



For Immediate Release

***NO BOUNDARIES: A SERIES OF GLOBAL PERFORMANCES***  
**PRESENTS THE FESTIVAL OF INTERNATIONAL DANCE AT YALE**  
**FEATURING WORLD PREMIERE BY YVONNE RAINER,**  
**AMERICAN DEBUT BY OPIYO OKACH AND**  
**AMERICAN PREMIERE BY YASMEEN GODDER,**  
**NOVEMBER 10–15**

***Series of discussions by leading artists and scholars augment performances***

The Houdini-like ability of contemporary dance to elude linguistic, political, social and cultural barriers will be celebrated and explored during “A Festival of International Dance,” four days of performances, debuts, premieres and panel discussions at Yale University, November 10–15. Highlights include the world premiere of Yvonne Rainer’s “Spiraling Down,” the American debut of Kenyan choreographer Opiyo Okach and the U.S. premiere of Israeli choreographer Yasmeen Godder’s “Singular Sensation.” The Festival is part of Yale’s *No Boundaries: A Series of Global Performances* presented by Yale Repertory Theatre and the World Performance Project at Yale.

*No Boundaries* is a unique collaborative effort between Yale Repertory Theatre and the World Performance Project at Yale that integrates the performing arts into the educational mission of Yale University. “Dance is a uniquely global language that bypasses all linguistic barriers,” said Emily Coates, the artistic director of the World Performance Project. “By juxtaposing geographically and culturally diverse choreographers, we are highlighting the power of movement and the relevance of dance today – to a university and to our world. The related panels and discussions examine the social and political ideas embedded in the work, illustrating the profound connections both between dance as an art form and the university’s curriculum.”

**MORE**

One of the most powerful forces in the transformation of dance during the 60's and 70's, 1990 MacArthur Fellow Yvonne Rainer will present the world premiere of "Spiraling Down." Like many of Rainer's works, "Spiraling" imaginatively mines and integrates imagery and movement from a surprising variety of media. Newspaper photos, old movies, classical and modern dance, sports moves, Steve Martin, Sarah Bernhardt, and Rainer's early choreography are slyly integrated to create the brainy and subtly emotional new dance. Rainer will also present "RoS Indexical," her acclaimed 2007 tribute to Nijinsky's iconoclastic choreography set to Stravinsky's "Rite of Spring." Rainer's original interpretation of this seminal work challenges its historic durability.

Two American premieres by Kenyan choreographer Opiyo Okach call attention to the growing international savvy and poetry of contemporary African dance. Okach's luminous solo, "No Man's Gone Now," which he created with choreographer Julyen Hamilton in 2003, transforms the space into a visible partner as his moving body suggests the transience of experience and the ephemeral nature of time and place. In "Territories in Transgression," Okach's most recent work, the choreographer uses his own body as a site of transgression as he explores the consequences of the growing eradication of cultural boundaries, dislocation and displacement.

In "Singular Sensation," Yasmeen Godder poses questions about the world which she considers "hyper informed, self-conscious" and ridden with a need to be admired. The dance, a quintet set to music by Random In & Tim Hecker, Panda Porn, Ziv Jacob, Rona Geffen and Gabi Lal, is a search for what is true in a society whose narcissism blurs a connection to pure feeling. Does any singular sensation exist?

### **PERFORMANCE TICKET INFORMATION**

**November 11 and 12 at 7:00pm: Yasmeen Godder; and 9:00 pm: Opiyo Okach  
November 14 and 15 at 7:00pm: Yvonne Rainer**

All shows take place at the New Theater, located at 1156 Chapel Street in New Haven, CT. Tickets are \$15 each, \$10 for students. They can be purchased online at [yalerep.org](http://yalerep.org), by phone at 203-432-1234, or in person at the Yale Repertory Theatre Box Office, 1120 Chapel St (at York St), Monday through Friday 10:00-5:00pm and Saturday 12:00-5:00pm.

***The World Performance Project is funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, which has enabled the low, subsidized ticket prices.***

**MORE**

**IN ADDITION TO TALKBACKS AFTER EVERY SHOW, A SERIES OF DYNAMIC DISCUSSIONS WILL EXPLORE THE ARTISTIC, SOCIAL, POLITICAL AND CULTURAL RESONANCES OF THE PERFORMANCES.**

**BELOW ARE THE DESCRIPTIONS:**

**MOVEMENT, PERFORMANCE AND DANCE THEATER:  
OR (WHERE) SHOULD THE COMMAS GO?**

**November 10, 5:30pm**

Rudolph Hall, 180 York Street, New Haven CT

In this discussion, Peggy Phelan, Professor of Drama and English at Stanford University, considers the points of contact between theater, performance, dance and movement in various forms of contemporary dance, as well as whether or not distinctions are even relevant when considering contemporary art. The discussion will concentrate on the legacy of Judson Dance Theater and the influence of Pina Bausch.

*The talk is co-sponsored by the World Performance Project at Yale, Yale Repertory Theatre and History of Art department.*

**MOVEMENT IN THE AGE OF GLOBALIZATION**

**November 12 at 4:00pm**

Yale University Art Gallery, 1111 Chapel Street, New Haven CT

Yasmeen Godder, Opiyo Okach, and Yvonne Rainer will discuss the diaspora of contemporary dance aesthetics and the role of movement in the age of globalization. Dramaturg, librettist and author Thomas F. DeFrantz will moderate.

*The panel is co-sponsored by the World Performance Project at Yale, Yale Repertory Theatre, Yale University Art Gallery and African American Studies department.*

**YVONNE RAINER IN THE 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY**

**November 15 at 2:00pm**

Yale University Art Gallery, 1111 Chapel Street, New Haven CT

The discussion, featuring filmmaker and choreographer Yvonne Rainer, dancers Patricia Hoffbauer, Sally Silvers, Keith Sabado, Pat Catterson and Emily Coates, will examine Rainer's recent works in light of her 50-year career in dance and film. The panel will also include Carrie Lambert-Beatty, author of "Being Watched: Yvonne Rainer and the 1960's," which was published by MIT Press in September 2008. Joseph Roach, Sterling Professor of Theater at Yale, will moderate the discussion.

*The panel is co-sponsored by the World Performance Project at Yale, Yale Repertory Theatre, Yale University Art Gallery and History of Art department.*

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