

THE AMBER ROOM (2000)

– PROJECT DESCRIPTION –

***The masterful choreography radiates pride and defiance,
and as long as it lasts, that lost artwork seems to reassemble and shine.***

Deborah Jowitt, The Village Voice

Composer: Scott Killian with traditional German and Russian music

Costume Design: Naoko Nagata

Lighting Design: Mark London & Dale Knoth

Number of Dancers: 9

Length of Piece: 75 minutes

The Amber Room, premiering April 20, 2000 at The Angel Orensanz Foundation, the oldest surviving synagogue on Manhattan's Lower East Side, was inspired by the mysterious disappearance of what was regarded as the Eighth Wonder of the Modern World. A gift from Wilhelm I of Prussia to Russia's Peter the Great, The Amber Room was composed of walls carved from the golden stone in a palace outside of St. Petersburg. During World War II, the Nazis dismantled the room and shipped it from St. Petersburg to Koenigsberg, where it vanished without a trace. Gotheiner's *The Amber Room* uses this story as a reference point to explore issues such as the creation and ownership of art, art and nationalism and the body as an art object. The score combines period music from Germany and Russia with commissioned music by Scott Killian. Naoko Nagata designed the costumes and Mark London designed the lighting.