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CONTACT: Jill Chukerman 773-525-3974/jchuk@rcn.com
DIGITAL IMAGES: [Dance Center–Koosil-ja images](#)
VIDEO CLIPS: [Dance Center video](#)

**KOOSIL-JA/danceKUMIKO MAKES CHICAGO DEBUT FEBRUARY 4–6
First Presentation in The Dance Center’s “Science, Technology And Dance” Series**

CHICAGO—In an exploration of the ways choreographers are working with new technologies and scientific ideas to develop and present their work, The Dance Center of Columbia College Chicago presents “Science, Technology and Dance,” beginning with the Chicago debut of Koosil-ja/danceKUMIKO. Performances are February 4–6 at The Dance Center, 1306 S. Michigan Ave.

Koosil-ja’s newest full-evening piece, *Blocks of Continuality/Body, Image, and Algorithm*, is an electrifying experimental multimedia performance piece demonstrating her concept that body, space and objects have two natures—actual and virtual—as part of her continuous study of the “evolution of the body in the digital era and its realm of domain and identity.” Koosil-ja mixes elements of movement, music and a live 3-D performance environment with her own aesthetic context, creating an innovative blend of modern and traditional, digital and flesh. Collaborating artists include David Or, Robert Ramirez, Geoff Matters and Melissa Guerrero.

For *Blocks*, Koosil-ja has created a networked body with the dancers and digital images using the commonly known technology Wii. “I create work with movement, philosophy study and digital media to research about movement and visible and invisible aspects of the body,” she says. “I created a performance technique/video system called Live Processing: dancers see multiple video movement sources and mimic the movements from the sources, combining dance movements in real time.”

RESIDENCY ACTIVITIES

As part of Koosil-ja/danceKUMIKO’s residency, there will be a post-performance discussion with the artists on Thursday, February 4. Koosil-ja will lead a DanceMasters class Tuesday, February 2 at 6 p.m. at the Museum of Contemporary Art, 220 E. Chicago Ave. DanceMasters is a series of community master classes presented by The Dance Center’s division of Community Outreach and Education (COE), in partnership with the Lou Conte Dance Studio of the Hubbard Street Dance Center and the Museum of Contemporary Art. Classes are for dancers at the intermediate level or higher.

(more)

Koosil-ja/danceKUMIKO Makes Chicago Debut at The Dance Center Feb. 4–6/Add One

ABOUT KOOSIL-JA/DANCEKUMIKO

After moving to New York in 1981 to study dance with Merce Cunningham, Koosil-ja, born in Japan and of Korean descent, became a member of the Wendy Perron Dance Company from 1987 to 1989. She is the recipient of five National Endowment for the Arts Choreographer Fellowships, three New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowships, a 2007 Guggenheim Fellowship and an Asian Cultural Council Fellowship in 2008. Her work has been presented at major dance venues in New York and throughout the U.S., and she has toured to The Netherlands, Germany and Portugal. In 2004, she received a New York Dance and Performance Bessie Award in Choreography for the creation of *mech[a]OUTPUT* and *deadmandancing EXCESS*.

THE DANCE CENTER

The Dance Center of Columbia College Chicago, named “Chicago’s Best Dance Theatre” by *Chicago* magazine and “Best Dance Venue” by the *Chicago Reader*, is the city’s leading presenter of contemporary dance, showcasing artists of regional, national and international significance. Programs of The Dance Center are supported in part by Alphawood Foundation, The Chicago Community Trust, The MacArthur Fund for Arts and Culture at Prince, The Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust, New England Foundation for the Arts, The Boeing Company Charitable Trust, Arts Midwest, Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation, The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation, and The Irving Harris Foundation. Additional funding is provided by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Illinois Arts Council. Special thanks to Friends of The Dance Center. All programming is subject to change.

The Dance Center’s “Science, Technology and Dance” series continues with Troika Ranch March 4–6 and Wayne McGregor | Random Dance March 18–20. The 2009–10 season also includes Chicago companies JUMP RHYTHM Jazz Project February 18–20 and Hedwig Dances April 1–3.

FUNDING

The Dance Center’s presentation of Koosil-ja/danceKUMIKO is funded, in part, by the National Dance Project of the New England Foundation for the Arts, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and additional funding from the Ford Foundation, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the Community Connections Fund of the MetLife Foundation. Additional funding is provided by the Performing Arts Fund, a program of Arts Midwest funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes a great nation deserves great art, with additional contributions from the Illinois Arts Council, General Mills Foundation and Land O’Lakes Foundation.

TICKET INFORMATION

The Dance Center of Columbia College Chicago presents Koosil-ja/danceKUMIKO Thursday, Friday and Saturday, February 4–6 at 8 p.m. at The Dance Center, 1306 S. Michigan Ave. Tickets are \$24–28. The DanceMasters class on Tuesday, February 2 at 6 p.m. at the Museum of Contemporary Art, 220 E. Chicago Ave., is \$15; space is limited. For tickets or more information, **call 312-369-8330 or visit colum.edu/dancecenter**.
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