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DANCE

A Vast Space, Thanks to Video

*Neil Greenberg
Dance Theater Workshop*

Dance was once mostly a matter of steps and storytelling. Now it is often an integral part of a larger composition. Neil Greenberg's "Two" brings a new sophistication to that mix.

Set to a fragmented score by Zeena Parkins, "Two" is a departure for Mr. Greenberg. Video imagery has replaced projections of words and phrases in the elegantly designed new piece. Designed and edited by Charles Dennis, the imagery extends the dance and opens up the stage. Lighted subtly by Michael Stiller, the space seems suddenly vast and full of possibilities.

Two blessedly discreet cameras capture elements of the fragmented solos that keep the flow going. Above and behind, on an unframed rectangle within a back screen, a big billowy exalted Mr. Greenberg is seen close up in movement performed, simultaneously, by one of the four live dancers (Ori Flomin, Phithsamay Linthahane, Justine Lynch and Antonio Ramos) who slip deftly in and out of the crannies of "Two."

Mr. Greenberg's presence, his sudden ungimmicky vanishings into empty space and his connection to the dancers all work to expand the space and choreography exhilaratingly. For even more uncluttering complexity, there are images that appear occasionally on a small monitor on the floor, among them racing horses and a trudging human.

The program will be repeated on Thursday and Friday and March 29 and 30 at the workshop (219 West 19th Street, Chelsea).

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