

Minds in Motion

Choreographers talk candidly about their dancers' contributions, the impact of music, and projects on the horizon.

DONNA UCHIZONO

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ON DANCERS A lot of time I will "throw" material at the dancers and they will "catch" whatever essence they got from it. I'll look at the caught material and make a phrase from there. I consider the dancers collaborators. They are absolutely integral to the work, and contribute to it as much as I do.

ON MUSIC Sometimes I let the composer have carte blanche. Sometimes I am very specific about the sounds and the instruments—I say I want a violin, or I want it to be romantic. Sometimes I will take a piece of music they've written and play with it or rearrange it. Other times I have no idea what the music should be.

LATEST PROJECT I am creating a new full-length piece—working title: *As eye see it*—to premiere at Dance Theater Workshop in October. It's based on the Buddhist concept of emptiness and theories of Quantum physics. The opening is two performers sitting on a ladder dressed in white, doing arm gestures. Life-size projections of themselves doing the movement are projected onto them. It looks like a hologram. It's playing with what is real and what is our perception.

By Annie Leibovitz/Contact Press Images. Courtesy of the artist

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