



STAGE SETS

an environment and four events by

JOAN JONAS

4 December 1976 to 5 January 1977

Institute of Contemporary Art
University of Pennsylvania
34th and Walnut Streets
Philadelphia

Environment

Stage Sets

4 December 1976 to 5 January 1977

Performance

Mirage

Friday 3 December 1976 9 PM

Admission \$3.50; ICA members,
students, senior citizens \$2.50

Performance for Children

The Juniper Tree

A performance for children ages 6 and up

Saturday 11 December 1976 2 PM

Admission \$.50; ICA members free

Films

Tuesday 7 December 1976

Screenings at noon, 2 PM, 4 PM, 6 PM

Videotapes

Continuous daily showings

4 December 1976 to 5 January 1977

All events are held in the ICA Galleries and are free unless otherwise noted.
Gallery hours: Tuesday 10-7:30; Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 10-5; Saturday,
Sunday 12-5. Tickets for performance events may be purchased in the ICA
office or by mail. Send check or money order to Institute of Contemporary
Art, University of Pennsylvania, 34th and Walnut Streets, Philadelphia 19174.
Mail orders can be accepted only until November 26. For information call 243-7108.

This program is supported by a grant from the Commonwealth of
Pennsylvania Council on the Arts.

photograph by Gwenn Thomas

JOAN JONAS

An Environment and Four Events

Joan Jonas's art is one of haunting and mysterious beauty. Her interest in magic and theatricality are combined with formal visual concerns in a body of work that incorporates sculpture, performance, video, film, drawing, and dance. This exhibition is a five-part program which includes: *Stage Sets*, an environment created expressly for the Institute; the Philadelphia premiere of her performance *Mirage* on Friday, December 3; a screening of her films on Tuesday, December 7; the presentation of *The Juniper Tree*, a new performance work for children on Saturday, December 11; and continuous daily showings of her videotapes.

Jonas combines simple elements such as paper, wood, blackboards, mirrors, and light to create the environment *Stage Sets* in the Institute's large gallery. On the opening night of the exhibition, this environment will become the setting for the Philadelphia premiere of *Mirage*. Although trained as a sculptor, Jonas was one of the first artists to investigate the creative potential of performance. In the mid-sixties, at a time when she found the medium of sculpture too confining, she saw a dance concert at the Judson Church. The impact of this performance prompted her to move into an area somewhere between dance, painting, sculpture, and music. She then began to use elements from all these disciplines; her performances combine movement with exotic masks, costumes, various props, sounds, video, and film to explore themes of identity, perception of space, and transmittal of information. Performed in the peculiar blue atmosphere cast by television light, *Mirage* is a series of vignettes, which employ singing, shaking, drawing, video, and projected film in a ritual created to externalize inner visions. Jonas has said, "The experience of *Mirage* is to be continuously in the present, participating with the performer in a process of game-playing which allows survival and permits passage on a path with no beginning and no end."

Jonas's gifted work with young people led the Institute to invite her to create a new performance for its children's program. A narrative based on a fairy tale, *The Juniper Tree* is perhaps the first performance created by an artist expressly for children.

A substantial portion of Jonas's work is composed of videotapes and films. They chronicle her investigation of space and perception as well as the exploration of her various personae, such as the beguiling Organic Honey or the howling dog. In her videotapes she exploits the distinct features of television; for example, she transforms a vertical roll, the technical term for that disturbing black bar continually rising across the screen during faulty reception, into a positive rhythmic element in the tape appropriately called *Vertical Roll*. Like her performance images, her video and film images are beautiful, thoughtful, and complex.

Michael A. Quigley
Assistant Director

Ticket Information

All events take place in the ICA Galleries and are without charge unless otherwise noted. Tickets for the performances may be purchased in person in the ICA office or by mail by sending a check or money order to the Institute of Contemporary Art, University of Pennsylvania, 34th and Walnut Streets, Philadelphia, 19174. Mail orders can be accepted only until November 26. For information call 243-7108.

For ICA Members

Members' Dinner before the performance
Preview of the exhibition *Stage Sets* and performance *Mirage*
Reception for the artist following the performance
Friday 3 December 1976 See enclosures.

The Environment

Stage Sets

4 December 1976 to 5 January 1977

Joan Jonas will create an environment in the ICA Galleries

Four Events

Mirage

Friday 3 December 1976 9 PM

The exhibition *Stage Sets* opens with Jonas's performance *Mirage*. Reception for the artist following the performance.

Admission \$3.50; ICA members, students, and senior citizens \$2.50. Limited seating. Advance tickets recommended.

Films

Tuesday 7 December 1976 12 NOON, 2 PM, 4 PM, 6 PM

A screening of Joan Jonas's films:

Wind 1968

Veil 1971

Paul Revere (with Richard Serra) 1971

Songdelay 1973

The Juniper Tree

Saturday 11 December 1976 2 PM

A special new performance for children ages 6 and up. Admission \$5.00. ICA member's children free. Limited seating. Advance tickets recommended.

Videotapes Continuous daily showing of Jonas's videotapes:

Duet 1972

Three Returns 1973

Left Side, Right Side 1972

Glass Puzzle 1974

Vertical Roll 1972

Disturbances 1974

Organic Honey's Visual Telepathy 1972

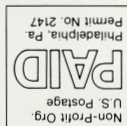
May Windows 1976

Two Women 1973

Good Night, Good Morning 1976

Barking 1973

DATED MATERIAL



Joan Jonas Stage Sets
Institute of Contemporary Art
University of Pennsylvania
34th and Walnut Streets
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19174

Selected Individual Performances

- 1968 *Oad Lau*, St. Peter's Church, New York
- 1970 *Underneath*, Alan Saret's Loft, New York
Mirror Piece, 14th Street YMHA, New York
Jones Beach Piece, Jones Beach, Long Island, New York
- 1971 *Choreomania*, Loeb Student Center, New York University, New York
Night Piece, University of California at Irvine, Irvine, California
Beach Piece II, Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia, Canada
- 1972 *Organic Honey's Visual Telepathy*, LoGiudice Gallery, New York
Organic Honey's Visual Telepathy, Documenta 5, Kassel, West Germany
Delay, Delay, Documenta 5, Kassel, West Germany
Organic Honey's Visual Telepathy, L'Attico Gallery, Rome
Delay, Delay, Tiber River, Rome
Organic Honey's Visual Telepathy, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco
- 1973 *Organic Honey's Vertical Roll*, Leo Castelli Gallery, New York
Organic Honey's Vertical Roll, Festival d'Automne, Galerie Musée, Paris
Organic Honey's Vertical Roll, Toselli Gallery, Milan
- 1974 *Funnel*, The Kitchen, New York
Organic Honey's Vertical Roll, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
Funnel, Project 7, Kunsthalle, Cologne, West Germany
Funnel, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota

- 1975 *Twilight*, Anthology Film Archives, New York
Twilight, Los Angeles Institute of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles
TV Light, Womanspace, Los Angeles
Native Dance, And/or, Seattle, Washington
- 1976 *Native Dance*, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco
Mirage, Anthology Film Archives, New York
Four for the Fourth, Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York
Mirage, Berliner Festwochen, Akademie der Künste, West Berlin
Mirage, Institute of Contemporary Art, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia
The Juniper Tree, Institute of Contemporary Art, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia

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