINE  
2012

French Institute Alliance Française (FIAF)

presents

**Joris Lacoste, *4 Prepared Dreams***

with

**April March • October 10**

**Annie Dorsen • October 11**

**Tony Conrad • October 12**

**Jonathan Caouette • October 13**

FIAF • Le Skyroom; 22 East 60th Street, NYC

**New York, New York, *September 20, 2012***—As part of the sixth edition of *Crossing the Line 2012*, FIAF's annual transdisciplinary festival of contemporary arts, the French Institute Alliance Française (FIAF) presents *4 Prepared Dreams*, by *Crossing the Line 2012* artist-in-residence Joris Lacoste. *4 Prepared Dreams* explores hypnosis as an artistic medium with four seminal New York artists: singer-songwriter April March; writer and director Annie Dorsen; artist, musician, and composer Tony Conrad; and director Jonathan Caouette, and will be presented in FIAF's Le Skyroom from Wednesday, October 10 through Saturday, October 13, 2012 at 8pm.

Moving the stage into the audience's mind, and inviting his spectators on an internal journey, Joris Lacoste uses language, physicality, music, and performance to shape his extraordinary, unclassifiable works. For *4 Prepared Dreams*, FIAF commissioned Lacoste to create four scripted dreams for four remarkable New York artists, who will each experience their dream during a one-on-one hypnosis session with Lacoste. The artwork is the dream experienced during the private hypnosis session, when the subject succumbs to the fiction Lacoste has constructed and provoked. Each session will be followed by a post-performance interview—open to the public—between Lacoste and the artist about the experience.

*"Hypnosis enables the sleeping spectator to experience fiction as real life. It is a scripted dream, guided by voice, that always surpasses its own framework: between the words spoken by the hypnotist and the*

*experience it evokes for the hypnotized lies the black box of the subconscious. The script is always interpreted in the most singular manner, with an unpredictable variety of images and unique details. As such, this device reveals itself to be a formidable fiction-producing machine.*—Joris Lacoste

*“With this singular proposition, Joris Lacoste has invented a new form of spectacle... Being half-asleep is no longer a lethargic state, but the very condition for perception and creation.”—Premiere (France)*

*“At once relaxing and impressive!”—Le Monde*

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### About Joris Lacoste

Born in 1973, Joris Lacoste lives and works in Paris. He has been writing for theater and radio since 1996 and has been performing his own shows since 2003. He created *9 lyriques pour actrice et caisse claire* in 2005 with Stephanie Béghain and *Purgatoire* at the Théâtre national de la Colline in 2007, where he was also associate author. From 2007 to 2009 he was co-director of *Les Laboratoires d'Aubervilliers*. Taking his inspiration from literature, theater, dance, visual arts, music, sound, and poetry, his work is always deeply researched. He initiated two group projects, the *W* project in 2004 and the *Encyclopédie de la parole* in 2007, resulting notably in 2009 in a solo work, *Parlement* starring Emmanuelle Lafon. In 2009 he launched the project *Hypnographie* to explore artistic uses of hypnosis: he produced the radio play *Au musée du sommeil* (2009), the performance *Restitution* (2010), the exhibition-performance *Le Cabinet d'hypnose* (2010), the play *Le vrai spectacle* (2011), and the exhibition *12 rêves préparés*.

### About April March

Singer-songwriter and lifelong Francophile, April March is best known for re-introducing the international audience to the French pop heritage with her renditions of songs from Serge Gainsbourg, Françoise Hardy, Chantal Kelly, Dani, and Gillian Hills, amongst others. Her song “Chick Habit” drew the attention of director Quentin Tarantino who featured it in the soundtrack of his 2007 film *Death Proof*. She has also collaborated with French musician, composer, and producer Bertrand Burgalet on two albums, the first of which was chosen as one of the top ten albums of the year by *The New Yorker Magazine* and in the top 100 of all time by the seminal French magazine *Rock et Folk*. April March has also recorded with many other renowned artists including: Brian Wilson, Jonathan Richman, Ronnie Spector, Andy Paley, Yo La Tengo, LL Cool J, Los Cincos, and Steve Hanft. April March has recently finished a new album with the French rock group Aquaserge.

### About Annie Dorsen

Obie Award-winning director and writer Annie Dorsen works in a variety of fields, including theatre, film, dance, and digital performance. Most recently, her performance piece *Hello Hi There* premiered at the steirischer herbst festival (Graz), and was presented at Black Box Theatre (Oslo), BIT Teatergarasjen (Bergen), Hebbel am Ufer (Berlin), and Performance Space 122 (New York), among many others. She is the co-creator and director of the 2008 Broadway musical *Passing Strange*, Spike Lee 's film adaptation, which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival in 2009 and was screened at South by Southwest and the Tribeca Film Festival.

In 2009, she created two music-theatre pieces, *Ask Your Mama*, a setting of Langston Hughes's 1962 poem, composed by Laura Karpman and sung by Jessye Norman and The Roots (Carnegie Hall); and *ETHEL's Truckstop*, seen at BAM's Next Wave Festival. Dorsen collaborated with choreographer Anne Juren on *Magical*, which premiered at the ImPulsTanz Festival in Vienna, and performed at Side Step Festival in Helsinki, and the Théâtre de la Cité International in Paris, among others. In 2010, Dorsen joined Ms. Juren and DD Dorvillier to present *Pièce Sans Paroles*, a Tennessee Williams piece for two characters performed without words that premiered at Brut in Vienna and was performed at Rencontres Choréographiques Internationales in Paris. She is currently a visiting artist professor at Bard College.



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

### About Tony Conrad

Artist, musician/composer, and media maker, Tony Conrad is best known for his 1966 film *The Flicker*, a key early structural film, and for his minimalist violin playing. His work is associated with the founding of "minimal" music and "underground" film. Beginning in 1972 with his *Yellow Movies*, Conrad produced "paracinema" works, using cooking, electrocution, hammering, and weaving. In 1976 he joined the Department of Media Study in the University at Buffalo, where he still teaches. Tony Conrad's music performances, films, videos, and other works are heard and seen in the United States and internationally. He has released many CDs and exhibits at the Greene Naftali Gallery (New York) and Galerie Buchholz (Berlin/Cologne).

### About Jonathan Caouette

Jonathan Caouette's debut feature film *Tarnation* premiered at the 2004 Sundance Film Festival and went on to the 2004 Cannes Film Festival, Director's Fortnight, then the Toronto, Chicago, New York, London, and Los Angeles Independent film festivals. *Tarnation* won multiple awards across the world including, "Best Non Fiction" film by the National Society of Film Critics, Best Documentary by the London International Film Festival, and was voted one of the American Film Institute's "Moments of Significance" of 2004. *Tarnation* was produced by Gus van Sant and John Cameron Mitchell. Since *Tarnation*, Caouette has gone on to make three more films, including: *All Tomorrow's Parties*, a film about the independent musical festival in England; *All Flowers in Time*, a short with Chloë Sevigny and his grandfather; and recently *Walk Away Renee*, a companion piece to *Tarnation* which presented at the Cannes Film festival and was produced by agnès b. In 2013, Caouette will produce a new film and will also act in films as well.

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### About Crossing the Line 2012

*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](http://www.fiaf.org/ctl)

### About 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](http://www.fiaf.org)

### Merci!

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

With the support of the Institut français within its Théâtre Export program, and the French-American Fund for Contemporary Theater, a Program of FACE.



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Special thanks to Arizona State University.

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**LISTING SUMMARY**

**What:** *Crossing the Line 2012: Joris Lacoste, 4 Prepared Dreams*  
**When:** Wednesday, October 10–Saturday, October 13  
**Where:** FIAF; Le Skyroom, 22 E 60th Street (between Park and Madison Avenue)  
**Admission:** Advanced \$12, Day-of \$15, FIAF Members \$10  
**Information:** [fiaf.org/ct](http://fiaf.org/ct) | 212 355 6160  
**Transportation:** Subway - 4, 5, 6, N, R and Q to 59th Street & Lexington Avenue;  
F to 63rd Street & Lexington Avenue; E to 53rd Street & 5th Avenue  
Bus - M1, M2, M3, M4, Q31 to 59th Street; M5 to 58th Street

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