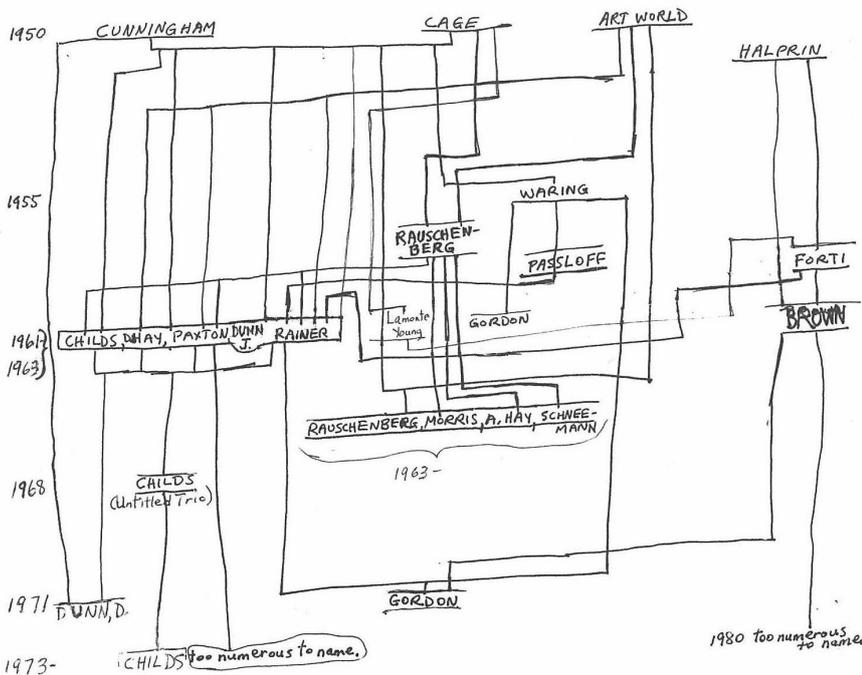


Performance and Interaction:

Judson Dance Theater

In 1980, Arlene Croce, a respected dance critic, said in a column in the *New Yorker* that Robert Wilson had been the main influence, after Merce Cunningham, on the choreography of the day. Yvonne Rainer responded angrily to what she saw as lack of perspective and knowledge of modern dance in a letter published in the performance magazine *Live*. The letter included a genealogy chart of contemporary dance and how it related to the visual arts world, which is shown here.



Simone Forti was at the Judson Dance Theater with Brown and Rainer and also made an argument for dance as sculpture with her first minimalist works. Their objectives included the idea of actually involving the spectator's gaze, rejecting the concept of audience as voyeur.

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The close, simultaneous connections between dance and the visual arts in the 1960s and 70s can be seen both in the works of Yvonne Rainer (1934), Trisha Brown (1936) and Simone Forti (1935), which are exhibited in the room, and in the theoretical analyses presented by Barbara Rose and Rosalind Krauss about the theatrical tone of sculpture and minimal painting.

Trio A, Rainer's choreography created in 1966 as the first part of her tetralogy *The Mind Is a Muscle*, is considered an iconic minimalist dance piece, and gave rise to a statement (almost a manifesto) in which the artist points out the parallels between objects and dance, comparing the literalness of Minimalism with the performance's everydayness, and the industrial manufacture of objects with the movement and the balanced energy of the performance.

Primary Accumulation (1972) is one of the choreographies created under the general title *Accumulations* by Trisha Brown, one of the foremost figures in the Postmodern Dance movement (highlighted by Rainer on her chart), which grew from the experimental group at the Judson Dance Theater (1962-64). The piece is completed by a series of drawings in which Brown captures the variations of movement with a pattern of lines.