

# The New York Times

THE NEW YORK TIMES, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1982

## Evening of Jana Haimsohn

**J**ANA HAIMSOHN presented her "vocal/music/dance/language/performance art" at the Kitchen on Tuesday night. While no facet of that description could have stood on its own with much potency, together they added up to an engaging portrait of Miss Haimsohn herself.

Miss Haimsohn exuberantly recited and chanted her pungent and indulgent sentences, laden with assonance, alliteration and ethnic accents. They offered glimpses into the life of an independent single woman — with allusions to desire, children, marriage — along with wry irony about the manners and mannerisms of middle-class life — suburbia, cellulite, psychology. "I died days ago but I demand to deny the decay to delay the disaster," Miss Haimsohn repeated with a slight Brooklyn accent.

The result had something of a

"beat" feel to it all — particularly the personal celebration combined with the allusions to less acutely aware folk — and Miss Haimsohn's rhythmic recitation, curling lips, vocal sounds, slaps to her face, spare attire and intentional stutters added to the sense of private matters bubblingly bared in a confessional.

Miss Haimsohn seemed to skirt the edge of countercultural cliché, but she never let things get ponderous or out of hand; the delivery was in itself musical, skittish and virtuosically playful. Her later frenetic dancing and jazz vocalisations — counterpoint to the jazz improvisations of Ed Blackwell, Don Pullen and Fred Hopkins — had the same characteristics — vocal/music/dance/language/performance as an energetic celebration of the free spirit, slyly mourning its constraints.

Edward Rothstein

The Soho News February 9, 1982

### MUSIC PICKS

**JANA HAIMSOHN, DON PULLEN, FRED HOPKINS, ED BLACKWELL** Haimsohn's a fine, daring poet/vocalist/performance artist; her three accompanists are nothing short of magnificent. The Kitchen, Tues. (Shore)

## JANA HAIMSOHN DON PULLEN ED BLACKWELL FRED HOPKINS

MUSIC/DANCE/VOCALS/POETRY-SOUND WORK

Tuesday February 9th 8:30pm  
\$5.00/\$3.50 members/TDF + \$1

**THE KITCHEN**

484 Broome Street Reservations: 925-3615