

## 2015-J1101

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Yvonne Meier upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of The Performing Artist Award by the Brooklyn Arts Exchange Arts and Artists in Progress

WHEREAS, It is the practice of this Legislative Body to honor and recognize those individuals whose commitment and creative talents contribute to the cultural enrichment of their communities and of the entire State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Yvonne Meier upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of The Performing Artist Award, to be celebrated at the 14th Annual Brooklyn Arts Exchange Arts and Artists in Progress Awards Ceremony, on Saturday, March 28, 2015, at the Brooklyn Arts Exchange Building, Park Slope, Brooklyn; and

WHEREAS, The Brooklyn Arts Exchange (BAX) Arts and Artists in Progress awards recognize individuals in the arts who have revealed and transformed their creative works; by instigating change, they have deepened the definition of their field and paved the way for others; and

WHEREAS, These distinguished awards are given to some of the most talented, generous, creative, and inventive persons in New York City dance, theater or performance; each awardee is then asked to Pass it On, honoring a colleague who demonstrates the same qualities for which they, themselves, were chosen; and

WHEREAS, Originally from Zurich, Switzerland, Choreographer Yvonne Meier has lived and worked in New York City since 1979; at that time, she became a member of the original group Performance Space 122, regularly collaborating with Ishmael Houston-Jones and many others throughout the United States and Europe; and

WHEREAS, Yvonne Meier's work, spanning anywhere from big spectacles to quiet solos, has been supported by three Fellowships in Choreography, the New York Foundation for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the NEA Inter Arts, Franklin Furnace and Pro Helvetia; and

WHEREAS, Yvonne Meier was the recipient of three Bessie Awards for her works "The Shining" in 1993 and 2011, and "Stolen" in 2009; and

WHEREAS, "The Shining" is a thrilling dance-installation set inside the intricate maze of 350 refrigerator boxes; originally created and performed in 1993 at Performance Space 122 and again in 1995 at PS1 Contemporary Art Center, this Bessie Award-winning work puts audience members and performers together in an extraordinarily crafted, living, breathing and inimitable environment; and

WHEREAS, In "Stolen", Yvonne Meier constructs an environment of playful aggression that defies convention and comparison; and

WHEREAS, Yvonne Meier's works have been supported twice through the Movement Research Artist-in-Resident Program; today, The American Master Piece program of the NEA is supporting her upcoming recreation of "The Shining"; and

WHEREAS, For the past three decades, Yvonne Meier has been teaching Releasing Technique and Authentic Movement both nationally and internationally; in addition, after a life-long commitment to improvisation, she has developed her own technique known as Scores; and

WHEREAS, Yvonne Meier also teaches children's dance classes in New York Public Schools through Movement Research's Dance Makers program; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to those individuals who add strength, vigor and inspiration to the

cultural diversity and quality of life in the communities of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, It is most fitting that we take time to celebrate the arts of our Nation, to honor our artists, and to express our appreciation to

everyone who patronizes the arts; and as we celebrate the arts, we celebrate and give thanks to our American freedom, the only atmosphere in which artists can truly create and in which art is truly the expression of the soul; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Yvonne Meier upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of The Performing Artist Award by the Brooklyn Arts Exchange Arts and Artists in Progress; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Yvonne Meier.