LIZZ ROMAN & DANCERS

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CounterPULSE presents a site specific "ENGAGEMENT" OF 1310 Mission St. The result of a six month inhabiting of the building by Lizz Roman & Dancers

DEEPER Architectural Meditations at CounterPULSE

<u>June 15- July 1 2012</u> <u>CounterPULSE</u> 1310 MISSION ST (nr 9th) SF CA 94103

Lizz Roman & Dancers present "DEEPER, Architectural Meditations at CounterPULSE", June 15-July 1 2012 at 1310 Mission Street, in San Francisco. Lizz Roman's unique choreographic vision has established her as one of SF's legendary site-specific choreographers. "The dances I make are emotional explorations of human interactions set in buildings..." remarks Lizz Roman. "DEEPER, Architectural Meditations at CounterPULSE" is just that, Lizz Roman & Dancers inhabiting the building at 1310 Mission Street, a former trophy outlet and factory for three weekends of site specific performance. Following six months of on-site rehearsal the performers relationship to the building has deepened, uncovering layers of embedded history and invented forms.

Thousands of audience members and artists have crossed the threshold of 1310 Mission Street, a performance space that is a gateway to art and its creation. Boundaries blur in DEEPER as dance emerges from the building, providing audiences with a story that moves throughout the building, performers highlighting the sheer beauty of movement as a function of being in this particular place. In DEEPER audiences should not expect clichés as movement cloaks the dancers bodies and parallel dance segments throughout the building weave the audience and memories together. Frank Lloyd Wright once said "The space within becomes the reality of the building." Moving through the physical space the audience makes connections that are not necessarily planned or anticipated, exploring people in relationship to each other and the building. It is not so much in the "meaning" of each segment but in the a total involvement of structure and the way actions are placed next to each other that define 1310 Mission Street. The resulting mash-up disentangles gesture from its expected meaning to become a realization of space in motion, a kind of architecture of movement.

"DEEPER, Architectural Meditations at CounterPULSE" opens Friday, June 15 running Friday-Sunday, June 15 - July 1, at CounterPULSE 1310 Mission Street, in San Francisco. Performances are Friday-Sunday 8 p.m. Tickets in advance \$20.00; at the door \$25.00.

PHOTOS: downloadable in hi-res jpeg format from www.counterpulse.org

INFO: 415-626-2060 or www.counterpulse.org

TICKETS: at eventbrite.com or 415-626-2060 or Visit our website at www.counterpulse.org (more)

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"We create a dance that reflects the function of its architectural setting, dancers interact with the architecture and create a vocabulary unique to building itself..."states Lizz Roman. Dances unfold inside the kitchen, bathrooms, under the risers, down the halls and around the corners revealing a

dance that's goal is to get audiences to see the building quite simply just as it really is. DEEPER features dancers James Soria, Chris Black, Courtney Moreno, Tara Fagan and Cameron Growden performing in a sonic environment created by the band WATERSAW with guest DJ Jerome Lindner and lighting by Jennyb of shadyladylighting.

BACKGROUND:

WATERSAW is a 4-piece band that makes music specifically composed for modern dance and film sound tracks. The musicians use their instruments in both traditional and experiential ways creating layers of sound their live music is rich with texture and subtle complexity. WATERSAW members feature Chris Evans (Cello and Looper), Mark Fassett (Upright Bass, Guitar, and Looper), Nicole Laby (Vocals, Percussion, and Looper), Michael Tornatore (Drums, Laptop). **DJ JERM** is a beat maker and producer from San Francisco. He is one of two producers in Bay Area Hip-Hop Collective The WORD. DJ JERM's productions feature original compositions, with infectious gritty bass heavy drums and powerful synthesizer driven chord progressions and melodies.

LIZZ ROMAN, Artistic Director of LIZZ ROMAN & DANCERS has been a dancer and choreographer in San Francisco since 1984. "The dance is the sum of the journey we take through a site," states Roman. In the words of LeCorbusier "to create architecture is to put in order. Put what in order? Function and objects." "I seek guidance from each building I collaborate with," continues Roman, "I create a visual history of our physical journey through that space that becomes a dance. It is driven mainly by the architecture of the space."

Roman's recent site specific works "THIS DANCE THIS PLACE" (2010), "AT PLAY" (2009) and "BLUE FLOOR REFLECTIONS" (2006) all played to sold out audiences and were described by critics as "Eloquent," Breathtaking," "Provocative," and "Captivating." "Artaud became what felt like an underwater playground..." and for "BLUE FLOOR REFLECTIONS" "One can be grateful that Roman arrives at the task without agendas, simply to fashion eloquent steps within an unconventional setting." The SF Butoh Festival and Yerba Buena Gardens Festival in 2004 commissioned Roman to create a site specific dance which following its premiere was remounted for the 2005-6 season. The company was nominated in 2005, for an Isadora Duncan Award for company performance for "CELLGROUND." Roman received the SF WEEKLY Black Box Award for Cross Genre Performance in 1998. Roman and her company are known for their trademark expansive works where dances spring, roll and fly through buildings and off of large scenic elements resulting in a nomination for a best company performance IZZIE award. The company has developed innovative site specific techniques to work in unique and commonplace locations with a variety of multi-media collaborators and scenic elements. The site specific collaboration "IN HER DREAMS" (1998) with local filmmaker Kevin Cunningham was commissioned by ODC Theater and resulted, in the company's award for Cross Genre Performance. Her dances have been seen at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, Theater Artaud, ODC Theater and Commons Rooftop, Dance Mission Theater, CellSpace, DanzHaus, Dancers' Group, Brady St. Theater, and CounterPULSE in SF. Additional teaching credits include, LNES Ballet Center, Shawl Anderson Dance Center, The School of the Arts in SF, Berkeley High and Rhythm and Motion Dance Center. Roman is also a member of Divisadero Research Company, an improvisational dance group founded by contact improv maverick Nita Little. Roman also teaches modern dance as well as performance workshops in the Bay Area. At ODC Dance Commons she is the choreographic mentor for their emerging artists program PILOT and currently teaches modern dance and contact improvisation. From 2006 to 2007, Roman taught modern dance at the University of California, Berkeley, from 1999 to 2003, Roman worked with large groups of dancers each year as a part of the

Workshop Performance Series at Rhythm & Motion Dance Studio in SF. Before moving to SF in 1984, Roman lived in Chicago where she studied theater at the Goodman School of Drama. She attributes much of her choreographic style to her years as a student and performer of improvisational theater and dance in Chicago and St. Louis. Roman is also a certified Pilates instructor and currently is co-owner of PARKSIDE PILATES LLC in SF. Additional information is found at lizzromananddancers.com

CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

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