The Kitchen
40TH ANNIVERSARY

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For Immediate Release

The Kitchen presents Steven Reker's *People Get Ready,* Thursday—Saturday, March 31—April 2

New York, NY, March 8, 2011—On **Thursday** through **Saturday, March 31—April 2**, **The Kitchen** presents new performance work by musician, dancer and choreographer **Steven Reker** and his band **People Get Ready**. Modeled after a "mixtape," the show comprises movement pieces scored live by People Get Ready. The band features several dancers and musicians, including **Megan Byrne**, **Jessica Cook**, **Luke Fasano**, **Jen Goma**, Reker and **James Rickman**. Performances will take place at **8:00 P.M.** at The Kitchen (512 West 19th Street). Tickets are $10.

In this work, Reker and his cohorts tease out points of connection between contemporary dance and independent music. The group creates sonic landscapes inhabited by dancers from which both songs and choreography emerge. Each song is a singular work with distinct themes and performance elements developed by the band in an organic, collective process. The pieces share a vocabulary that People Get Ready built as an ensemble, touching upon the natural connections between dance and music. Each member dances, plays instruments and sings, either live or through video.

Reker conceived and composed most of the music while on tour as a dancer and guitarist with David Byrne in 2009. That experience, along with his work with choreographer Yasuko Yokoshi and filmmaker Miranda July, shaped his desire to incorporate a performance experience within the context of live music.

These performances are presented with lighting design by **Steve Brady**, video design by **Jim Byrne** and illustrated projection by **Bryce Cherry**.

About the Artists

Steven Reker was born in 1982 in Glendale, Arizona, and is now based in Brooklyn. He has worked as either dancer or musician for Yasuko Yokoshi, David Byrne, Miguel Gutierrez, Miranda July, John Jesurun, Yoshiko Chuma, Jeff McMahon, Fred Thomas and other artists since moving to New York in 2006. His own work has been presented at The Kitchen, Danspace Project, Judson Church, Rooftop Films and various venues throughout Brooklyn and Manhattan.

Reker formed People Get Ready with musician Luke Fasano. The two had frequently encountered each other over the past six years at live music shows that featured dance, from a concert at Chez Bushwick in Brooklyn to Austin City Limits in Texas. Noticing a pattern, Reker and Fasano—who has played with bands like Yeasayer, Family Band and Ex-Models—decided to start their own band.

Reker wrote a majority of what would become People Get Ready's music in 2009 while on a yearlong world tour as a dancer and guitarist with David Byrne. Natalie Kuhn, another dancer on the tour, introduced Reker to James Rickman, formerly of the bands Lissie Trullie and Fall On Your Sword. While in The Kitchen's Dance & Process residency in December 2009, Reker

worked with Fasano and dancer Megan Byrne to present People Get Ready's first incarnation. During that time, Rickman stepped in and solidified the ensemble. Since then, the group has grown to include dancer Jessica Cook, Jen Goma of Sunny Day in Glasgow and Edward Crichton of Parenthetical Girls and Total Noise.

People Get Ready is currently in residency at Robert Wilson's Watermill Center. They will play a show at Death By Audio in Brooklyn in April 2011.

Funding Credits

This program is made possible with generous support from The Harkness Foundation for Dance, the Jerome Robbins Foundation, the Mertz Gilmore Foundation, and with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs and the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency.

ABOUT THE KITCHEN

The Kitchen is one of New York City's oldest nonprofit performance and exhibition spaces, showing experimental work by innovative artists, both emerging and established. Programs range from dance, music, and theatrical performances to video and media arts exhibitions to literary events, film screenings, and artists' talks. Since its inception in 1971, The Kitchen has been a powerful force in shaping the cultural landscape of this country and has helped launch the careers of many artists who have gone on to worldwide prominence.

Box Office Information:
212.255.5793 ext. 11
Tue-Sat, 2-6pm

The Kitchen
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