

Liz Gerring Dance Company
Presents the World Premiere of *Lichtung/Clearing*
At the Baryshnikov Arts Center
Howard Gilman Performance Space
March 11–14, 2010

Updated / March 9, 2010 – **Liz Gerring Dance Company's** new work, *Lichtung/Clearing*, is an evening-length dance set within a layered visual and sound environment. Conceived and choreographed by **Liz Gerring**, *Lichtung/Clearing* includes a live multichannel electronic score and live multichannel video projections by longtime collaborators **Michael J. Schumacher** and **Ursula Scherrer**.

In *Lichtung/Clearing*, the artists explore the relationship among movement image, sound image, and projected image. Gerring's abstract, hyper-refined phrases intersect with the video projections, creating visual landscapes that transform rhythm, color, and light. The musical composition is diffused through a six-speaker sound system placed around the space. The score is a collage of field recordings, musique concrete, text, and the composer playing guitar.

Lichtung/Clearing is performed by **Elizabeth DeMent, Philip Montana, Tony Neidenbach, Adele Nickel, Matt Sweeney, Jessica Weiss, and Gerring**. Lighting design is by **Carolyn Wong**, and costumes are by **Deanna Berg**.

Performances are March 11–14, 2010 (Thursday–Saturday at 7:30pm, Sunday at 3pm). Tickets are \$20 and available through Smarttix: www.smarttix.com or 212-868-4444. Baryshnikov Arts Center, Howard Gilman Performance Space, 450 West 37th Street (between 9th and 10th Avenues), New York City.

Liz Gerring (Choreographer) was born in San Francisco, and grew up in the Los Angeles area, where she began dancing at age 13. In high school she studied dance at the Cornish Institute in Seattle. In 1987, she received a B.F.A. from the Juilliard School, where she studied with Kazuko Hirabayashi and Doris Rudko. She has been working as a choreographer in New York since 1993. In March 1998, she presented her first piece, a four-hour movement installation. Since then, The Liz Gerring Dance Company has presented work at Jacob's Pillow, and in New York City at Danspace Project, The Connelly Theater, The Kitchen, Engine 27, and other venues. In 2001, she and her longtime collaborator composer Michael Schumacher founded the nonprofit organization Tonal Motion Inc., dedicated to the creation and presentation of movement and sound art. Its programs include Diapason Gallery and the Liz Gerring Dance Company.

Michael J. Schumacher (Resident Composer) is a New York-based composer, performer, and installation artist who works predominantly with electronic and digital media, specializing in computer-generated sound environments that evolve continuously for long time periods. He has collaborated with

Liz Gerring on *Release* (1998); *Clouds Roll By* (1999); *Sliding Out Of Reverse* (2001); *Lowlight* (2002); *Yield* (2003); and *Tonight Clearing, Tomorrow Clear* (2004). His *Living Room Pieces* is permanently installed in an apartment at the Chelsea Hotel; XI Records has just published a set of five sound installations as computer applications; and his composition *Grid*, a computer-generated score that unfolds in real time, has been exhibited in New York, Barcelona, and Houston. In 2007, Schumacher and Nisi Jacobs founded DRAW, an audio-video performance group that creates immersive live sets based on collaborative compositions. Schumacher has taught piano, composition, theory, and ear training privately since 1983, and has lectured at Bard College, The New School, The School for Visual Arts, and Juilliard. He currently teaches at Polytechnic University in Brooklyn.

Ursula Scherrer (Video Set Design) is a Swiss video artist living in New York City. Previous collaborations with Liz Gerring Dance Company include *Lowlight* (2002); *Yield* (2003); and *Tonight Clearing, Tomorrow Clear* (2004). She has worked with composer/musicians Shelley Hirsch, Michelle Nagai, Kato Hideki, Flo Kaufmann, Domenico Sciajno, and Michael J. Schumacher, as well as with choreographer Liz Gerring in the creation of video and sound installations, live performances, and single-channel videos. Together with Katherine Liberovskaya, Scherrer organizes OptoSonic Tea, a series dedicated to the convergence of live visuals with live sounds.

For more information about the Liz Gerring Dance Company, visit www.lizgerringdance.org.

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