

For Immediate Release

**The Kitchen presents *Poems*, a reading by Yvonne Rainer,  
Tuesday, October 18**

**Choreographer and filmmaker to read selections from first book of poems**

**New York, NY, September 21, 2011**— On **Tuesday, October 18**, **The Kitchen** presents a special reading of *Poems*, the first book of poems by choreographer and filmmaker **Yvonne Rainer**, who will read the selections herself. Published by artist **Paul Chan**'s **Badlands Unlimited**, the book is comprised of works that have never been published, most written in the late 1990s. The reading will be followed by a conversation between Rainer and The Kitchen's Executive Director and Chief Curator **Tim Griffin**, who penned an introduction to the volume. The evening will start at **7:00 P.M.** at **The Kitchen (512 West 19<sup>th</sup> Street)**. Admission is free.

Full of wit and candor, *Poems* offers a window into the life and mind of one of America's greatest living artists. Rainer's verse has a great deal in common with her choreography, with a simple, steady cadence often providing procedural measure for simple, pared-down words and elegant turns moving readers' eyes forward, across, and down the page. A selection of images curated by Rainer, which are included in the book, will also be on view.

After the reading, Rainer will remain to sign copies of *Poems*, which will be available for purchase. The limited edition softcover book will officially premiere at the New York Art Book Fair at MoMA PS1, which runs September 29—October 2. The enhanced e-book, which includes audio—Rainer reading select poems and an interview about her process as an artist and poet—and a video excerpt of *Trio A* (1966), is available now. For more information, go to [www.badlandsunlimited.com](http://www.badlandsunlimited.com).

**Yvonne Rainer** was born in San Francisco in 1934. She trained as a modern dancer in New York and began to choreograph her own work in 1960. She was one of the founders of the Judson Dance Theater in 1962, a movement that proved to be a vital force in modern dance in the following decades. Between 1962 and 1975 Rainer presented her choreography throughout the U.S. and Europe.

In 2000 and 2001 Rainer returned to dance via commissions from the Baryshnikov Dance Foundation to choreograph work for the White Oak Dance Project, including a 35-minute piece called *After Many a Summer Dies the Swan*.

Since 1972, Rainer has completed seven feature-length films, beginning with *Lives of Performers* (1972) and more recently *The Man Who Envied Women* (1985), *Privilege* (1990), and *MURDER and murder* (1996).

Rainer has received numerous awards and fellowships for her work, including two Guggenheim Fellowships (1969, 1988), three Rockefeller Fellowships (1988, 1990, 1996), a MacArthur Fellowship (1990-95), and a Wexner Prize (1995), as well as four Honorary Doctor of Fine Arts Degrees. *Yvonne Rainer: Work 1961-73* was published by Nova Scotia College of Art and Design and New York University Press in 1974; *The Films of Yvonne Rainer*, a collection of her film scripts, was published by

Indiana University Press in 1989; and *A Woman Who...: Essays, Interviews, Scripts* was published by Johns Hopkins University Press in 1999. A memoir, *Feelings are Facts: a Life*, was published by MIT Press in 2006.

**Badlands Unlimited**, created last year by artist Paul Chan, is a publisher of e-books and limited-edition paperbacks by artists and writers, working in the spirit of eroding historical distinctions among books, digital files, and artworks.

### **Funding Credits**

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### **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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New York, NY 10011

[www.thekitchen.org](http://www.thekitchen.org)

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