

# Classical & Dance

cue

Edited by Alicia Zuckerman

## Classical & Dance

### Turning the Tables

"I suddenly thought, *This is really frightening. I'm gonna be on the same stage with the most beautiful male body in the world.* So I got a trainer—I panicked," admits performance artist Laurie Anderson, remembering the last time she worked with choreographer-dancer **Bill T. Jones** (pictured, left, with Anderson and Lou Reed). But now, it's Jones who's "very intimidated" (and also "very moved") by the gathering of cultural luminaries joining him on June 11 at the New Victory Theater to celebrate his 50th birthday.



Live music will be courtesy of Anderson, Reed, and the Orion String Quartet, while Toni Morrison offers a spoken tribute and Robert Wilson directs *The Table Project*, a piece given its New York premiere by the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company in May 2001, culminating a four-year residency in Harlem at City College's Aaron Davis Hall. The only prop is an orange tablelike sculpture to be scaled by the performers. Jones hopes to be permanently based in Harlem soon, with proceeds from this performance going to the building of his company's headquarters there. Looking ahead, he says, "There's a work out there somewhere in the mist that is difficult to describe, but which you can feel is going to be your greatest work." (See "Dance.") A.Z.