

# Index

## Simone Forti: Here It Comes. Works and Collaborations

5 September - 15 November 2015

Opening: 4 September, 17:30 – 20:00



Index is proud to present the exhibition *Simone Forti: Here It Comes*, opening on 4 September 2015. The exhibition gives an in-depth insight into the practice of the highly influential artist, choreographer, dancer, and writer Simone Forti, who came to prominence in the 1960s, in a historical moment of rich dialogue between visual artists, musicians, poets and dancers. Her work developed a radically new approach to dance incorporating everyday movements and improvisation, exploring the body as a tool for experience and interaction. Forti's work often develops in collaboration with other practitioners, including Charlemagne Palestine, La Monte Young and Robert Whitman. *Here It Comes* shows a selection of works from different periods and areas, with sculptures, drawings, documentation of performances and videos, including two works from the legendary series of "Dance Constructions"(1960/61) which will be activated during the duration of the exhibition by dancers, and a recent collaboration with Jeremiah Day and Fred Dewey.

Forti's work has made a major contribution to the intersection of sculpture and performance and helped to create a sensibility for "what we know about things through our bodies." (Forti) Her work is often noted as a precursor to the Judson Dance Theater group and Minimal art. Although regarded as one of the key figures in postmodern dance, she refers to herself as a

The Swedish Contemporary Art Foundation  
Kungsbrogården 19, 112 26 Stockholm, Sweden  
T. +46 8 502 198 38

[www.indexfoundation.se](http://www.indexfoundation.se)

Organisationsnummer: 802407-2434

# Index

"movement artist." In the spring of 1961, she presented "Five Dance Constructions and Some Other Things" as part of a series organized by La Monte Young at Yoko Ono's studio in New York, for which she presented radically new dances made up of every day movements, performed in interaction with sculptures. In the late 1960s Forti started to study animal movements that she developed into performances. In her recent work, especially the series "News Animations", she examines how dance resonates with current events, exploring the reverberations between verbal thought, physical feeling, and perceptions of the world.

Over the past five decades, Forti has developed new models and methods of composition to address the relationship between abstraction and subjectivity, with an acute eye for the way in which politics are engrained in everyday levels of our lives. The exhibition highlights her ongoing interest in the different possibilities to negotiate social and political issues in words and movements. Forti's work challenges performers and viewers alike to experience the motion and motivation of their own bodies.

**Simone Forti** (born 1935 in Florence, Italy, lives and works in Los Angeles) is a key figure of 1960s minimalist dance, examining the relationship of space and the body. She emigrated to the US with her family in 1939. In 1955, Forti started dancing with Anna Halprin, a pioneer in improvisation and working with kinesthetic awareness. In 1959, she moved to New York to study composition at Merce Cunningham Studio with musicologist and dance educator Robert Dunn, where she met and began to work informally with choreographers Trisha Brown, Yvonne Rainer, and Steve Paxton. Forti collaborated with artists and composers, including Robert Morris, La Monte Young, Yoko Ono, Robert Whitman, Charlemagne Palestine and Peter Van Riper. In the early 1980s Forti started speaking while moving, working with newspapers and doing solo performances called "News Animations," giving expression to images, memories and speculations sparked by the news media. Forti has published several books, among them *Handbook in Motion: An Account of an Ongoing Personal Discourse and Its Manifestations in Dance* (Nova Scotia College of Art and Design Press, Halifax 1974) and *Oh, Tongue!*, edited and published by Fred Dewey (Beyond Baroque Books, Los Angeles 2003). Her works and performances were presented in exhibitions and museums in the US and internationally, most recently at the Museum der Moderne Salzburg, Hammer Museum Los Angeles, Museum of Modern Art New York, Guggenheim Museum, Sao Paulo Biennale and Louvre Paris. In the past years, artists of a younger generation have increasingly reached out to collaborate with Simone Forti, suggesting the great relevance of her work for today.

**Press Preview:** 4 September, 10:00

## Events

Simone Forti will read from her writing during the opening on 4 September, 19:00

Simone Forti, Jeremiah Day, Fred Dewey: Trio

Thu 3 September, 19:00 (admission: 100 SEK, concs: 80 SEK)

Location: Weld, Norrtullsgatan 7, 113 29 Stockholm

# Index

Simone Forti, Batyah Schachter: News Animation  
Sat 5 September, 15:00  
Location: Moderna Museet, Stockholm

From the 1960s to Today: Deborah Hay and Simone Forti in Conversation  
Sun 6 September, 16:00

A series of screenings with films and documentation of works by Simone Forti will be organized in collaboration with Film i Samtidskonsten, date and location tba.

## Opening hours

Wednesday–Friday 12:00–18:00, Saturday–Sunday 12:00–16:00  
Monday, Tuesday and Public Holidays (Red days) closed

**Social media:** @indexstockholm #simoneforti #hereitcomes

With kind support by the Italian Cultural Institute in Stockholm and the Embassy of Israel in Stockholm. Events in partnership with Moderna Museet, Stockholm and Malmö, Weld, Film i Samtidskonsten.

Simone Forti will also participate in the exhibition *Objects and Bodies at Rest and in Motion*, which will open at **Moderna Museet Malmö** on 26 September 2015. The exhibition aims at examining the relationship between objects and the human body in the works of minimalist artists and choreographers. *Objects and Bodies...* will travel to Moderna Museet Stockholm in spring 2016.

A second version of *Simone Forti. Here It Comes* will open at Vleeshal, Middelburg in January 2016.

## About Index

Index is based in the centre of Stockholm and offers an ambitious program of exhibitions, events and learning activities for a wide range of audiences. The program includes emerging artists with specifically produced new work, alongside presentations by artists from previous generations shown in a new perspective. Larger projects are accompanied by an extensive public program, often produced in collaboration with other organizations in Stockholm and abroad, with talks and film screenings, music, dance and poetry events. Index takes risks and opens up various ways to encounter contemporary culture and debate. Celebrating its 40th anniversary in 2015, Index is today one of the most important and longest-standing spaces for contemporary art in Scandinavia.

**Image Credit:** Simone Forti, Sleepwalkers, photo: Jason Underhill, courtesy of the artist and The Box, Los Angeles



Weld MODERNA MUSEET

