

MASS MoCA

NEWS RELEASE

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Available Light

Lucinda Childs's 1983 seminal piece is reworked by original creative team, including composer John Adams and set designer Frank Gehry



North Adams, Massachusetts —Lucinda Childs, one of the most celebrated choreographers of the modern era, revives her seminal 1983 collaboration with composer John Adams and architect Frank Gehry. During an extended artistic residency at the confluence of visual and performing arts—MASS MoCA—Childs remounts *Available Light*, which features an

updated version of Childs's choreography and Gehry's striking set.

Available Light was commissioned by—and had its world premiere at—the Los Angeles Museum of Contemporary Art in 1983. The piece was originally conceived as a site-specific work, in which the museum's large, warehouse-style performance venue, called the Temporary Contemporary, played an integral role. Lucinda Childs's signature style of choreography, much of which she established in this work, merged with Frank Gehry's stunning two-story Constructivist set and John Adams's original, textured score, *Light Over Water*.

Three icons of their respective fields, Childs, Gehry, and Adams's collaboration on *Available Light* was lauded by critics, including Anna Kisselgoff of *The New York Times*, who wrote of *Available Light*'s 1983 NYC premiere at the Brooklyn Academy of Music: "it is [...] a work of blazing formal beauty. Miss Childs has made a breakthrough in her career here."

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Now *Available Light's* choreography, set, and staging will be reimaged at MASS MoCA with our converted factory campus spaces in mind. A company of 12 dancers, who worked with Childs for two years on her revival of *Einstein on the Beach*, will perform Childs's renewed choreography in Gehry's reimaged set to Adams's original score. Their three-week MASS MoCA residency will serve as Childs, Gehry, and Adams's first reunion since *Available Light* was born.

Three intimate, work-in-progress showings of *Available Light* will take place in our Hunter Center on **Friday, March 6**, and **Saturday, March 7**, at **8 pm**, and **Sunday, March 8**, at **3 pm**. Dinner and snacks are available from Lickety Split before and during the show. A full bar serves Berkshire Brewing Company beers and Berkshire Mountain Distillery spirits. Tickets are \$18 in advance and for students, \$24 day of, and \$30 preferred. Tickets for all events are available through the MASS MoCA box office located on Marshall Street in North Adams, open 11 am - 5pm Wednesdays through Mondays; closed Tuesdays through spring 2015. Tickets can also be charged by phone by calling 413.662.2111 during box office hours or purchased on-line at massmoca.org. All events are held rain or shine.

Sponsorship

This residency is sponsored by the Porches Inn at MASS MoCA.

Images

High-resolution images of MASS MoCA's Winter/Spring 2015 events are available through this link: <http://bit.ly/1ByVwVx>

Artistic Residencies at MASS MoCA

MASS MoCA's performing arts residencies offer well-equipped and professionally staffed technical facilities and stages and a sophisticated, diverse, and sympathetic audience for new work, especially technically complex work that requires generous allocations of time and space. MASS MoCA's vast galleries and expert fabrication staff offer visual artists the time and tools to create works of a scale and duration impossible to realize in the time- and space-cramped conditions of most museums. Since 1999, MASS MoCA's performing arts department has hosted over 50 artists-in-residence and their collaborators, including David Byrne, Laurie Anderson, Robert Wilson, Philip Glass, Shirin Neshat, Sekou Sundiata, Liz Lerman, DJ Spooky, Basil Twist, David Neumann, Cynthia Hopkins, David

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Herskovitz, Philip Miller, Terry Allen, Alison Chase, Kid Koala, and David Levine.

About MASS MoCA

MASS MoCA is one of the world's liveliest (and largest) centers for making and enjoying today's most important art, music, dance, theater, film, and video. Hundreds of works of visual and performing art have been created on its 19th-century factory campus during fabrication and rehearsal residencies, making MASS MoCA among the most productive sites in the country for the creation and presentation of new art. More platform than box, MASS MoCA strives to bring to its audiences art experiences that are fresh, engaging, and transformative.

MASS MoCA's galleries are open 11am to 5pm every day except Tuesdays. The Hall Art Foundation's Anselm Kiefer exhibition is open seasonally and will reopen in spring 2015. Gallery admission is \$18 for adults, \$16 for veterans and seniors, \$12 for students, \$8 for children 6 to 16, and free for children 5 and under. Members are admitted free year-round. For additional information, call 413.662.2111 x1 or visit massmoca.org.

Additional

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