



DECEMBER 1988

Nancy Vreeland Dalva

**“Serious Fun!”
Alice Tully Hall
July 14 – August 4, 1988**

Under the rubric “Serious Fun!”, Lincoln Center presented sixteen performances in July and August. I saw three of these evenings, but very little of the goings-on had to do with what I’d consider serious fun—that is, with true comedy: high art allied to happy endings.

Instead, there were two instances of genuinely ecstatic performance (pieces by Elizabeth Streb and Charles Moulton), one lyrically elaborated set of variations on a theme (by Sara Pearson), and a wide sampling of postmodern this and that.

Sara Pearson’s FishFlyMonkeySwim was that fine set of variations on a theme mentioned before—a real, always interesting, dance for eight that takes place in the air—on four ropes. It’s full of rope-as-partner, rope-as-swing, dancer-as-dervish action set to a percussive jungle background of bird cries and calls and the like. The persuasive momentum explodes, mid-dance, into breezy images of free flight. Swoosh!