

TAMI STRONACH DANCE



TSD views every engagement as an opportunity to re-imagine an existing work. It is my feeling that dances should be reinvented in relationship to their context so that I can offer the best version of the work for the setting in which it will be viewed. The company is committed to a flexible and collaborative approach when working with theaters, universities and festivals.

Please contact Tami Stronach to discuss what workshops and or performance packages best suits your needs.

"Stronach is a choreographic doctor of the human condition, who knows what she is saying and who is worth following. Her medicine is potent. We are privileged to experience some of the best performances, by some of the best performers that downtown modern dance has to offer." - Dance Insider

COMPANY DESCRIPTION



Stronach creates magical, illusory worlds musing on life's ordinary struggles. Her well designed choreography brings into sharp focus the many contradictions of the human condition. Her pieces are emotionally charged and incorporate a European flair while retaining a humorous undercurrent. Expressive narrative content permeates her idiosyncratic and virtuosic movement vocabulary. Stronach works collaboratively with her performers following in the ensemble tradition out of which she grew. The biggest influence on her work in any given piece are the people in the room and the unique alchemy generated by those minds and bodies.

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The Company performs a variety of programs including three full evening length works with a dramatic through-line as well as shorter selections that are appropriate for festivals, shared evenings and galas. TSD has performed at over twenty venues in NYC including sold out seasons at Danspace Project at Saint Marks Church, The Here Art Center, Dance New Amsterdam, La MaMa Etc., Galapagos Art Center, The Williamsburg Arts Nexus, Washington Square Church, The Next Stage, Context Studios, Dixon Place, and BAX. Additional engagements include performing at Dance Theater Workshop, Joyce Soho, The Cunningham Studio, Joe's Pub, The Flea, The Brick, Studio Air, Movement Research at Jusdon Church, PS122, and University Settlement. TSD was a company in residence at the Here Arts Center in 2006. The company will be developing new work for their upcoming season at Danspace Project at Saint Marks Church in the fall of 2008.

TSD has toured to over ten states domestically as well as jumping across the pond to England and Australia. TSD has set repertory on Rhoad Islands' Island Moving Company in 2006 and will be returning to create a new work for them in the spring of 2008. The company is also currently in dialogue with Ramapo College and an Israeli tour is in development.

Stronach is the recipient of numerous awards including The Thayer Fellowship for excellence in choreography, multiple grants from the Brooklyn Arts Council, and the Manhattan Arts Council. TSD has received strong support from the Puffin Foundation, Bossek Heilbron Charitable Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation.

ARTSISTIC DIRECTOR



Tami Stronach was born to archeologist parents, a British father and an Israeli mother, and spent her early years in Iran before settling in the US. She formed her company Tami Stronach Dance, TSD, in 2000 to create a new dance language from her extensive artistic influences—which include dance, theater, vocal work and film. TSD has been on the forefront of reviving dance theater in the downtown New York arena, and has been presented at major New York City venues, including Danspace Project, Dance Theater Workshop, PS122, Joyce Soho and Dance New Amsterdam to critical acclaim. Stronach has also been commissioned to create choreography for schools and theater companies /festivals including The Berkshire Theater Festival, Ramapo College, Sabooge Theater Company, The Flying Machine, Target Margin and The Human Co.

"The inside of Tami Stronach's head must be an interesting place to visit. Ideas, images, styles must be constantly waltzing around, changing partners, flying apart, and re-cementing themselves oddly... Entrancing work."

-Village Voice, Deborah Jowitz

She was a featured performer with Neta Pulvermacher touring domestically as well as internationally to Poland and Costa Rica from 1996-2003. While dancing for the Neta Dance Company, Stronach had the opportunity to co-write, with Neta, many of the songs created for The Orchid Show as well as to perform as a guest singer with the Jazz Passengers.

As a dancer Stronach chose to work with independent choreographers who value the collaborative process. She was a featured performer with Neta Pulvermacher touring domestically as well as internationally to Poland and Costa Rica from 1995-2000. She had the opportunity to co-write the songs for Neta's The Orchid Show and perform as a guest singer with Deborah Harry's Jazz Passengers. She also danced for Monica Bill Barnes from 2000-2003, performing at Danspace Project at Saint Marks Church for two seasons, Lincoln Center Institute, Judson Church and PPOW Gallery.

Her theater background includes working with the renowned Flying Machine theater company during its critical years when it grew to be regularly presented by the prestigious Soho Repertory Theater of Manhattan for six week runs and toured extensively to Arizona, Colorado, Florida, throughout the Northeast and Alaska. Joshua Carlebach, one of the Co-Artistic Directors of The Flying Machine, recently cast Stronach in his short film The Fisherman. As a child actor, she starred in the Warner Brothers Feature Film The Never Ending Story as the Childlike Empress.

She has been teaching ballet and yoga in NYC for a decade and has guest taught workshops in Movement for Actors at the Stella Adler Studio and Battle Ranch. She will be a guest teacher at UCLA and Dance New Amsterdam in January 2008 and at the University of Florida in February 2008. She currently works as a Teaching Artist for The Lincoln Center Institute.

Tami Stronach graduated Cum Laude from SUNY Purchase Collage with a BFA in Dance and spent her junior year at the London Contemporary School of Dance and at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. She studied acting with Uta Hagen protégé, Laura Esterman, at HB Studios from 1996-1999 as well as clown and neutral mask with The Flying Machine prior to joining the company.

FOUR PROGRAM OPTIONS



The Maid and the Marmalade

9 dancers/55 minutes

In Stronach's visually striking dance theater work, *The Maid and the Marmalade*, the stale office routine of an Editor and a Maid is interrupted by the arrival of a passionate red letter. The red letter unlocks a flood of emotions that upsets their well-ordered environment. Despite the Editor's best efforts to keep a business as usual attitude, he cannot bring himself to revise the red letter and do his job. More and more mail accumulates on his desk. The usually efficient Maid begins dozing off on the job and the Editor finds that he has stumbled to work in his pajamas. As their world unravels, statues come alive, buried dreams dig their way into the waking world, and memories dance.



Contain yourself, darling.

4 dancers/50 minutes

Peculiar circus-like imagery abounds in *Contain yourself, darling*. A woman hidden in the folds of a long winter coat is mortally afraid of leaving her nest -which is a claw-foot bathtub. Each time we meet the woman in the bathtub, she has a proclivity to cough up or shed large quantities of feathers. A different woman entangled in a frantic movement cycle tries to shake herself to sanity, while yet another tries to combat a loss of control by methodically organizing the limbs of her dance partner. In this fantastical female quartet, themes of shedding, revealing and self-imposed confinement climax with a snow globe finale where feathers flood the stage.



**Pinchas, the Fish-People,
and the Great Flood**
8 dancers/60 minutes

Dancers, actors, and puppets spin "Noah's Ark" by focusing on a few lost souls, left off the boat. Primarily, Pinchas, (Noah's bitter neighbor) and a family of fish people, Mermaids, who's ancient spawning grounds have been drowned by the rising tides. Through precarious intertwined adventures they endure the deluge. The Fish people, threatened with extinction, rely on a trunk they cast to sea, which carries their offspring and last hopes. Pinchas, braving the ocean, finds that fate may bring salvation in the guise of that strange trunk and the tiny new life inside.



**Yes. No...maybe.
Can I have some water?**
2 dancers/15 minutes

The piece is a darkly humorous exploration of the foreboding, snarly, competitive, complex, and often bizarre world of human relationships. Childish games expose adult longings. The work combines highly physical partnering with theatrical vignettes as well as live singing with an onstage one-man band.

PERFORMANCE HISTORY

2008

DATE TBA	COMMISSION	DANSPACE PROJECT AT SAINT MARKS CHURCH
SPRING	COMMISSION	THE ISLAND MOVING COMPANY
SPRING	COMMISSION	RAMAPO COLLEGE "ONE TOUCH OF VENUS"
FEBRUARY	TEACHING	UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
JANUARY	TEACHING	DANCE NEW AMSTERDAM (DNA)

2007

OCTOBER	PERFORMANCE	FRESHLY TOSSED FESTIVAL NYC
SEPTEMBER	PERFORMANCE	WELLNESS CONFERENCE AT NYC BALLET
AUGUST	TEACHING	VERTIGO DANCE CO. SUMMER WORKSHOP
	CHOREOGRAPHY	THE HUMAN COMPANY'S "ORPHEUS"
MAY	PERFORMANCE	CUNNINGHAM STUDIO, "CONTAIN YOURSELF"
APRIL	PERFORMANCE	RHODE ISLAND: EXCERPTS "CONTAIN YOURSELF"
	TSD ANNUAL SEASON	DANCE NEW AMSTERDAM
MARCH	PERFORMANCE	DANCEMOPOLITAN JOE'S PUB "THE MAID"
JANUARY	PERFORMANCE	HERE ART CENTER "CULTUREMART" "PINCHAS"

2006

SEPTEMBER	PERFORMANCE	DANCENOW FESTIVAL @ DANCE THEATER
	PERFORMANCE	WORKSHOP EXCERPTS FROM "PINCHAS"
AUGUST	TOURING	AUSTRALIA "THE MAID" & "CONTAIN YOURSELF"
JULY	PERFORMANCE	LA MAMA MOVES! DANCE FESTIVAL:
	PERFORMANCE	EXCERPTS FROM "PINCHAS"
	TOURING	NEWPORT FESTIVAL, RHODE ISLAND
MAY	PERFORMANCE	GALAPAGOS BROOKLYN, "PINCHAS"
	PERFORMANCE	HERE ART CENTER, "PINCHAS"
	PERFORMANCE	THE A.W.A.R.D. SHOW @ JOYCE SOHO "PINCHAS"
APRIL	TOUR	EXCERPTS FROM "THE MAID" AND "CONTAIN YOURSELF"
MARCH	PERFORMANCE	LA MAMA ETC., NYC "PINCHAS"
	PERFORMANCE	THE BRICK, BROOKLYN "PINCHAS"
JANUARY	PERFORMANCE	DANCEMOPOLITAN @ JOE'S PUB "THE MAID"

2005

OCTOBER	PERFORMANCE	WAX BRIDGE WORK @ UNIVERSITY SETTLEMENT
	PERFORMANCE	DIXON PLACE "WORK IN PROGRESS NEW MATERIAL"
JULY	PERFORMANCE	CLAMENTO SOTO VALEZ "CONTAIN YOURSELF"
MAY	TSD ANNUAL SEASON	DANSPACE PROJECT
APRIL	PERFORMANCE	SUNY PURCHASE COLLEGE "THE MAID"
FEBRUARY	PERFORMANCE	THE FLEA'S DANCE CONVERSATIONS "THE MAID"



"Stronach's dances are full of direct, expressive dancing highlighted by the performance of Stronach herself. Her choreography is carried by each of her dancers' personalities and brims with communication. A combination of acting and movement invention that is immediately inclusive, always reaching beyond the fourth wall." -Dance Insider, Chris Dose

As a teacher my goal is to encourage each dancer to dive deeper into their individual way of moving while simultaneously nurturing their ability to notice and physicalize the details of intricate choreography. Paradoxically it is through integrating such details that our unique attributes are revealed and we are freed to become more fully ourselves while dancing-How does the performer marry precision with abandon?

MODERN DANCE CLASS DESCRIPTION:

Class begins on the floor so that we can drop our weight into the ground while simultaneously being supported as we open the body. We then move in a yoga based warm up that incorporates the essentials of a basic barre. The second half of class is dedicated to learning a juicy dance phrase. Ample time will be given to investigate the material inside and out so movement qualities can be identified, dynamic choices can be investigated, and new physical connections can emerge.

MOVEMENT FOR ACTORS:

Movement workshops involve a combination of physical warm up, vocal warm up, and theater games that ready the body to respond authentically and dynamically to the moment. I then devise exercises designed to encourage actors to recognize the power of the body to speak volumes about character and/or a scene. We consider how spacing, facings, texture and gesture can be manipulated and rearranged to infer different moods and meanings. Each workshop is tailored for the participants keeping in mind the groups goals for self-expression and self-expansion through movement.

NEW YORK CITY BALLET WORKOUT:

This one-hour class was created by The New York City Ballet to provide a safe and physically vigorous workout for adult students of all levels. Music for the ballet combinations is taken from the New York City Ballet repertory.

PRESS QUOTES

the **DANCE**
i n s i d e r

"Stronach is a choreographic doctor of the human condition, who knows what she is saying and who is worth following. Her medicine is potent... We are privileged to experience some of the best performances, by some of the best performers that downtown modern dance has to offer" - **The Dance Insider, Philip Sandstrom**

village **VOICE**

The inside of Tami Stronach's head must be an interesting place to visit. Ideas, images, styles must be constantly waltzing around, changing partners, flying apart, and re-cementing themselves oddly. An entrancing work."
- **Village Voice, Deborah Jowitt**

The New York Times

"Voluptuously writhing dances... Both works were genuinely witty... They certainly gave evidence of her choreographic intelligence." - **NY Times, by Jack Anderson**

village **VOICE**

"Stronach constructs her kookily elegant and imaginative pieces with care... In weighted, slightly gawky, never ordinary movement."
- **Village Voice, Deborah Jowitt**

OFFOFFOFF

"Clouds of downy white billow around the elegant slapstick of Tami Stronach's Contain Yourself, Darling... Graceful, sweeping movements kick dramatic flurries into the air, and the commingling of bodies, breezes and Brownian motion is breathtaking." - **OffOffOff.com, Joshua Tanzer**

the **DANCE**
i n s i d e r

"Stronach's dances are full of direct, expressive dancing highlighted by the performance of Stronach herself. Her choreography is carried by each of her dancers' personalities and brims with communication. A combination of acting and movement invention that is immediately inclusive, always reaching beyond the fourth wall. Stronach's craft is always assured." - **Dance insider, Chris Dose**

DANSPACE PROJECT

131 EAST 10TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10003
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WWW.DANSPACEPROJECT.ORG

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I AM WRITING THIS LETTER TO LET YOU KNOW THAT IT HAS BEEN MY PLEASURE TO WORK WITH TAMI STRONACH. IN MAY 2005, DANSPACE PROJECT PRESENTED AN EVENING OF HER WORK AS PART OF OUR CITY/DANS SERIES.

AFTER WATCHING STRONACH PERFORM OUSTANDINGLY WITH SEVERAL NEW YORK CHOREOGRAPHERS, I FIRST BECAME FAMILIAR WITH HER OWN WORK IN 2003 WHEN I SAW CONTAIN YOURSELF, DARLING AT THE WILLIAMSBURG ARTS NEXUS. CONVINCED OF HER CHOREOGRAPHIC TALENT, SHE WAS INVITED TO CREATE A NEW WORK FOR A SEASON AT DANSPACE IN 2004-05. INCLUDED ON THAT PROGRAM WAS THE MAID AND THE MARMALADE, WHICH RECEIVED SUPPORT FROM DANSPACE PROJECT'S COMMISSIONING INITIATIVE.

MS. STRONACH'S INTELLIGENT DANCES ARE UNIQUE IN THE WAY THEY MINE THE BORDER BETWEEN THEATER AND DANCE. HER IDEAS ARE ORIGINAL AND HONEST, WHILE HER MOVEMENT VOCABULARY IS LUSH AND INVENTIVE. THE STRIKING IMAGES SHE LEAVES BEHIND ARE MEMORABLE. MS. STRONACH WORKS WITH SOME OF THE BEST ACTORS AND DANCERS "DOWNTOWN," WHO ADD TO THE POWER OF THE WORK WITH THEIR EXQUISITE EXECUTION. SHE IS VERY PROFESSIONAL AND A DELIGHT TO WORK WITH. THE DANSPACE PROJECT STAFF WAS UNIFORMLY POSITIVE ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCE WITH HER. IT IS OUR HOPE THAT SHE WILL RETURN TO DANSPACE IN THE 2006-07 SEASON.

TAMI STRONACH'S PROMISE AS AN IMPORTANT EMERGING TALENT IN THE DANCE COMMUNITY IS APPARENT. I ENCOURAGE YOU AND YOUR INSTITUTION TO SUPPORT HER EFFORTS TO CREATE NEW WORK, AS HER DISTINCT VOICE DESERVES TO BE DEVELOPED AND SHARED WITH AUDIENCES.

PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT ME IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR WOULD LIKE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

SINCERELY,

Laurie Uprichard

LAURIE UPRICHARD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RECOMMENDATIONS



15 DIVISION STREET
4TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, NY 10002
COMPANY@THEFLYINGMACHINE.ORG

TO WHOM THIS MAY CONCERN

I WRITE THIS LETTER IN SUPPORT OF TAMI STRONACH'S PROPOSAL TO YOUR FOUNDATION. I HAVE HAD THE DISTINCT PLEASURE OF WORKING CLOSELY WITH TAMI FOR THE LAST SIX YEARS WITH MY THEATER COMPANY THE FLYING MACHINE. TAMI IS A HIGHLY CREATIVE PERFORMER WITH A DEEP COMMITMENT TO HER CRAFT. SHE WORKS HARDER THAN ANYONE I KNOW AND HER WORK ATTESTS TO IT. SHE'S SKILLED AS BOTH A DANCER AND ACTOR AND HER UNIQUE VIEWPOINT AS A CHOREOGRAPHER REFLECTS HER VARIED TALENTS. I WOULDN'T HESITATE FOR A MOMENT IN RECOMMENDING TO YOU THAT SHE RECEIVE SUPPORT FOR HER CREATIVE EFFORTS. I CAN BE REACH AT 917 554-5713 IF YOU'VE ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS.

SINCERELY,

Joshua Carlebach

JOSHUA CARLEBACH
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

RECOMMENDATIONS

WAX

DEAR SIR/MADAM:

MY NAME IS MARISA BEATTY, AND I AM WRITING YOU TO RECOMMEND MS. TAMI STRONACH.

I AM A FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE WILLIAMSBURG ART NEXUS (WAX) IN BROOKLYN, NY. OUR ORGANIZATION WAS FORMED IN JANUARY 2000 TO PROVIDE AN AFFORDABLE AND PROFESSIONAL REHEARSAL SPACE AND PERFORMANCE VENUE, AND TO SUPPORT AND PROMOTE THE NEXT GENERATION OF ARTISTS CREATING IN THE NEW YORK CITY ARE. IT IS IN THIS CAPACITY THAT WE WERE FIRST EXPOSED TO THE WORK OF MS. STRONACH. SINCE THAT TIME, I HAVE HAD THE PLEASURE TO NOT ONLY WATCH HER CHOREOGRAPHIC SKILLS DEVELOP, BUT ALSO TO PRESENT HER WORK IN A PUBLIC SETTING.

MS. STRONACH'S TALENTS AS A DANCER, CREATOR, DIRECTOR AND CHOREOGRAPHER FAR SURPASSTHOSE OF MOST OF THE ARTISTS WE HAVE BEEN INVOLVE WITH IN THE HISTORY OF OUR ORGANIZATION. AS A PERFORMER, HER TECHNICAL ACUMEN AND HIGHLY DEDICATED PERFORMANCE QUALITIES MARK HER AS A DANCER WHO KEEPS AUDIENCES UTTERLY TRANSFIXED. AS A CHOREOGRAPHER AND DIRECTOR, HER ENERGY, HONESTY AND EXTRAORDINARY CAPACITY TO SCULPT MOVEMENT IS INSPIRING.

I HAVE ALSO BEEN IMPRESSED BY MS. STRONACH'S ABILITY TO COMBINE HER ARTISTIC KNOWLEDGE BASE WITH A THOUGHTFUL SENSITIVITY TO HER CULTURAL HERITAGE RESULTING UNIQUE AND TOUCHING WORKS OF ART. ARTISTS OF HER TALENT AND DIRECTION ARE RARE TO FIND.

I HIGHLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU CONSIDER SUPPORTING HER WORK BOTH NOW AND IN THE FUTURE.

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME IF I CAN BE OF FURTHER ASSISTANCE.

SINCERELY

Marisa Beatty

MARISA BEATTY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
WILLIAMSBURG ART NEXUS (WAX)