

# ZE' EVA COHEN & DANCERS

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### Dance: 2 New Works From Cohen

By JENNIFER DUNNING

Miss Cohen covered a lot of territory, both spatially and emotionally, in the two new dances on the program. "Ariadne" is a strong solo, strongly performed here by Caryn Heilman, who has something of Miss Cohen's deft attack. Set to a twanging score by Vangelis, sung by Irene Papas, "Ariadne" hints at a good deal as Miss Heilman edges, darts, pivots and drops tautly in an interrupted flow about the stage, much of the time moving into light.

Dressed in a filmy white robe designed by Christina Giannini, Miss

Heilman has the look of a young, oracular goddess, forever poised on some dangerous brink. Some of the held poses have the look of a key pattern or Greek fret. And Miss Heilman's final gesture, in which she reaches forward, one hand curling into the shape of a curved comb, had a starkly hieratic look.

Given its title, it was disappointing that the solo did not allude to the story of Ariadne, the Cretan princess. But there was nothing mysterious about Miss Cohen's stylish and witty new "Walkman Variations," whose moves and score, by the Pointer Sisters, was wonderfully evocative of city streets.

Miss Cohen has caught the savvy

struts of radio-bearing youngsters on the prowl, in a well-crafted flow of ensemble numbers performed sleekly by James Aarons, Jeffrey Aviles, Rhonda Feldman, Miss Heilman, Michele Pereira, Edie Shaw and Catherine Tharin. Heather Samuels designed the punkish black outfits.

The program opened with "Rainwood," an equally evocative ritual for forest creatures that captures the unreasoning purposefulness of animal behavior. Amusingly, about midway through "Walkman Variations," connections between the two pieces were evident. The prowl is more lyrical "Rainwood," but each tells of a jungle inhabited by exotic creatures.