

Kiken Chin: Modern dance saga continues

Kiken Chin will present the latest rendition of *Between* on Saturday, Jan. 24, at 7:30 pm in the Soreng Theatre, Hult Center. *Between*, an ongoing modern dance saga, carries the audience away from the hectic modern life into Chin's elemental world, a world of personal centering, personal responsibility. The hypnotic, slow-motion is contrasted with a dramatically evolving circuit of emotions, the depths of a heart stretched by the caprices of the world, depths which are Chin's very breath. A man caught "Between," Chin builds scenes of universal needs—thirst, loneliness, love, curiosity, and underneath all, a melting tenderness.

Kiken Chin is a native of Osaka, Japan, and felt an urge to move after recovering from tuberculosis in his early teens. Never quite satisfying this urge, he studied acting, tap, and then, with Sakurako Tomoi, ballet. With Sakurako, Chin began his spiritual training, when she told him, "If you reach out your hand, your heart must be in it." Looking behind ballet, he

studied Graham technique with Akiko Kanda in Tokyo, as well as philosophy with Buko Watanabe. With Buko's encouragement he went to New York City in 1976. Kei Takei, who taught him that dance is an extension of life, became for him an oasis of warmth and creativity in a disappointingly mechanical New York.

Since 1982 he has devoted his volcanic energy to choreographing and performing his ongoing modern dance saga *Between*. He has been awarded grants by the Portland Metropolitan Arts Commission, the Creative Artist Public Service Program (CAPS), and the New York State Council on the Arts. He appeared in the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council's *Summerdance Series*, the Portland Center for the Visual Arts' *Ritual Now—State of Movement/Mind* and *Centerspace Open Stage* in San Francisco.

Penny King, a performer in this presentation, grew up dancing in southern California with the Pacific Ballet Theatre. She also danced in various operatic and musical theater

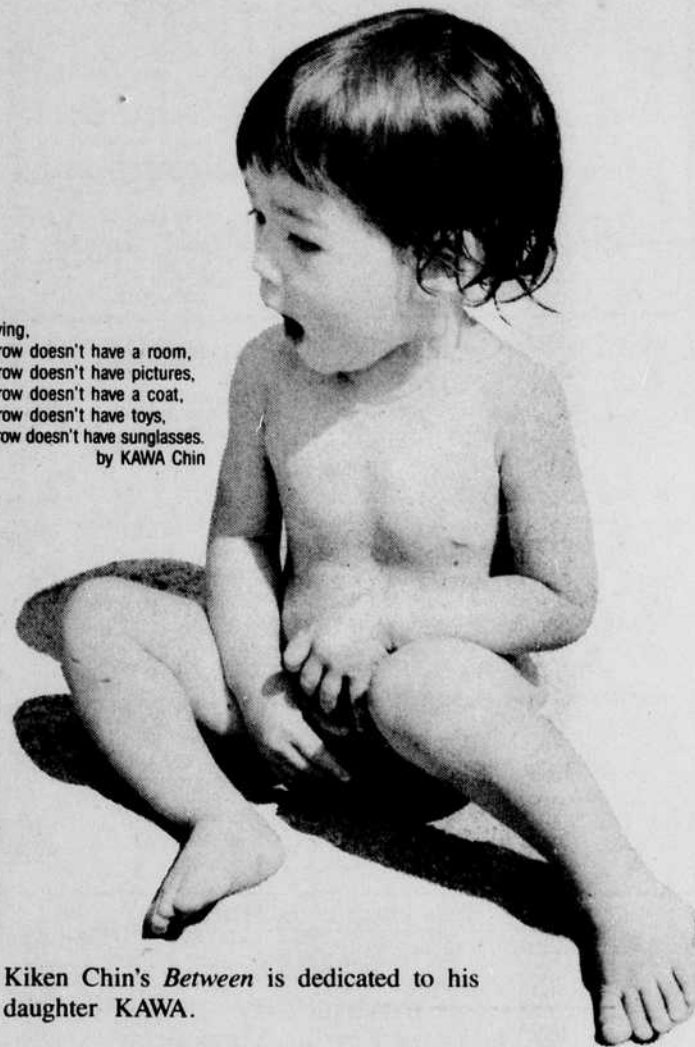
productions, and "tapped, turned, sang, and acted" her way through such "forgettable" shows as television's *Rocket to Stardom* and the L.A. Community Sing Circuit. Penny moved to Oregon 11 years ago and has been choreographing and teaching as well as performing.

Lee Anderson, the third dancer in *Between*, studied art and architecture at Berkeley to fill his desire to fit into a precise, exact world, and he failed. He abandoned this academic Shangri-La and embarked upon a nine-month escapist bicycle trip through the Southwest and Mexico. He then found himself living a secluded monk existence in the mountains of southern Oregon. After this retreat, he moved to Eugene where he currently studies Chinese at the U of O because he believes he was once Chinese. In the morning he walks with his dog through the trees at Skinner's Butte. He shaved his beard, but it came back and he has blue eyes.

Between is dedicated to KAWA. Tickets are \$6 and are available at the Hult Center Box Office, 687-5000.

I'm saying,
Sparrow doesn't have a room,
Sparrow doesn't have pictures,
Sparrow doesn't have a coat,
Sparrow doesn't have toys,
Sparrow doesn't have sunglasses.

by KAWA Chin



Kiken Chin's *Between* is dedicated to his daughter KAWA.



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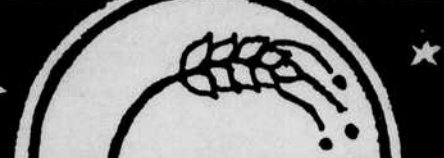
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