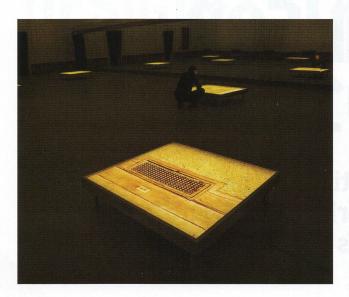
BEYOND THE CENTER

ON VIEW

New York City Center 130 W. 56th St, Fourth Floor

Répétiteur by Jorge Otero-Pailos

Harkness Studio April 29-May 5, 2019 10am-6pm



Memorializing the ephemeral is the goal of Répétiteur, one of three visual arts projects commissioned by New York City Center to celebrate its 75th Anniversary Season. Set in the grand practice studio used by Merce Cunningham and his dancers, artist and architect Jorge Otero-Pailos sets out to capture not the polished performance but the process that led to it, characterized by sweat, sound, and the dust and wear of time. Otero-Pailos cast sections of the studio wall using golden latex sheets and then positioned these pieces into six light boxes floating on the studio floor. There, each section was combined with a unique soundtrack of dancers working with Cunningham or his répétiteurs—the dance masters who teach a choreographer's work to a new generation. Cunningham's pieces notably required that dancers keep time with their bodies rather than with the music, so the ambient stomps and slaps in the recordings underscore the idea of time while conjuring the relentless physical effort that once animated the space. The installation will be open for a final viewing at City Center from April 29 through May 5, concurrent with the Frieze Art Fair. MH

