

## MATTHEW THORNTON AND ALICIA DIAZ:



**Alicia Díaz**, originally from Puerto Rico, is co-founder of Agua Dulce Dance Theater, with movement artist Matthew Thornton. Her choreography has been presented in the United States, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Argentina, Spain, and Mexico. She toured nationally and internationally with Complexions Contemporary Ballet, Donald Byrd/The Group, Joseph Holmes Chicago Dance Theater, *Andanza Compañía Puertorriqueña de Danza Contemporánea*, Alice Farley Dance Theater, and Contemporary Motions, as well as numerous independent choreographers. In 1997, Díaz co-founded *en la brega dance company* with Puerto Rican dancer and choreographer Ñequi González, and she co-directed Rubí Theater Company—an artistic collective dedicated to creating works pertinent to Latino experiences in the U.S.—from 2000-2004.



Matthew Thornton grew up in Northeast Ohio training movement theater with James Thornton's Acting Ensemble Program. Thornton studied dance at Hamilton College and holds a B.A. in English from the University of Wisconsin. There he was introduced to contact improvisation, and began training capoeira, an Afro-Brazilian martial art hidden in dance. He has since trained with numerous martial artists including Wayne Chandler, Michael Goldstein, Roberto Sharpe and Wilson Pitts.