

Dance Camera West Film Festival

Pina Bausch on Screen

Saturday, June 16, 7 pm

Dance Camera West presents two U.S. film premieres featuring German choreographer Pina Bausch and her acclaimed company Tanztheatre Wuppertal Pina Bausch. A master of transformative theater, Bausch's surreal stagings and incomparable brand of neoexpressionist dance have made her one of the greatest dance artists of the last 40 years.

Because Bausch has collected and then destroyed much of the footage about her, there are very few existing films documenting the work of this maverick artist. For the 2007 festival, Dance Camera West has chosen two from only five films ever approved by Bausch herself for this very special Hammer screening.

Director Christiane Gibiec's 1998 documentary *Daz Tanztheater der Pina Bausch* offers a rare glimpse of Pina Bausch. Made for German television by WDR, Gibiec's film documents Bausch's life and work from the 1970's through the 1990's.

In a lush and illuminating contrast with Gibiec's more conventional film, the recently released 52 minute version of *Coffee with Pina* (2006) chronicles Israeli filmmaker and visual artist Lee Yanor's ongoing 12 year dialogue with Bausch. The result is a wildly impressionistic collage of video and 8mm footage that presents an intimate portrait of Bausch and reveals an engaging and talkative side of the usually shy artist through a series of candid conversations. Included in this film are excerpts from Bausch works such as *Agua* (filmed in Paris in 2003) and *Rough Cut* (Wuppertal, 2005).

In advance of the November, 2007, Royce Hall appearance by Tanztheatre Wuppertal Pina Bausch, DCW's presentation of these rare films serves as an indispensable primer for everyone with an interest in a deeper understanding of the work of this legendary artist.

Dance Camera West is a non-profit organization committed to fostering and promoting the vibrant art of dance for the screen from around the world. For more information and a complete schedule visit www.dancecamerawest.org. Dance Camera West is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, the Los Angeles County Arts Commission, the Annenberg Foundation and the Mortimer Levitt Foundation.