



For Immediate Release

THE NATURE OF MERCE CUNNINGHAM
2WICE PUBLISHES NEW BOOK OF PHOTOGRAPHS
ENTITLED “GREEN WORLD MERCE CUNNINGHAM,”
TO BE RELEASED ON SEPTEMBER 10

To celebrate its transformation from an award-winning periodical to a semi-annually published book, 2wice Editions has chosen Merce Cunningham and his singular relationship to nature as its theme.

“An art, if it communicates anything, must have its communication in that place where the rational and the irrational do their intriguing and giddy duet; that area of response to nature where the action of nature in all her twists and turns, is the evoking hand.” This 1959 quote from Merce Cunningham, which begins the book, also sets its tone.

Entitled “Green World Merce Cunningham,” the book visually evokes Cunningham’s aesthetic through a series of stunning, color-drenched photographs, most of which were taken at Vizcaya, the turn of the century mansion and gardens located in Miami. Pictures of the natural world and images of the altering effect that nature can have on man-made creations (and vice versa) are followed by photographs of the Merce Cunningham Dance Company in the estate’s manicured gardens.

Commanding the landscape as his stage, Cunningham composes the choreography for his peacock blue-clad dancers, whose varying shapes give new definition to the surrounding fountains, statues, topiaries and deep green foliage. In one photograph, the dancers’ arched backs and softly rounded arms create tension between the vertical lines of the garden’s trees and marble columns. In another, the

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dancers lean out from behind topiaries, as if playing hide-and-seek with the camera or extending the lines of the trees. The photographs of the Cunningham Company were taken at Vizcaya on February 26, 2007.

The book uses a French fold-format, whose chartreuse green lining echoes the publication's die-cut green cover. 2wice Edition's editor-in-chief, Patsy Tarr, contributed the forward and Nancy Dalva, the essay. Abbott Miller is the book's editor and art director.

About to celebrate its 10th anniversary, 2wice features photography by some of the greatest photographers working today. The publication, published by 2wice Arts Foundation, began life in 1997 as semi-annual periodical devoted to the performing arts. James Wojcik's cover photograph (entitled "Toe Jam") for 2wice's first issue, "FEET," received an "Eisie" award from the Columbia School of Journalism, named for Alfred Eisenstadt, considered the father of modern photojournalism.

To date, 2wice has published 19 issues, each of which received the highest honors in photography and design from I.D. Annual Design Review, Society of Publication Designers and Art Directors Club. In addition to the magazines, 2wice has published "John Kelly" in association with the Aperture Foundation. The best photographs in 2wice were published in 2004 by Phaidon Press in a collection entitled "2wice DANCE." In 2005, 2wice Arts Foundation published "GEOFFREY BEENE, A DESIGN TRIBUTE." Several important books are in the works for 2008.

Biographies of the founders:

Patsy Tarr is the founder and editor-in-chief of 2wice Editions and president of the 2wice Arts Foundation, a not-for-profit organization in New York City which supports art, dance, film and performance through its publications, as well as through grants and charitable gifts. She is a member of the board of directors of the Cunningham Dance Foundation and the Film Society of Lincoln Center.

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Abbott Miller founded the multidisciplinary studio Design/Writing/Research in 1989 with Ellen Lupton; he joined Pentagram's New York office as a partner in June 1999. He is a contributing editor of Eye magazine and the co-author of four books including "Design/Writing/Research: Writing on Graphic Design," published by Phaidon Press. He pioneered the concept of "designer as author," undertaking projects in which content and form are developed in a symbiotic relationship.

"Green World Merce Cunningham" is \$25 and is available at www.2wice.org and www.amazon.com.

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