

**Meredith Monk
&
Meredith Monk & Vocal Ensemble**

**2010-2011
COMPANY INFORMATION**

PIECE: *impermanence*

NUMBER OF PEOPLE: 8 performers and 5 crew – Total 13

SET UP: Two days before the first performance

STAGE SIZE: Proscenium opening 36' wide; 8' wing space left and right; 40' from plaster line to rear theatre wall including on-stage crossover; white full stage "opera" front projection plastic drop; stage deck painted to 'midnight blue' as specified by company.



RECENT VENUES: Riverside Studios, London, England; Galvin Playhouse, Tempe, AZ; Yerba Buena Center, San Francisco, CA; George Mason University Center for the Arts, Fairfax, VA; Burghof Theatre, Lorrach, Germany; Yugoslav Drama Theatre, Belgrade; Brooklyn Academy of Music; Teatro Comunale, Ferrara, Italy

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Meredith Monk's *impermanence* utilizes a multidisciplinary approach to reveal a joyful and poignant look at change and the essential experiences we all share, from "...what we leave behind, to our fears and our celebrations of life...(Dance Insider)". Embodying a broad spectrum of emotions, the phenomenal Meredith Monk and her dynamic Vocal Ensemble offer a reflection on the delicacy and power of the human spirit.

impermanence uses music, video, movement, and text to create a celebratory and moving meditation on life. Each section of the work, announced cabaret-style by a spoken title (*Last Song; Liminal; Seeds; Particular Dance; Disequilibrium Song, Mieke's Melody #5*), provides a non-narrative look at the different facets of impermanence and the joy and wonder of being. Accompanied by voice, piano, woodwinds, bicycle wheel and other inventive instrumentation, the many scenes -- a montage of video portraits; performers balanced on chairs that seemingly float in space; a celebration dance; ten hands playing one piano; songs of beginnings and endings -- create a collage of emotion, image, and sound that gently transport the audience through a haunting and mysterious, but at its core, essentially human experience.

Once again Monk works with the multitalented singers / performers / instrumentalists in the Vocal Ensemble: Theo Bleckmann, Ellen Fisher, Katie Geissinger, Ching Gonzalez, Bohdan Hilash, John Hollenbeck, and Allison Sniffin. On the heels of Monk's highly acclaimed *mercy*, *impermanence* presents another opportunity to feed our senses with Monk's rich expression of the inexpressible.

PRESS:

"*impermanence* is a meditation on death and the passage of time, done with Monk's inimitable brand of voluptuous spareness. With its fluid blend of choral music, song, film and dance, it marks the latest unclassifiable effort by this visionary creator."

Joshua Kosman, *San Francisco Chronicle*