

PRAGUE - NEW YORK

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We will bring two artists together at a time. Into a circle. They will cross the circumference, bridge a divide? We come together in the circle of the Boma, in the circle around the fire and at round tables of equality. The circle –the symbol of the sun, moon, dots in the night skies as planets, stars –these have no beginning or end and no divisions. It is the symbol of enclosure, completion and powerful cycles of continual growth and movement.

LENKA DUSILOVÁ

The journey of the singer and composer Lenka Dusilová in creating her musical signature has been unusual and unique. At the turn of the millennium, Lenka was a strong figure within the Czech pop-rock mainstream. However, after years of personal maturation she decided to leave mainstream music entertainment to create a more personal and layered style. The result is surprising: she did not lose the favor of the majority of her audience and at the same time she became an icon of brave, innovative pop. Lenka Dusilová has won six angel awards (Czech equivalent of a Grammy). She has been performing for sixteen years, attracting attention for her energy, experience, and excellent vocal style. As a guest player for the band Lucie she supported the Rolling Stones (1995) in the giant Strahov stadium in Prague. She entered her mature period with the album *Mezi Světy [Between the worlds]* (2005) recorded in San Francisco, which was released in the U.S. Her songs began to be more dynamic and drawn from many styles, making good use of Lenka's tension between extroversion and introversion. Dusilová left the security of the Czech music scene and set out for a long overseas tour from Alaska to California. Her searching for new collaborators, who would share her vision of stylish open songs, resulted in the album *Eternal Seekers* (2008). She recorded it together with a clarinet quartet, *Clarinet Factory*. In *Eternal Seekers* Dusilová met with the composer and pianist Beata Hlavenková and they continue their collaboration to this day. Their common synergy of female experience and artistic vision significantly forms the music of *Baromantika*. Her personal songwriting embraces electronics, tribal beats, and the experience of jazz musicians as well as dubstep. Lenka Dusilová keeps her distinctive approach across artistic categories. In separate solo performances she experiments with a loop machine and extended large vocal techniques. With the dance theatre company, *Spitfire*, she performs *One Step Before The Fall* (2012, still in the repertory), awarded with the Herald Angel award and other prestigious awards in several countries.

TENDAYI KUUMBA

Lover of Life and the pulse that drives it, Tendayi Kuumba is an innovator, performer, dancer, singer, entertainer of the soul born in Washington, DC and raised in Buffalo, NY and Atlanta, GA. During her childhood, the battle of culture and the exposure of classical lines began to construct Tendayi's non-traditional approach to movement exploration. Trained from the age of 3 in classical Ballet, movement vocabularies of African, Contemporary Modern, and Hip Hop flowed from her pores as if they were meant to be discovered. Traveling from Buffalo to Italy and beyond, the exploration of dance, song and cultural travel have been the essence of her performance. Tendayi has performed works by artists such as Jasmine Guy, T.Lang, Dawn Axam, Jule Lane, Kyle Abraham, Doug Elkins, Laura Dean, Rae Ransom, Marjani Forte, and Laurie M. Taylor/ Soul Movement, among others. Tendayi Kuumba is a 2010 Spelman Graduate with a BA in Drama and Dance, as well as double minors in Psychology and Womens Studies. She began her choreographic journey during her years in undergrad and has gone on to produce two original works *Memoirs of Precipitation* and *Breathe*. Currently Tendayi Kuumba is a New York resident and company member of ASE Dance Theatre Collective, Liberata Dance Theater, Zifa Dance, and T. Lang Dance. She is also a former member of Axam Dance Theatre and Keen Dance Theater. She is exposing more of her vocal artistry as a local Jazz singer at the Williamsburg Music Center under the direction of Gerry Eastman as well as open mics around the New York City area. Most recently, Tendayi is bulding on her newly developed dance series/site specific performance project *Heartbeat Soundtrack* premiering Summer 2012. Tendayi Kuumba states that her motivation and love for dance and music is derived from her personal statement "my music and heartbeat are the soundtrack to my life."

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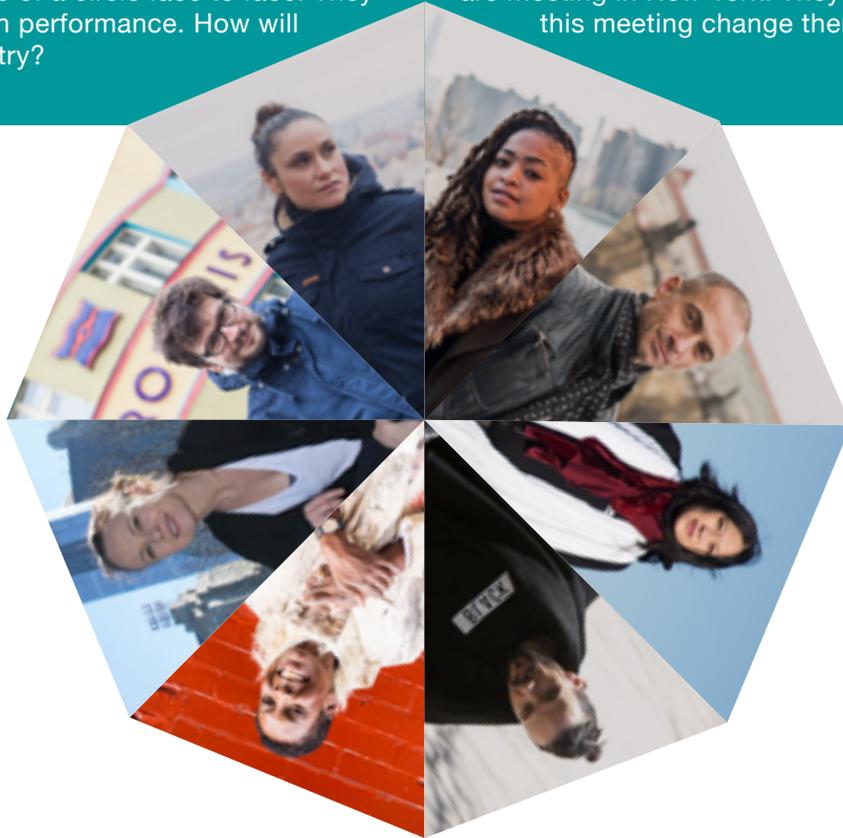
noun
something that is produced
by an agency or cause, result,
consequence.
power to produce results;
efficacy, force, validity, influence.

verb
to produce as an effect; bring
about; accomplish; make
happen.

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One Czech artist and one American artist, from different sides of the ocean, each of them from a different cultural context, each of them from a different social class, from different ethnicities, from different traditions, and different stereotypes. They are meeting on one stage. In mutual creative process they create performance duets in the middle of a circle face to face. They are meeting in New York. They will experiment and this meeting change them? What they will bring back to their country?



- 6** February JACK, BROOKLYN, NYC
8 pm World Premiere
- 7** February JACK, BROOKLYN, NYC
3 pm Matinee Performance
- 8** February Washington, D.C.
8 pm Performance and Talkback
Czech Premiere at Festival Spectaculare
- 12** February PALÁC AKROPOLIS, PRAGUE
8 pm Czech Premiere at Festival Spectaculare
- 12** February PALÁC AKROPOLIS, PRAGUE
9 pm Tendayi Kuumba Concert

Created and performed: *Lenka Dusilova & Tendayi Kuumba*
Sound engineer: *Matej Belko*
Lighting designer: *Tuce Yasak*
Lighting engineer: *Edmond Deraedt*
Artistic Supervision: *Mirenka Cechova*
Acknowledgment to Alec Duffy and the JACK.

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