Friday April 18, 2003 Tishman Auditorium 66 West 12th Street, NYC New School's Diversity Initiatives presents

"Woman's Song: The Story of Roro Mendut"

Features from the work-in-progress

Conceived and created by Lisa Karrer

in collaboration with:

Gamelan Son of Lion: Barbara Benary, Mark Steven Brooks, David Demnitz, Stephanie Griffin, Daniel Goode, Bill Jacobs, Laura Liben, Lisa Karrer, Marnen Laibow-Koser, David Simons

Song Texts by Sitor Situmorang and Walt Whitman

Kate Yourke - Wayang puppet design and Shadow screen lighting

Jenny Lynn McNutt - Video projections

Performing in order of appearance:

Nyoman Saptanyana - "Hands" in opening video
Toshinori Hamada - Wirogno
Deena Burton - Spy, Servant, Roro Mendut's Assistant
Ayu Armini - Roro Mendut
Lisa Karrer - Pronocitro

Bill Schorr - Stage Manager
Sarah Ballard and Christopher Martin - Interns

Song of Myself Walt Whitman (Roro Mendut's Entrance Song)

I celebrate myself, and sing myself. And what I shall assume you shall assume, For every atom belonging to me as good belongs to you.

Kecapi Strings and Clarinet text: Sitor Situmorang Translated by Harry Aveling; arranged by Lisa Karrer

This is the story of our love Which began in the flower market

And the room glowed With the brightness of your body

When all have forgotten how to mourn Surrender to the open window

I used to think that like my shadow You would always be with me Woman's Song Sitor Situmorang English translation by John H. McGlynn

Hearing you sing with no hope in your voice I believe that victory will be had by those who mourn

Oh, faithful woman no doubt it is your song that stirs my body from the welter of grief that raises a new dawn

and some day, when all this is past that is you will accept my love stiff and bloodied prostrate at your feet.

A huge thank you to Ken Butler and David Simons for their generous contributions of space and time. Thanks also to Pat Underwood, Jim Fisher and the Diversity Initiative, and to New School staff Susanne Verrochi, Brian Kase, Daniel Nicasio, Anthony Barahdi and Maggie.

The NYC premiere of "Woman's Song..." will be co-presented by The Kitchen and the World Music Institute October 15 - 18 2003, with funding from The Greenwall Foundation.