



COMMUNIQUE DE PRESSE

EXPOSITION

MERCE CUNNINGHAM

PAR

GERMANO CELANT

SERVICE DE PRESSE

MASSIMO MELOTTI

INAUGURATION

**JEUDI 29 JUIN
OUVERTURE POUR LA PRESSE A 11h
INAUGURATION 19h**

PERIODE

30 JUIN – 10 SEPTEMBRE

HORAIRE

**DE MARDI A VENDREDI 10 –17 heures
SAMEDI ET DIMANCHE 10 –19 heures
PREMIER ET TROISIEME SAMEDI
DU MOIS 10 –22 heures
FERME LE LUNDI**

SIEGE

**CHATEAU DE RIVOLI
MUSEE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN
PIAZZA MAFALDA DI SAVOIA
10098 RIVOLI (TO)**



CASTELLO DI RIVOLI

COMMUNIQUE DE PRESSE

Merce Cunningham

Inauguration 29 Juin. Période 30 Juin – 10 Septembre 2000.

L'exposition offre un parcours exhaustif à travers les cinquante années de carrière artistique du plus grand protagoniste de la danse contemporaine. L'exposition, préparée par Germano Celant, avec la collaboration de Melissa Harris et David Vaughan, présente des images et des objets, des costumes et des dessins, des films et des vidéos qui reflètent le caractère innovateur du travail de Cunningham, qui se caractérise par l'enchevêtrement avec la musique de John Cage et Gordon Mumma, l'art de Robert Rauschenberg, Jasper Johns, Andy Warhol et d'autres artistes contemporains. Enchevêtrement qui a donné naissance à un nouvel univers chorégraphique, qui fait désormais partie de l'histoire de la performance. Né en 1919 à Centralia (Washington, USA), Cunningham danse comme soliste, de 1939 à 1945, dans la compagnie de Martha Graham. En 1944, il présente à New York sa première chorégraphie avec la musique de Cage et, en 1953, il fonde la Merce Cunningham Dance Company pour laquelle il a créé, jusqu'à aujourd'hui, environ deux cents chorégraphies. Fondateur de la danse contemporaine comme « a moving image of life », il propose, au cours des années Quarante, de séparer la musique et la danse et il recourt au « chance method » qui comporte le montage casuel des mouvements. Durant les années Cinquante et Soixante, son langage entre en syntonie et en osmose avec les artistes les plus significatifs de cette période : des new dada aux pop. A partir des années Soixante-dix il utilise des films, des vidéos, des ordinateurs qui offrent des possibilités expérimentales où la réalité de la danse se mêle à son aspect virtuel. Parmi les nombreux prix internationaux, il reçoit le Lion d'Or pour la carrière dans le cadre de la Biennale de Venise en 1995. L'exposition est co-produite par la Fundació Antoni Tàpies de Barcelone, le Museu de Arte Contemporânea de Serralves di Porto, le Museum moderner Kunst Stiftung Ludwig de Vienne.

OEUVRES EXPOSÉES

BARBARA MORGAN

fotografia di Cunningham nel corso della danza *Antenato totemico* / photograph of Cunningham during the dance *Totem Ancestor*, 1942
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

CHARLOTTE TROWBRIDGE

costume disegnato da Trowbridge per la danza *Antenato totemico* / costume designed by Trowbridge for the dance *Totem Ancestor*, 1942
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

MERCE CUNNINGHAM

(Centralia - Washington State, 1919)
costume disegnato da Cunningham per la danza *Radice di un non-centro* / costume designed by Cunningham for the dance *Root of an Unfocus*, 1944
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

ARCH LAUTERER

tre fotografie di disegni realizzati da Lauterer per la scenografia di *Quattro muri* three photographs of drawings made by Lauterer for the stage set of *Four Walls*, 1944
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

DAVID HARE

costume disegnato da Hare per la danza *Avventura misteriosa* / costume designed by Hare for the dance *Mysterious Adventure*, 1945
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

MERCE CUNNINGHAM

(Centralia - Washington State, 1919)
costume disegnato da Cunningham per la danza *Invocazione a Vahakn* / costume designed by Cunningham for the dance *Invocation to Vahakn*, 1947
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

ISAMU NOGUCHI

(Los Angeles, 1904 - New York, 1988)
tre fotografie di Rudolph Burckhardt delle maquettes progettate da Noguchi per la danza *Le Stagioni* / three photographs by Rudolph Burckhardt of maquettes designed by Noguchi for the dance *The Seasons*, 1947
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

MERCE CUNNINGHAM

(Centralia - Washington State, 1919)
costume disegnato da Cunningham per la danza *Passo doppio* / costume designed by Cunningham for the dance *Two Step*, 1949
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

SONJA SEKULA

costume disegnato da Sekula per la danza *Dromenon* / costume designed by Sekula for the dance *Dromenon*, 1949
successivamente indossato nel 1975 da Cunningham per la danza *Assolo* / afterwards worn in 1975 by Cunningham for the dance *Solo*
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

ANTOINETTE LARRABEE - CONSTANCE SMITH

costume disegnato da Larrabee e Smith per la danza *Sedici danze per solo e trio* / costume designed by Larrabee and Smith for the dance *16 Dances for Soloist and Company of Three*, 1951
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

ROBERT RAUSCHENBERG

(Port Arthur - Texas, 1925)
progetto della scenografia per la danza *Minutiae* / project of stage set for the dance *Minutiae*, 1954
collage su cartone / collage on cardboard
Merce Cunningham, New York

ROBERT RAUSCHENBERG

(Port Arthur - Texas, 1925)
costumi disegnati da Rauschenberg per la danza, *Raduno grottesco* / costumes designed by Rauschenberg for the dance *Antic Meet*, 1958
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

ROBERT RAUSCHENBERG

(Port Arthur - Texas, 1925)
scenografia per la danza *Minutiae*, replica dell'originale / stage set for the dance *Minutiae*, replica of the original, 1954
olio, carta, metallo, plastica, legno, specchio con corda / oil, paper, metal, plastic, wood, with mirror on string
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

MERCE CUNNINGHAM

(Centralia - Washington State, 1919)
costume disegnato e realizzato a maglia da Cunningham per la danza *Scappatella di lussol* / costume designed and knitted by Cunningham for the dance *Lavish Escapade*, 1956
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

ROBERT RAUSCHENBERG

(Port Arthur - Texas, 1925)
due copricapi disegnati da Rauschenberg per la danza *Notturmi* / two headdresses designed by Rauschenberg for the dance *Nocturnes*, 1956
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

ROBERT RAUSCHENBERG

(Port Arthur - Texas, 1925)
bozzetto dei costumi per la danza *Danze labirintiche* / sketch of the costumes for the dance *Labyrinthian Dances*, 1957
grafite e pastello su carta / graphite and pastel on paper
Merce Cunningham, New York

JOHN LAUNOIS

copertina della rivista *Saturday Evening Post* con fotografia di Merce Cunningham scattata da Launois / cover of the magazine *Saturday Evening Post* with photograph of Merce Cunningham by Launois, 1957
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

MERCE CUNNINGHAM

(Centralia - Washington State, 1919)
bozzetto di costume per la danza *Raduno grottesco* / costume sketch for the dance *Antic Meet*, 1958
inchiostro e pastello su carta / ink and crayon on paper
Merce Cunningham, New York

MERCE CUNNINGHAM

(Centralia - Washington State, 1919)
costume disegnato e realizzato a maglia da Cunningham per la danza *Raduno grottesco* / costume designed and knitted by Cunningham for the dance *Antic Meet*, 1958
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

ROBERT RAUSCHENBERG

(Port Arthur - Texas, 1925)
costume disegnato da Rauschenberg per la danza *Raduno grottesco* / costume designed by Rauschenberg for the dance *Antic Meet*, 1958
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

ROBERT RAUSCHENBERG

(Port Arthur - Texas, 1925)
costumi e fondale disegnati da Rauschenberg per la danza *Spazio estivo* / costumes and backdrop designed by Rauschenberg for the dance *Summerspace*, 1958
pittura fosforescente su tela / day-glo paint on canvas
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

MERCE CUNNINGHAM

(Centralia - Washington State, 1919)
sei pagine di annotazioni coreografiche per *Spazio estivo* / six pages of choreographic notations for *Summerspace*, 1958
inchiostro su carta / ink on paper
Collezione / Collection Barbara Schwartz, New York

ROBERT RAUSCHENBERG

(Port Arthur - Texas, 1925)
cintura disegnata da Rauschenberg per la danza *Eone* / belt designed by Rauschenberg for the dance *Aeon*, 1961
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

ANONIMO / ANONYMOUS

Merce Cunningham e la sua American Dance Company Teatro La Fenice, Venezia, 1964
manifesto / poster
Nuits de la Fondation Maeght (Serate della Fondazione Maeght), 1966
manifesto con riproduzione di un dipinto di Kandinsky / poster with reproduction of a painting by Kandinsky
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

MARK LANCASTER

bozzetto di costume per la danza *Eventi di Edimburgo* / costume sketch for the dance *Edinburgh Events*, 1979
grafite e pastello su carta / graphite and crayon on paper
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

MARK LANCASTER

bozzetti dei costumi per la danza *Duetti* sketches of the costumes for the dance *Duets*, 1980
inchiostro e pennarello su carta / ink and marker on paper
Mark Lancaster, Jamestown

JASPER JOHNS

(Allendale - South Carolina, 1930)
Merce Cunningham Dance Company at Walker Art Center (La Merce Cunningham Dance Company at Walker Art Center), 1981
manifesto / poster
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

MARK LANCASTER

Merce and the Monitors (Merce e i monitor), 1981
manifesto realizzato da Lancaster con fotografia di Terry Stevenson / poster made by Lancaster with photograph by Terry Stevenson
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

JASPER JOHNS

(Allendale - South Carolina, 1930)
scenografia ispirata a Marcel Duchamp, disegnata da Johns per la danza *Intorno al tempo* / stage set after Marcel Duchamp, designed by Johns for the dance *Walkaround Time*, 1968
sette strutture gonfiabili in plastica dipinta, tondini di ferro / seven plastic inflatable pillows painted, metal rods and hardware
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

JASPER JOHNS

(Allendale - South Carolina, 1930)
Target (Poster) (Bersaglio - Manifesto), 1968
litografia su carta / offset lithograph on paper
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

FRANK STELLA

(Malden - Massachusetts, 1935)
Merce Cunningham & Dance Company, Latin America Tour (Merce Cunningham e la sua compagnia - Tour Latino americano), 1968
manifesto / poster
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

ROBERT RAUSCHENBERG

(Port Arthur - Texas, 1925)
Merce Cunningham Dance Company Brooklyn Academy of Music, 1969
manifesto disegnato da Rauschenberg con fotografie di James Klosty / poster designed by Rauschenberg with photographs by James Klosty
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

JASPER JOHNS

(Allendale - South Carolina, 1930)
costumi disegnati da Johns per la danza *Seconda mano* / costumes designed by Johns for the dance *Second Hand*, 1970
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

ROBERT MORRIS, BRUCE NAUMAN, JASPER JOHNS, ROBERT RAUSCHENBERG, ANDY WARHOL, JOHN CAGE

A Portfolio of Prints Recording Collaborations with Merce Cunningham Company / Cartella di serigrafie dedicate alle collaborazioni con la compagnia di danza di Merce Cunningham, 1974
serigrafie / screenprints
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

MERCE CUNNINGHAM

(Centralia - Washington State, 1919)
appunti per la danza *Torso* / notes for the dance *Torse*, 1976
pennarello su carta / felt tip pen on paper
Merce Cunningham e / and Margarete Roeder Gallery, New York

ROBERT RAUSCHENBERG

(Port Arthur - Texas, 1925)
due costumi disegnati da Rauschenberg per la danza *Reportage* / two costumes designed by Rauschenberg for the dance *Travelogue*, 1977
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

ROBERT RAUSCHENBERG

(Port Arthur - Texas, 1925)
Tantric Geography (Geografia tantrica), 1977
bozzetto di costume per la danza *Reportage* costume sketch for the dance *Travelogue*, 1977
grafite su carta / graphite on paper
Courtesy dell'artista / of the artist

NAM JUNE PAIK

(Seul, 1932)

Merce by Merce by Paik (Merce di Merce di Paik), 1978
manifesto realizzato da Paik per un video trasmesso alla
televisione sul canale 13, New York/ poster
made by Paik for a video broadcast on TV, Channel 13, New
York/Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

MARK LANCASTER

bozzetto dei costumi per la danza *Scie*
sketch of the costumes for the dance *Trails*, 1982
inchiostro, pennarello, tessuto, campioni di stoffa, graffette e
nastro adesivo su carta
ink, marker, fabric, swatches, staples, and gaffer tape on paper
Mark Lancaster, Jamestown

MERCE CUNNINGHAM

(Centralia - Washington State, 1919)
appunti per la danza *Roaratorio* / notes for the dance *Roaratorio*,
1983
inchiostro su carta / ink on paper
Merce Cunningham e / and Margarete Roeder Gallery, New
York

MARK LANCASTER

bozzetto dei costumi per la danza *Sei nel campo* / sketch of the
costumes for the dance *Fielding Sixes*, 1983
pennarello su carta / marker on paper
Mark Lancaster, Jamestown

MARK LANCASTER

bozzetto per i costumi per la danza *Zona costiera* / costume
sketch for the dance *Coast Zone*, 1983
pastello su carta / crayon on paper
Mark Lancaster, Jamestown

MERCE CUNNINGHAM

(Centralia - Washington State, 1919)
appunti per la danza *Immagini - Transizioni, Continuità* / notes
for the dance *Pictures (Transitions, Continuity)*, 1984
pennarello e penna a sfera su carta / felt tip pen, ballpoint pen
on paper
Merce Cunningham e / and Margarete Roeder Gallery, New York

DOVE BRADSHAW

bozzetti dei costumi per la danza *Punti nello spazio* / sketches of
the costumes for the dance *Points in Space*, 1986
grafite e olio su carta / graphite and oil stick on paper
Courtesy dell'artista / of the Artist, New York

MARK LANCASTER

bozzetto dei costumi per la danza *Cinque pietre, vento* / sketch
of the costumes for the dance *Five Stone Wind*, 1988
inchiostro, pennarello, tela, graffette su carta costume designs:
ink, marker, fabric, staples on paper
Mark Lancaster, Jamestown

SERGEI BUGAEV (AFRIKA)

bozzetto dei costumi e della scenografia per la danza *Passo
d'agosto* / sketch of the costumes and design of stage set for the
dance *August Pace*, 1989
guache su carta da parati / costume and set designs: gouache
on wallpaper
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

KRISTIN JONES - ANDREW GINZEL

due costumi e maquette della scenografia per la danza *Campo e
figure* / two costumes and maquette of the stage set for the
dance *Field and Figures*, 1989
nylon, carta e pigmento/ nylon, paper and pigment
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York
Kristin Jones e / and Andrew Ginzel, New York

JOHN CAGE

(Los Angeles, 1912 - New York, 1992)
Where R= Ryoanji R/2, 1990
bozzetto del sipario per la danza *Entrata* design of the curtain for
the dance *Enter*, 1990
matita su carta giapponese fatta a mano pencil on Japanese
handmade paper
John Cage Trust, New York

MARSHA SKINNER

Untitled (Senza titolo), 1990
dipinto eseguito da Skinner, utilizzato per l'ideazione dei costumi
della danza *Uccelli di spiaggia* / painting by Skinner, then
rendered as costume of the dance *Beach Birds*, 1990
pigmento nero su tela / black pigment on canvas
Marsha Skinner, New York

MARK LANCASTER

due bozzetti dei costumi per la danza *Vicini*
two sketches of the costumes for the dance
Neighbors, 1991
pastello su carta / crayon on paper
Mark Lancaster, Jamestown

MARK LANCASTER

due costumi disegnati da Lancaster per la danza *Vicini* / two
costumes designed by Lancaster for the dance *Neighbors*, 1991
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

GARY LICHTENSTEIN

manifesto realizzato da Lichtenstein per il film *Cage /
Cunningham* di Elliot Caplan poster made by Lichtenstein for
the film *Cage / Cunningham* by Elliot Caplan, 1991
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

MARSHA SKINNER

bozzetto di costume per la danza *Uccelli di spiaggia* / costume sketch for the dance *Beach Birds*, 1991
inchiostro su carta / ink on paper
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

MARSHA SKINNER

costume disegnato da Skinner per la danza *Uccelli di spiaggia* / costume designed by Skinner for the dance *Beach Birds*, 1991
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

MARSHA SKINNER

maquette di costumi e scenografia per la danza *Cambio di indirizzo* / maquette of costumes and stage set for the dance *Change of Address*, 1992
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

MARK LANCASTER

bozzetti dei costumi per la danza *CRWDSPCR* sketches of costumes for the dance *CRWDSPCR*, 1993
inchiostri colorati su fotocopia / coloured inks on photocopy
Mark Lancaster, Jamestown

JOHN CAGE

(Los Angeles, 1912 - New York, 1992)
Global Village 1-36 (Diptych) (*Villaggio globale 1-36 - Dittico*), 1989
aquaforte su carta grigia trattata con fumo utilizzata per la scenografia della danza *Finestre* / etching on gray paper prepared with smoke, used for the stage set of *Windows*, 1996
John Cage Trust, New York

JASPER JOHNS

(Allendale - South Carolina, 1930)
litografia ispirata alla danza *Oceano* lithograph inspired by the dance *Ocean*, 1996
Merce Cunningham, New York

MARSHA SKINNER

bozzetto dei costumi per la danza *Oceano* sketch of the costumes for the dance *Ocean*, 1994
Merce Cunningham, New York

SUZANNE GALLO

tre costumi disegnati da Gallo per la danza *Copertura piano terra* / three costumes designed by Gallo for the dance *Ground Level Overlay*, 1996
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

LEONARDO DREW

fondale per la danza *Copertura piano terra*
backdrop for the dance *Ground Level Overlay*, 1996
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

REI KAWAKUBO (COMME DES GARÇONS)

due costumi ideati da Kawakubo per la danza *Scenario* / two costumes conceived by Kawakubo for the dance *Scenario*, 1997
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

MARK LANCASTER

Harlequin painting, 1991
dipinto eseguito da Lancaster, utilizzato per l'ideazione della scenografia della danza *Vicini* / painting by Lancaster, then rendered as stage set of the dance *Neighbors*, 1991
olio su tela / oil on canvas
Cunningham Dance Foundation, New York

MERCE CUNNINGHAM, PAUL KAISER, SHELLEY ESHKAR

Hand-drawn Spaces (Spazi a mano), 1999
installazione audiovisiva / audiovisual installation
Courtesy Merce Cunningham, Paul Kaiser e / and Shelley Eshkar, New York