# A MONIRA FOUNDATION



MONIRA FOUNDATION presents:

OUTDOORS, LET'S SOCIAL DISTANCE TOGETHER

In response to Covid-19, Monira Foundation Monira Foundation and Pomegranate Arts present a film screening of Einstein on the Beach, an Opera in Four Acts by Robert Wilson and Philp Glass with choreography by Lucinda Childs and text by Christopher Knowles. Widely recognized as one of the greatest creative achievements of the 20th century, Einstein on the Beach (1976) was an international breakthrough for two of America's most celebrated artists. The production, in turn, radically and indelibly broadened what audiences might expect from opera, theater or performance art. The 2012-3 revival of the opera was produced by Pomegranate Arts, a resident company of Mana Contemporary, and toured to thirteen international cities bringing the opera to new audiences and an entirely new generation. The tour culminated in the filming of the opera by Telemondis and Théâtre du Châtelet in Paris, directed for the screen by Don Kent.

Einstein on the Beach breaks all of the rules of conventional opera, including the relationship among the work's creators. Wilson devised the visual book—the structure and designs—at the same time Glass composed the music. Non-narrative in form, the work uses a series of powerful recurrent images as its main storytelling device shown in juxtaposition with abstract dance sequences created by longtime collaborator, Lucinda Childs. Thirty-seven years after it was originally created, Einstein on the Beach received the Laurence Olivier Award for Best Opera Production.

Linda Brumbach, Director of Pomegranate Arts and the Executive Producer of the 2012-13 *Einstein on the Beach*, said, "*Einstein on the Beach* is one of the most important operas of our lifetime. It has achieved canonical, even mythic, status, and yet so few people have had the opportunity to see it. We are thrilled to be working with MANA Contemporary to offer these free screenings to the MANA community of artists and the wider public."

The Einstein on the Beach film screenings at Mana Contemporary will be introduced by principal performer in the production and radio and podcast host, Helga Davis in conversation with a special guest.

Admittance free of charge. Limited to 50 people. By reservation only via RSVP

## PROGRAM OCTOBER 15TH-17th, 2020

#### **Three screenings ONLY**

#### **OCTOBER 16TH, 2020**

5:30pm, doors open at Mana Contemporary Glass Gallery. 25 Senate Pl. Jersey City. NJ 07306 6-6:30pm, *Einstein on the Beach* artist conversation with Helga Davis. 6:30-11pm, Screening: *Einstein on the Beach* (Film Duration 4 hours, 23 minutes)

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**ABOUT MONIRA FOUNDATION** an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit institution, functions as a radical experimental laboratory, working in close collaboration with artists, curators, musicians, producers, and writers to conceive, realize, and present innovative projects in all media. Its aim is to spark, intensify, and promote an evolving cultural and social dialogue between creators, audiences, and institutions. Focusing on the unique potential of interdisciplinary work in a context distinct from the distracting pressures of academia and the market, Monira Foundation advances the practices and products of today's foremost artists, amplifying their contributions to communities both local and distant.

**ABOUT MANA CONTEMPORARY,** founded in 2011, Mana Contemporary is dedicated to providing a platform for contemporary art and artists through exhibitions, residencies, and public programs. Mana's community network began in New Jersey and has since expanded to include Mana Contemporary Chicago and Mana Contemporary Miami.

**ABOUT POMEGRANATE ARTS,** founded by Linda Brumbach in 1998, Pomegranate Arts is an independent production company based in New York City dedicated to the development of international performing arts projects. As a creative producing team, Pomegranate Arts works in close collaboration with contemporary artists and arts institutions to bring bold and ambitious artistic ideas to fruition. With a hands-on approach, Pomegranate creates unique structures and partnerships in all performance mediums. Whether creating a new work with established artists at the peak of their career or introducing the vision of a younger artist, Pomegranate specializes in producing provocative performance events of the highest quality.

For more information, visit monirafoundation.org PRESS CONTACT ysabel@monirafoundation.org CONNECT @monirafoundation #monirafoundation RSVP at monirafoundation.org event page