

*Projective  
Kinetics*



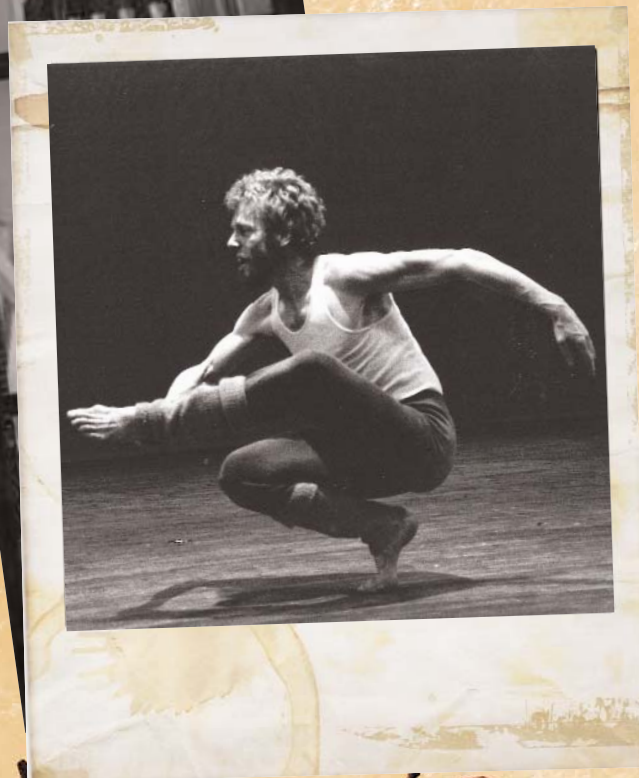
Presents

# *As the Dead Prey Upon Us*

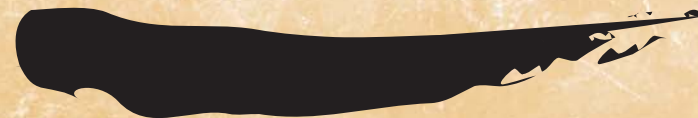
The Poetry of Charles Olson

Performed as physical theater by Richard Haisma

Photo: Harry Redl



*Press Kit*



A Production of Projective Kinetics

artistic director **RICHARD HAISMA**

telephone: 585 527 9033

email: [RichardHaisma@projectivekinetics.org](mailto:RichardHaisma@projectivekinetics.org)

**Booking Inquiries**

acting executive director **CURTIS STEDGE**

telephone: 585 957 1480

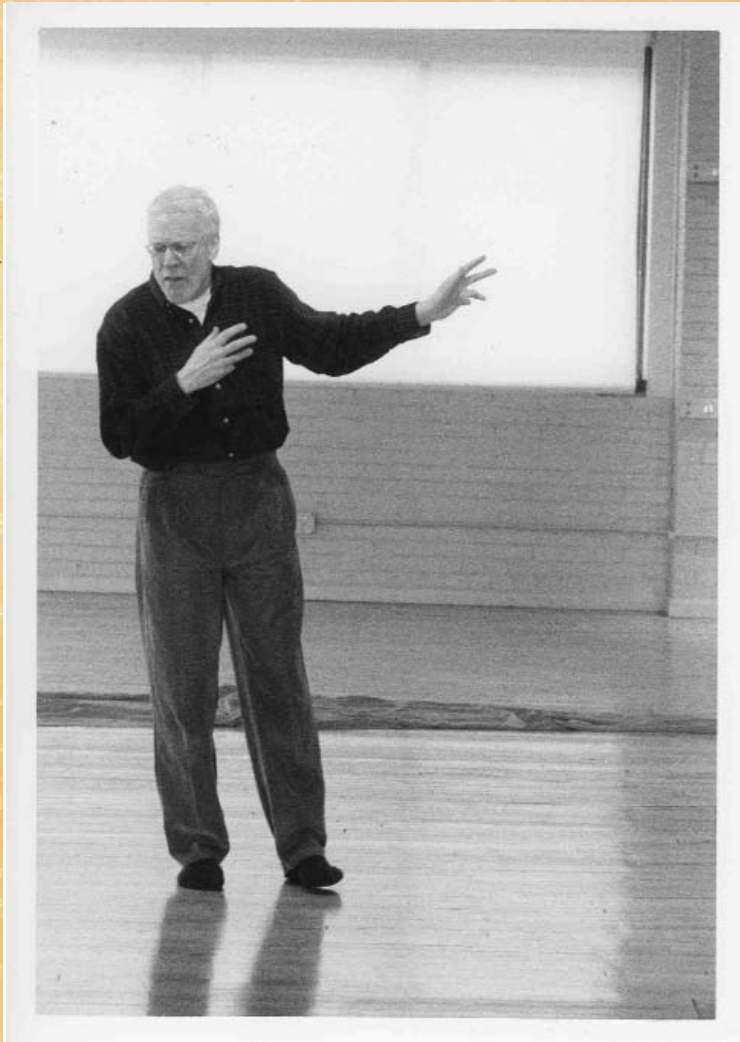
email: [CurtisStedge@projectivekinetics.org](mailto:CurtisStedge@projectivekinetics.org)

**Projective Kinetics**

One Flint Street

Rochester, NY 14608

[www.ProjectiveKinetics.org](http://www.ProjectiveKinetics.org)



*Contact*



With this performance, actor-dancer Richard Haisma reveals the kinetic and dramatic depth of Olson's vision. From *The Maximus Poems* and *the Collected Poetry* a selection of the most moving, visceral and clairvoyant poems are performed with vocal virtuosity and theatrical vigor. While most writers are familiar with Olson's legacy, the physical viability of his voice now has a champion for reaching a larger audience in a publicly radiant and moving manner.

This performance will be neither a poetry "recital" nor a "dancing to poetry". It arises rather out of a new or different stance towards poetry, a stance that involves, said Charles Olson, "... a change beyond and larger than, the technical, and may, the way things look, lead to new poetics and to new concepts from which some sort of drama, say, or of epic, perhaps, may emerge." Having created a field poetics that may permit within each poem more experience than even the poet may have anticipated, Olson left the way open for not only the breath but also the body. And once into the field the body may re-inform, color and amplify the poem in its power, resonance and impact.

Richard Haisma, a Certified Movement Analyst in Laban Movement Analysis, has been a dancer, choreographer and actor for over 35 years. All of his experience has been in a tradition that defines movement composition in the same way as Charles Olson defined poetic composition, that is, that form is never more than an extension of content and that one perception must immediately and directly lead to a further perception. This movement tradition, unique in the world of dance, was initiated by Rudolf Laban (1879-1958) and carried forward by Mary Wigman, Hanya Holm, Alwin Nikolais. It plumbs the depths of movement in the same fundamental way as Olson took hold of words, seeking as he might have put it, "a position inferior to motion." This means that kinetics is motion that contains its own intelligence, and the poems of Charles Olson are analogous fields directing the body of the performer into new kinds of kinetic theater.

*About the Show*





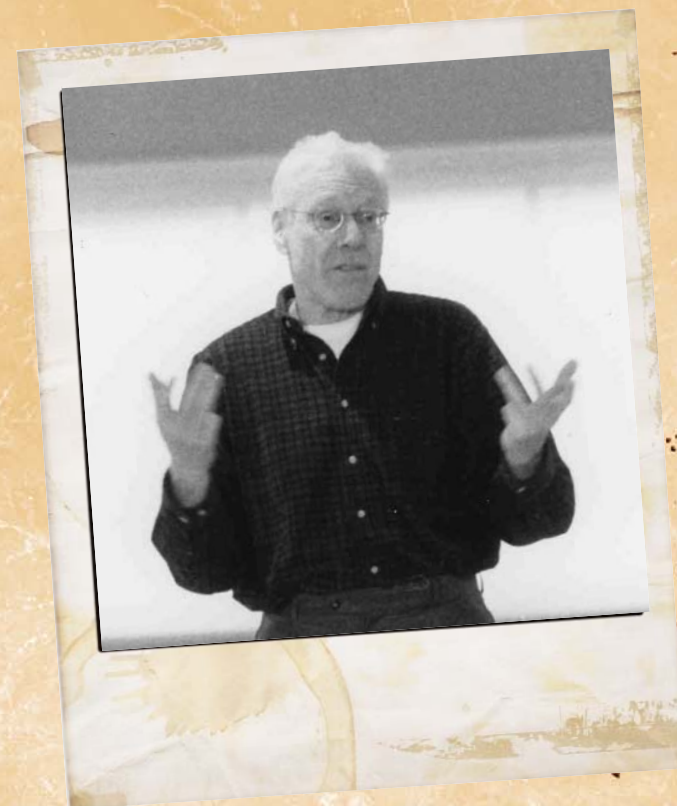
Charles Olson (1910-1970) was a seminal and commanding force in contemporary poetry. He coined the term 'post-modern' and influenced a generation of major poets and writers, including Amiri Baraka, Paul Blackburn, Robert Creeley, Ed Dorn, and Robert Duncan. The range of his interests, from paleontology to physics to art history to psychology gave him an epic, lyric and freshly dramatic voice.

Ed Dorn called Olson "... a creative gambler, a great intellectual punter constantly at the gaming tables of thought and literature." William Carlos Williams said of Olson: "A major poet with a sweep of understanding of the world, a feeling for other men that staggers me."

*Charles Olson*

---

Mr. Haisma is an internationally known dancer, teacher and choreographer in the lineage of Rudolf Laban, Alwin Nikolais, and Murray Louis. He holds an MFA and is a Certified Movement Analyst (CMA). He has performed his solo choreography throughout Europe and the United States. In recent years he has taught at Hobart William Smith Colleges and the University of Rochester. He presently teaches at the Laban Institute of Movement Studies in New York City and directs a Certification Program for Laban Movement Analysis in Tuscany, Italy where he also teaches contemporary dance in various cities. He has been Visiting Artist at SUNY Potsdam, Salem State College and York University among many other universities throughout the United States and in 2004 he was Guest Teacher in Residence at the Venice Biennale.



*Richard Haisma*

---

“Richard Haisma's performance... is intense, not long (1 hour total), and a dive into the deep with the words of this amazing poet, Charles Olson. Richard's "telling" of these poems is pretty breathtaking, out on the edge, butoh-like in his inhabitation of them. This is "physical theater", a rare, live genre that speaks directly to that live-wire in each of us.”

Priscilla Auckenclaus - Director, Physikos

"I found him (Richard) to be absolutely wonderful. I think he definitely was able to get into many different characters and it was refreshing to see someone with so much passion for what they do. I loved it."

English Student, RIT

“...and thanks to you, our students were able to experience poetry interpretation deeply and imaginatively. I look forward to a return engagement.”

Professor Linda Reinfeld - RIT English Dept.

*Praise*

