

Maureen Fleming C O M P A N Y

An American choreographer and performance artist born in Japan has gained international recognition on five continents for her singular form of multi-disciplined performance.

“Transcends the material world and enters the realm of pure spirit . . . wondrous choreographic metamorphoses.”

- NEW YORK TIMES

Fleming invents exquisite movement poetry, sculpting her body into nearly unbelievable, shatteringly beautiful shapes. She pushes the boundaries of the body’s expressive potential and challenges the definition of what is physically possible. Part dance, part dream, part sculpture, Fleming explores our never-ending search for what is universal about the journey of the soul.



“The goal of my work is to reveal the transcendent through images which focus on the human body as the vehicle of transformation. I am specifically interested in finding a universal art which transcends the limits of nationality and gender, placed on us all, in an aim of discovering what is truly universal about the journey of the soul and being human.”

Maureen Fleming

C O N T A C T

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PROGRAMS

B. MADONNA Maureen Fleming's **B. MADONNA** features text by David Henry Hwang and music by Philip Glass (performed live by pianist Bruce Brubaker), original accordion music by Guy Klucevsek, and Taiko drumming by Kaoru Watanabe, this beautiful, multimedia meditation on 'miracles' juxtaposes Fleming's new and repertory works with three-dimensional video projections designed by longtime collaborator Christopher Odo.

"B. Madonna at La MaMa continually transcends theatrical expectations and constructs a state of perpetual presence... not unlike the effect of viewing the Grand Canyon or Niagara Falls... [Maureen Fleming] moves with the skill and the force of nature..."

(New York Theatre Review)

"Amazing . . . a wondrous choreographic metamorphosis."

(The New York Times)

AXIS MUNDI Fleming's critically acclaimed solo, **Axis Mundi**, explores through metaphorical images our search for transcendence whatever its form. This evening length work was recently performed in Italy's Palermo di Scena International Festival in the ruin of a 1000-year old church and Spoleto, Italy's vast Teatro Nuovo. Axis Mundi is adaptable to both conventional and unconventional spaces, museums and outdoor settings.

"Maureen Fleming brings the work out of the normal esthetic dimension of dance which does not even land in the usual theatrical narrative, but it sites it into a territory of metaphysical experience."

(La Repubblica, Italy)

WATERS OF IMMORTALITY & OTHER WORK Commissioned by World Music/CRASHarts, The Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, The National Performance Network, Fulbright Commission, Japan Foundation and Asian Cultural Council. Fleming's new multimedia creation, **Waters of Immortality & Other Works**, is a sensuous celebration of the feminine archetype, inspired by the lush symbolism of Irish poet William Butler Yeats. In lyrical, sculptural transcendence, Maureen Fleming invents surreal movement poetry, curving into shapes of shattering beauty. Japanese shakuhachi master Akikazu Nakamura provides accompaniment on the traditional bamboo flute and pianist Bruce Brubaker performs the music of Philip Glass. Fleming juxtaposes her singular movement with three-dimensional video projections and brilliant lighting by Odo.

"This is human struggle at its most metaphoric as Fleming explodes all notions of what should be physically possible. . . making her journeys poignant examples of the potency and elasticity of the human spirit."

(The Boston Globe)

"Maureen Fleming conveys more meaning in one evening than most choreographers put across in an entire career. Her "Waters of Immortality," presented last night at the Institute of Contemporary Art by CRASHarts, is inspired by Yeats but takes in the whole of the universe.

(The Boston Herald)

RESIDENCY ACTIVITIES

'REGENERATIVE' WORKSHOP/ MASTER CLASS: 'DANCING THE INTERNAL BODY'

Fleming shares with us her distinctive approach to sculptural movement, distilled into a unique approach to dance. Fleming adds alchemy and vocalization to the traditional dance techniques of strength, flexibility, and balance. In a disciplined way, she expertly guides to the deepest creative core, helping students to discover and reveal the transcendent that resides in physical form, allowing them to dance the internal body. Using the human body as the vehicle of personal transformation,

Fleming teaches students to utilize subtle movement and vocal exercises to reach the internal body. She teaches core exercises to initiate movement from the innermost layer of muscles in the body; visual metaphors to challenge the way students think and help them to move past the physical form; and massage, incorporating yoga and shiatsu techniques to increase joint flexibility and unlock blockages of energy. From this deep inner work, students access creative inspiration.

- Gain personal awareness of the alignment necessary for regenerative, sustainable movement & voice through a study of the 10 images.
- Initiate movement from the first layer of muscles in the body through a series of daily exercises, improvisation, and composition.
- Understand and experience the principles of gravity used in efficient expansive movement.
- Improve students' ability to access imagery into physical creativity and dance technique.

For over a decade Maureen Fleming Company has taught at such venues as The Juilliard School, NYU Tisch School of the Arts, Seoul Institute of the Arts, Omega Institute, Brown University, Rhode Island School of Design, and Jacob's Pillow Festival 2008.

THE CHANGING ROLE OF ART ON SOCIETY

This one hour-length presentation geared for the college level is composed of excerpts from Fleming's repertoire. Performed in a studio or a theater, these excerpts are presented with intermittent projected videos, and narratives that deal with the philosophical underpinnings of Fleming's work and process, its relationship to Japanese butoh and the changing role of art in society. This presentation, which coincides with a Q&A was developed and presented for the Colorado College and the Juilliard School Dance Division.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

2013-15 National Endowment for the Arts: Art Works
2012 NPN Performing Americas Tour: Colombia, Argentina, Uruguay
2011 National Performance Network Performing Americas Fulbright Commission-Korea
2010 National Endowment for the Humanities O'Connor Foundation
 Manhattan Cultural Council
2009 USArtists International
 Manhattan Cultural Council
2008 National Performance Network Community Fund
2007 Fulbright Commission-Korea
 National Performance Network Community Fund
 Japan Foundation: Performing Arts Japan
 Asian Cultural Council
2006 Fulbright Commission-Korea
 National Performance Network Creation Fund
2005 Fulbright Commission-Colombia
2004 National Endowment for the Arts: Creativity
 Greenwall Foundation
 Sacatar Foundation
2003 NPN Performing Americas Tour: Colombia
 Fund for US Artists at International Festivals
 Japan Foundation: Performing Arts Japan
2002 Japan Foundation: Performing Arts Japan

SELECTED ENGAGEMENTS

2015 Women of Substance Series, St. Paul, MN
2014 FILO Festival, Black Madonna, Brazil
2013 La MaMa/B Madonna Residency, NYC
2012 NPN Performing Americas Tour
 Colombia, Argentina, Uruguay
2011 Cleveland Museum of Art -VIVA! Series, Ohio
 Teatro San Nicolò, Spoleto, Italy
2010 Goodrich Theater, SUNY Oneonta, NY
 Kazuo Ohno Studio, Yokohama, Japan
 Seoul Institute of the Arts, South Korea
2009 Cleveland Museum of Art -VIVA! Series, Ohio
 Contemporary Dance Theatre, Cincinnati, OH
 University of Cincinnati CCM, Cincinnati, OH
 Brown University/RISD, Providence, RI
 Mercado Cultural, Salvador Brazil
2008 Jacob's Pillow Festival, Becket, MA
 Seoul Institute of the Arts, South Korea
 Symphony Space, New York, NY
2007 Institute of Contemporary Art Theater,
 World Music-CRASHarts, Boston
 Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, Vermont
 Kaatsbaan Int'l Dance Center Tivoli, NY
2006 Fulbright Scholar, South Korea
 Fall for Dance, City Center NYC
2005 VI Mercado Cultural, Bahia, Brazil
 FILO Festival, Londrina, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
 Int'l Theater Festival Manizales, Colombia
 Kaatsbaan Int'l Dance Center Tivoli, NY
2004 Emerson Majestic Theater, Boston, MA
 University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA
 La MaMa Annex Theater, New York, NY
2003 Teatro Nuovo, Spoleto, Italy
 Int'l Theater Festival Manizales, Colombia
 Danza Contemporanea, Barranquilla/Medellin, Colombia
 International Festival of Seoul, Seoul, Korea
 The Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, VT
2002 Emerson Majestic Theater, Boston, MA
 Kyoto Arts Center, Kyoto, Japan
 Contemporary Dance Theatre, Cincinnati, OH
 IV Mercado Cultural, Bahia, Brazil
2001 Kazuo Ohno Studio, Yokohama, Japan

2001 Fund for US Artists at International Festivals
 National Endowment for the Arts: Creativity
 NEA-Japan/US Creative Artists' Commission
 Fund for US Artists at International Festivals
 National Performance Network Creation Fund
2000 New England Foundation for the Arts: Touring
1999 New England Foundation for the Arts: Touring
 Fund for US Artists at International Festivals
1998 Rockefeller Foundation M.A.P. Grant
1997 New England Foundation: National Dance Project
 Rockefeller Foundation: Multi-Arts Production Fund
 NYSCA: 1996 - 1997 (Decentralization)
 NY Foundation for the Arts: Performance Art
1996 Fund for US Artists at International Festivals
 National Performance Network Creation Fund
1995 Fund for US Artists at International Festivals
 National Endowment for the Arts Choreography
1994 Fund for US Artists at International Festivals
 National Endowment for the Arts: Choreography
1993 Fund for US Artists at International Festivals
1992 Meet the Composer/Composer-Choreographer Project
1991 Dewar's Profile Performance Arts Award
1990 New York Foundation for the Arts/Performance Art
 Asian Cultural Council
1980 Creative Artists Program Service (NYFA) Choreography

Saison Foundation, Tokyo, Japan
 Bogota/Medellin Colombia, 01 Festival
 NYU Tisch School of the Arts
2000 UC Santa Cruz, CA
 'Mandala', Reykjavik, Iceland
 The Juilliard School Residency
1999 Dance Center of Columbia College, Chicago
 Virginia Museum of Fine Art
 Babson College, MA
 The Juilliard School
 Germany: Oldenburg Internationale Ballett-Tage
 Bogota/Medellin Columbia, 99 Festival
1998 The Kitchen, NYC
 Five College Dance Dept., U of Mass., Amherst, MA
 Medellin, Colombia, 98 Festival
 La Mama Umbria Spoleto, Italy
 Cleveland Museum of Art
1997 NYU Tisch School of the Arts Residency
 Italy: Palermo di Scena International Festival
 Germany: Tollwood Festival, Munich
 Russia: MIMOS '97 Festival
1996 Pittsburgh Dance Council
 Franco Parenti Theater, Milan, Italy
 Iceland: Reykjavik Arts Festival
 92nd St Y Harkness Dance Project, NY
 Maison Des Cultures du Monde, Paris
 France: International Mime Festival in Perigueux
1995 Italy: Spoleto Festival
 Mexico: Jose Limon Dance Festival
 San Francisco Butoh Festival
 Philadelphia Museum
 New Arts Festival, Fort Myers, FL
1994 NYU Tisch School of the Arts Residency
 Bates Dance Festival, Lewiston, ME
 Italy: Milano d'Estate International Festival
1993 Italy: Milan Oltre Festival
 Italy: International Festival Voyage A Roma
 Italy: Modena Bosch Festival
1992 Cleveland Performance Art Festival
 Pittsburgh Dance Council
1991 LaMaMa E.T.C., NY with Yoshito Ohno



“Maureen Fleming gives birth to a new vision of the body.”

Ballet Tanz International, Germany

“Maureen Fleming uses her remarkably pliable body the way a painter wields a brush, transporting us by the power of her images to new realms of myth and meaning.”

Ivan Sygoda

“Fleming is a sensational discovery, one of the rare, aesthetic emotions in recent years... How beautiful it is to roam in the land between theater and dance, because when one of its authentic creatures is found, the dream becomes natural, essential and infinitely thrilling.”

La Repubblica, Italy



“There is an old saying: the body doesn't lie. But that doesn't really go far enough. There are times – and the Bates Dance Festival was one of them – when the body tells a truth so deep that it transforms the way we look at life itself. With stillness, strength and the naked force of one body, Fleming took on the very essence of being.”

Portland Herald Press, Maine

“Watching choreographer and performer Maureen Fleming is like watching a magician. She demands that we suspend our rational beliefs. Her solo work Eros astounded the audience with stunning imagery. It was part dance, part sculpture, and part dream.”

The Baltimore Sun



“This remarkable performer turns struggle into something calm and ordered.”

The Village Voice

“This is human struggle at its most metaphoric as Fleming explodes all notions of what should be physically possible . . . making her journeys poignant examples of the potency and elasticity of the human spirit.”

The Boston Globe

“A sensation of danger, of a violence, of a revelation still remains there: that mixing of life and death, of image and flesh...that make us a human being, and that Fleming's courage opens for a moment into a fascinating and hypnotic wound.”

La Repubblica, Italy



“Sometimes, as you watch Maureen Fleming perform it's hard to believe your eyes . . . exhilarating.”

The Boston Globe

“The theme was evocative and mysterious and the performance was provocative and amazing...Fleming has perfected an unmistakable personal style, discovering dance with the allure of ancient myth, and a body capable of being sculpted into a new form.”

RAI National Television, Italy

“She seemed to transcend the material world and enter a realm of pure spirit . . . a wondrous choreographic metamorphosis.”

The New York Times