

# The New York Times


Dec. 1982

## Jazz: Talking Scat By Jana Haimsohn

**J**ANA HAIMSOHN can do remarkable things with her voice. Friday at the Public Theater, she declaimed poetry and sang with smooth, swooping phrases and pinpoint articulation. She would babble a single sound — a “b” or a “z” — up from a deep contralto to a high babyish squeal, pronouncing syllables with speed and precision that would astonish a linguist.

When her poetry touched down on complete words and sentences, Miss Haimsohn tossed around a nasal New York accent, a Southern drawl and a creaky old-ladyish tone. She also danced for a short time, tensing her body into obsessive, repeating postures that suggested a physical match for her alliterating vocals. . . .

Jon Pareles



**NEW JAZZ** *at the* **PUBLIC**

Joseph Papp presents  
**JANA HAIMSOHN**  
with Don Pullen, Sirone, and Ed Blackwell  
Friday, December 10 at 11PM

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