

The New York Times Magazine

SEPTEMBER 10, 2006 / SECTION 6

NEW BOHEMIANS

Not all New York hipster culture has moved to Brooklyn. Some of the artists, musicians, dancers and nightlife impresarios who are keeping downtown alive.

Photographs by Gareth McConnell

Text by Camille Sweeney



Noémie Lafrance, 32 Choreographer

Lafrance, who came to New York from Quebec, Canada, in 1994 as a student at the Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance, first won critical acclaim for "Descent," a piece she choreographed for the dizzying 12-story stairwell of downtown's Clock Tower building. After that came "Noir," in a Lower East Side parking garage. Both a part of a general movement in contemporary dance away from the conventional stage and a pioneer bent on discovering ever-new site-specific possibilities, Lafrance is now at work on a conceptual piece that will use her body as its site. "For that I could be anywhere," she says.