

News from Bennington College

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A grant of \$15,000 has been awarded to Bennington College from the National Endowment for the Arts to continue a project which is focusing on an era of artistic innovation in New York City in the 1960s.

Known as the Judson Project -- named for the Judson Church, the location of a series of dance, video and photography collaborations which link many present and former Bennington names -- the overall effort was conceived by Wendy Perron and Tony Carruthers of the Bennington dance faculty.

The grant is for a photograph exhibit and video project that will be held at the Usdan Gallery on the Bennington campus during November, 1981, then at the Grey Art Gallery at New York University during March and April, 1982, and thereafter at another half dozen locations. The exhibits will include the showing of video tapes of interviews with and re-creations by major participants in the Judson movement.

These exhibits will be a continuation of a series of residencies held at Bennington in the spring of 1980, in which several artists associated

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with Judson came to the campus for performances and discussions.

Wendy Perron explains: "From 1962 to 1967 the Judson Dance Theatre constituted a major meeting ground in New York for dancers, musicians and artists involved in cooperative events which extended the ideas of John Cage and Merce Cunningham. It encompassed both the development of 'post-modern' dance and an interaction between performance and the visual arts."

Exceptional artists in several fields, she said, collaborated with other artists in varying media, and they paved the way for a new acceptance of multi-media performance.

One of the links with Bennington College is Judith Dunn, who was both a founder of the Judson Dance Theatre in 1962 and a dance faculty member at Bennington in the 1970s.

Daniel Cameron, a 1979 graduate of the college, will be curatorial coordinator for the project.

The list of Judson participants who will be videotaped includes many names familiar to the worlds of performance and visual arts: Trisha Brown, Al Carmines, Remy Charlip, Lucinda Childs, Philip Corner, Bill Dixon, Ruth Emerson, Simone Forti, Alex Hay, Deborah Hay, David Gordon, Kenneth King, Jackson MacLow, John Herbert McDowell, Meredith Monk, Robert Morris, Phoebe Neville, Aileen Passloff, Steve Paxton, Robert Rauschenberg, Carolee Schneeman and Elaine Summers.

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