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DANCE REVIEW

Motion, Emotion, Commotion

By [Jack Anderson](#)

Everyone kept changing position in Anna Myer's new "All at Once," which Anna Myer and Dancers presented Thursday night as part of the Danspace Project at St. Mark's Church. The dancers were on the move -- which is, of course, to be expected -- but so were the 12 string players from the Juilliard School. As a result "All at Once" was visually unusual, and emotionally satisfying. At moments, the dance steps seemed to make the musical phrases visible while the musicians' bowing arms appeared to be doing dances of their own. As they played a richly textured score by Jakov Jakoulov, the musicians were sometimes at the sides of the performing area. At other times, they and Susan Davenny Wyner, the conductor, shifted to its back or its front. They even planted themselves smack in stage center.

Striding, crawling and leaping, the dancers forged choreographic trails among and around them, swooping toward them at some moments, keeping their distance at others. The dancing provided visual counterpoint to Mr. Jakoulov's intensely moody score. The program also included another new work, "The Presence of That Absence," a pleasant, if rather wispy, piece to a recorded potpourri, and two well-made duets. "Italian Love Duet," to an excerpt from Verdi's "Traviata," grew increasingly intense as it was danced by Eric Lindemer and Carol Somers. A duet for Lisa Lockwood and Lisa Rinehart, excerpted from a longer "Quintet to Brahms," contrasted tight and loose movements.

Anna Myer and Dancers Danspace Project at St. Mark's Church