

# Lincoln Center Festival

June 13, 2011

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***Portraits in Dramatic Time (World premiere)***  
**Conceived and directed by David Michalek**  
**Motion Portraits of Actors**  
**Outdoor Video Installation**

**July 5–July 31, daily from 8:45 p.m. to 11:45 p.m.**

**Lincoln Center's Josie Robertson Plaza**, facade of David H. Koch Theater, 63<sup>rd</sup> Street and Columbus Avenue

**FREE**

A new, large-scale public art installation by visual artist **David Michalek** will once-again transform Lincoln Center's main plaza into an outdoor gallery for thousands of performance goers, visitors and passersby from **July 5 through July 31** as part of *Lincoln Center Festival 2011*. ***Portraits in Dramatic Time***, commissioned by Lincoln Center, will feature hyper-slow-motion video performance-portraits by an international array of well- and lesser-known, international film and theater actors displayed on a screen measuring 85 ft. wide by 45 ft. high hung on the front facade of the David H. Koch Theater. The installation will be on view from 8:45 p.m. to 11:45 p.m.

*Portraits in Dramatic Time* continues Michalek's use of extreme-slow-motion video portraiture begun with the critically-acclaimed *Slow Dancing*, also installed on the Koch Theater's facade which premiered at *Lincoln Center Festival 2007*. Since its premiere, *Slow Dancing* has traveled internationally to 14 cities.

David Michalek shoots the subjects of *Portraits in Dramatic Time* using ultra-high speed, high-definition cameras. The camera is fixed and the live action scene is recorded for a duration of 10-15 seconds (deleted) at several thousand frames a second. The result is a glacially-paced film of 6-7 minutes in length. Within the hyper-slow playback, projected larger-than-life above Lincoln Center's main plaza, that the specific and greatly varying techniques brought forth by each performer—and the emotions they embody—will be seen in a startling, new way.

The subjects chosen for *Portraits* are all virtuoso artists drawn from a range of film and theater practice. Just as the subjects of *Slow Dancing* covered the spectrum of dance, from ballet and modern dance to traditional and folk dance from around the world to contemporary forms such as voguing, krumping, and break-dancing, so the actors filmed for *Portraits* represent a range of performance genres, from Broadway to avant-garde and experimental theater, Chinese opera to world cinema.

**Artists featured in *Portraits in Dramatic Time***

Reed Birney  
Sarita Choudhury  
Elizabeth A. Davis  
Maria Dizzia  
Carmen Ejogo  
Alvin Epstein

Alessandra Ferri  
Julianna Francis-Kelly  
Craig Hall  
Gabriella Hámori  
Martin Harvey  
Jayne Houdyshell  
Holly Hunter  
Jennifer Ikeda  
Marin Ireland  
Sachiyo Ito  
Marianne Jean-Baptiste  
David Patrick Kelly  
Pavel Kriz  
Louise Lecavalier  
Los Angeles Poverty Department (Ronnie Walker, Austin Hines, Riccarlo Porter)  
Savannah Lowery  
Patti LuPone  
William H. Macy  
Maria Majoli  
Ruth Maleczech  
William Mapother  
Marlo Marron  
Caitlin McDonough-Thayer  
Elizabeth McDonough-Thayer  
Jon Morris  
Savitry Nair  
National Theatre of the Deaf (Claudia Liolios, Ian Sanborn)  
Sophia Pavonetti  
Vincent Pavonetti  
Fulya Peker  
Alison Pill  
Sam Poon  
William Poon  
Rajika Puri  
Radiohole (Maggie Hoffman, Kourtney Rutherford, Erin Douglass, Eric Dyer, Mark Jaynes, Jim Findlay)  
Ana Reeder  
Roger Rees  
Alan Rickman  
Ludivine Sagnier  
Catalina Sandino Moreno  
Jay Scheib Company (Mikeah Ernest Jennings, Ayesha Ngaujah, Tanya Selvaratnam)  
Scott Shepherd  
Shantala Shivalingappa  
Liev Schreiber  
SITI Company (J.Ed Araiza, Ellen Lauren, Akiko Aizawa, GM Gianino)  
Lili Taylor  
Thaiwanese Likay Street Theatre (Boonporn Poonlumert, Watcharaphong Soongpankhao, Sarayut Phetsamrit)  
Natalie Thomas  
Qian Yi

*Artists subject to change*

Each scene-portrait is developed as an independent work by Michalek in collaboration with the subject. While some scenes have been crafted in improvised collaboration with the actor-subjects, others have been inspired by an icon of history and art or a character in a well-known play or film. The artists act out theatrical scenes that express their specific technique, genre and personas, enhanced with costumes, production design, makeup and lighting.

In *Portraits in Dramatic Time*, like its predecessor *Slow Dancing*, Michalek is engaging in what is an original approach to time-based filmic portraiture. While both of these works carry on a conversation with a body of prior and related work such as Andy Warhol's *Screen Tests*, Bill Viola's *The Passions*, and Robert Wilson's *Voom Portraits*, Michalek has carved out a unique niche for himself.

*Slow Dancing* was an outdoor, public, multi-channel video installation of hyper-slow-motion portraits of 45 dancers and choreographers from around the world. *Slow Dancing* was seen at Paris' Opera Bastille, the Venice Biennale, London's Trafalgar Square, and the Los Angeles Music Center. Reviewing the work at Lincoln Center, *The New York Times* wrote, "An unforgettable dance-meets-film-technology evening. Each dance contains its own revelation of energy, phrasing, stillness and style; and the juxtaposition, different on each nights...is always enthralling."

**David Michalek** is an artist who takes the concept and techniques of portraiture as the starting points for the creation of his works, on both a large and small-scale, in a range of mediums. His focus over the past ten years has been closely tied to his interest in relational aesthetics—specifically using performative and interactive techniques—storytelling, dialogue, movement—relying on the input and responses of others—subjects, collaborators, and audience—as integral to both the creation and the experience of his art. Early in his career, he worked as assistant to noted photographer Herb Ritts. In 1991, he began his professional photographic career and worked regularly as a portrait artist for publications such as *The New Yorker*, *Vanity Fair*, *Interview*, and *Vogue*. Beginning in the mid-1990s, Michalek began experimenting with performance and installation, and developing large-scale, multi-dimensional projects. He has collaborated with director Peter Sellars on two staged works: *Kafka Fragments* and *St. François d' Assise*. Other film and video work for theater includes collaborations with The Tallis Scholars; John Malpede and L.A.P.D.; and with the Brooklyn Philharmonic in a project for The Brooklyn Museum's "Music Off the Walls" series. Michalek's installations, mixed-media projects and public art have been shown nationally and internationally, including at Lincoln Center, Brooklyn Museum, LA Music Center, Paris Opera Bastille, Venice Biennale, Sadler's Wells, Luminato Festival, Jacob's Pillow, Yale University, and The Kitchen. He is a visiting faculty member at Yale Divinity School, where he lectures on religion and the arts. David Michalek lives in New York with his wife Wendy Whelan, principal dancer of New York City Ballet.

Commissioned by Lincoln Center Festival 2011.

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**Lincoln Center Festival 2011** runs from July 5 through August 14 and features 116 performances by ensembles and artists from some 20 countries, and will include six World, North American, U.S., and New York premieres unfolding in seven venues on and off the Lincoln Center campus:

**Royal Shakespeare Company** performs five Shakespeare plays—*As You Like It*, *Julius Caesar*, *King Lear*, *Romeo and Juliet* and *The Winter's Tale*—in a six-week residency at the Park Avenue Armory July 6-August 14

**The Cleveland Orchestra**, music director Franz Welser-Möst, *Bruckner: (R)evolution*, performances of Symphonies Nos. 5, 7, 8 (the original 1887 version), and No. 9, juxtaposed with works by John Adams, including his Violin Concerto played by Leila Josefowicz July 13, 14, 16, 17

U.S. premiere of Director **Peter Brook's** *A Magic Flute* the director's adaptation of Mozart's opera created for his Paris-based **Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord** July 5-17

The **Druid Theatre Company** performs Seán O'Casey's classic drama *The Silver Tassie*, directed by Tony Award-winner Garry Hynes July 24-31

**Royal Danish Opera** offers U.S. Premiere of Poul Ruders' opera *Selma Jezková* based on Lars von Trier's original screenplay for the film *Dancer in the Dark*; and Royal Danish Orchestra performs an orchestral concert and an evening of chamber music July 28-30

**Amon Miyamoto** directs U.S. Premiere of Yukio Mishima's *The Temple of the Golden Pavilion* July 21-24

**Merce Fair**, a day-long immersion in performances, workshops, video and art installations, celebrates the artistry of choreographer Merce Cunningham July 16

Influential Brazilian singer-songwriter **Tom Zé** makes rare U.S. concert appearance July 19

**David Michalek's** large-scale, **outdoor video installation**, *Portraits in Dramatic Time*, will be shown each evening on Josie Robertson Plaza. July 5-31

Visit [LincolnCenterFestival.org](http://LincolnCenterFestival.org) for more details and to purchase tickets.

### **INFORMATION AND UPDATES**

Visit [LincolnCenter.org](http://LincolnCenter.org) and register for "My Lincoln Center" to request a *Festival* brochure, receive program updates, and information on other Lincoln Center programs and events.

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*Lincoln Center Festival* is a presentation of Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Inc. (LCPA), which serves three primary roles: presenter of superb artistic programming, national leader in arts and education and community relations, and manager of the Lincoln Center campus. As a presenter of over 400 events annually, LCPA's programs include *American Songbook*, *Great Performers*, *Lincoln Center Out of Doors*, *Midsummer Night Swing*, the *Mostly Mozart Festival*, *Tully Scope Festival*, *White Light Festival*, and *Live From Lincoln Center*. In addition, LCPA is nearing completion on a major transformation initiative to fully modernize its concert halls and public spaces, renew its 16-acre campus, and reinforce its vitality for decades to come.

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Programs, artists and prices subject to change

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