

Contact 2011: Jim Allen

In 1974 Jim Allen was commissioned by the Auckland Festival to present the performance *Contact* at the Auckland Art Gallery. *Contact* would come to be acknowledged as a seminal step in the development of a new radical art form in this country, moving away from the static object into live action. The importance of Allen's role in New Zealand, as an artist and an educator, can be seen in the work of subsequent generations of artists.

In 2011 *Contact* will be re-performed at Artspace, infusing new life into this historic work. At its core *Contact* speaks about a release from social alienation through collective activity—literally 'making contact'. The three elements—*Computer Dance*, *Parangola Capes* and *Body Articulation/Imprint*—deploy formal structures in which the interplay of bodies use movement, form, sound and light to strive for transcendence.

Performances at Artspace:

Saturday 5 March, 6pm
Computer Dance

Saturday 12 March, 6pm
Parangola Capes (part of *White Night*)

Saturday 19 March, 6pm
Body Articulation/Imprint

Contact 2011 is presented in association with Auckland Arts Festival, 2 March – 20 March, 2011 www.aucklandfestival.co.nz

For the first time the festival offers *White Night*, a special one night only evening which sees the city turned into a bustling outdoor gallery, adapted from the popular French *NUIT BLANCHE* where museums, public and private galleries open their doors throughout the city until midnight with special programmes of performance, music and other art events. A free bus will connect the key arts precincts on the night.

Artspace
8 March – 21 April 2011

Opening preview:
Friday 4 March, 6pm

Contact 2011 is presented at Artspace with the support of Michael Lett and the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery

Body Articulation/Imprint is presented by Aalto. *White Night* at Artspace is presented by Beck's.

Image: Jim Allen, *Contact*, 1974, a performance at Auckland Art Gallery, Toi o Tāmaki. Photographer: Bryony Dalefield, courtesy the artist and Michael Lett, Auckland.

ARTSPACE
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Newton, Auckland 1145,
Aotearoa New Zealand
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www.artspace.org.nz
Tuesday–Friday 10am–6pm,
Saturday 11–4pm

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