

“Consider, for instance, two ways of including water in a building. Suppose, on the one hand, that there is a concrete reflecting pool outside your room - with no purpose except to reflect the sky.



The fountain at Reston Town Center

And suppose, on the other hand, that there is a stream outside your room, with a small rowing boat on it, where you can go to row, lie on the water, struggle against the stream, tip over... Which of these two makes the most difference to the building?

Lake Anne ; boats



The rowing boat, of course, because it alters the entire experience of the building.”²

About Raha

Raha is an Iranian-Canadian student of dance and anthropology at the University of Maryland, where she has had the opportunity to study with and perform the works of Sharon Mansur, Sara Pearson, Patrik Widrig, Nathan Andary, Emily Olesson, Alvin Mayes and Graham Brown. Her studies at the University of Maryland have been made possible through the support of a Creative and Performing Arts Scholarship. Additionally, she has been honored with the Arts and Humanities Dean's Senior Scholar award, and the Philip Merrill Presidential Scholarship in the spring of 2011. As a choreographer, she presented her co-choreographed work, *Gravity*, with Rachel Wolfe at the American College Dance Festival Association in 2011.

Previous to her studies at the University of Maryland, Raha worked with Amnesty International, Iranian Alliances Across Borders, and The Intersection for the Arts in San Francisco. Raha continues to be fascinated by the relationship between culture, embodiment and the built environment.