



THE NEW YORKER

Goings On About Town

Dance

Martha Graham Dance Company



Illustration by Rachel Levit Ruiz

Martha Graham's relationship to feminism was as complex and conflicted as the heroines at the center of her dance dramas. But, as **Martha Graham Dance Company** commissions new work to present alongside its founder's repertory, it's clearly a good idea for it to hire women dancemakers. The company's programs at the Joyce, April 2-14, bring back pieces made for the troupe by Annie-B Parson and Lucinda Childs. There are also two premières. One is by Maxine Doyle, a creator of the immersive show "Sleep No More," and Bobbi Jene Smith, a gutsy alumna of that show and of Batsheva Dance Company; it borrows themes from the myth of Demeter and Persephone. The other is by Pam Tanowitz, a veteran who is suddenly very busy, with upcoming commissions from New York City Ballet and Paul Taylor Dance Company. As a choreographer, Tanowitz would seem to have little in common with Graham, apart from brilliance. But that difference might be what's interesting.

— *Brian Seibert*

April 2-14

Joyce Theatre 175 Eighth Ave. at 19th St., Chelsea
212-242-0800 / joyce.org