

10 pt. ital 30 pics

LUCINDA CHILDS -- PASTIME STATEMENT

"Pastime" was the first dance I performed at Judson Dance Theater after a background in formal dance. It was my first work which directly explored the use of physical materials as the starting point for the creation of a dance. Through the Judson years, I used materials as objects, combining dance phrases with movement activity in relation to objects. To eliminate this idiomatic contradiction, I chose to have the movement governed by the materials and subject to the limitations of their physical qualities. I experimented with movement events in relation to objects. I then altered and extended these events in time and space, connecting them in a specific sequence until a kind of logic emerged which indicated a necessary design for the dance. Later I felt the need to impose a structure on the dances other than the intuitive logic derived from movement exploration with objects. I created dialogues for this purpose which had ongoing references to specific subject matter. The dialogues did not ~~in and of themselves~~ dictate action, but accompanied actions <sup>as the dance</sup> ~~as the activity in the dance~~ drifted in and out of a context that was relevant to the ~~content of the~~ dialogues. And I determined the extent to which relevance between action and dialogue was sustained intermittently throughout the individual dances.

Lucinda Childs, 1973/1981 (partially reprinted from "Lucinda Childs :Portfolio," which first appeared in Artforum, February 1973; used by permission)