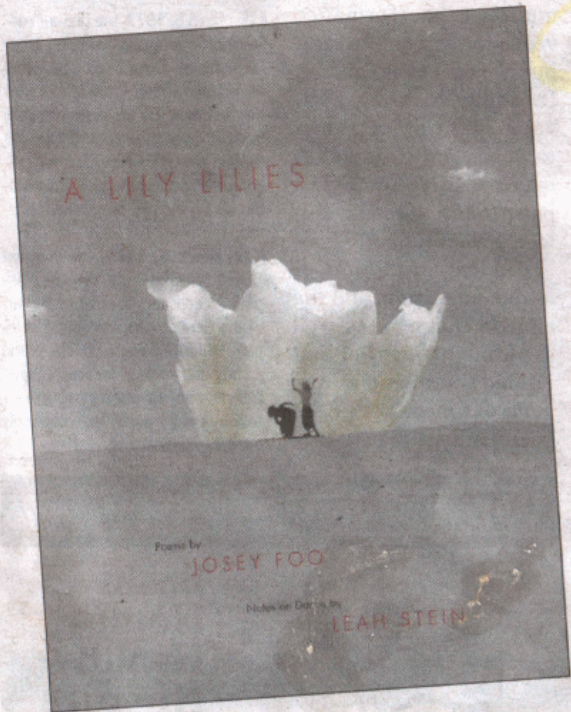




Artistic synergy

Foo's poems and Stein's dance connect in *A Lily Lilies*



Josey Foo will read poems from Leah Stein's recently released book *A Lily Lilies*, at Andrea Kristina's Bookstore and Cafe, 281 W. Main St., on Friday, March 11 at 7 p.m.

"Lilies" is the result of an eight-year collaboration between poet Foo and dancer/choreographer Stein, that began in 2002 with the premiere of an evening-long dance performance at the Philadelphia Arts Bank Theater.

Foo's poems and Stein's notes on dance in response to the poems are layered experiences in the synergy between the two artists.

Inspired by the great historical desert landscapes of the Navajo Nation, the



Josey Foo

collection is a dramaturg's delight—poetry and movement on the page, with hints for the stage.

The book moves from immense spaces, to intimate spaces, to inner spaces of the self.

The authors infuse this

work with diverse cultural sensibilities and an approach at once experimental and deeply traditional, communal and individual, oriented toward movement and also spiritual reflection.

In their introduction, the authors observe that "trav-

elers driving through the flat desert sometimes ask when they will see something, while those who live in the desert see landmarks in austere rocks and sand."

The landmarks signify communities and cultures being worn away, and this collection guides the reader to experience and find beauty in them.

According to Foo, the collaboration has taught her valuable lessons in how work is made better when its creation is shared.

"There's humility and tenderness involved in sharing work that is coming into being. Being open to Leah and having her spirit within my work has been a remarkable experience."

Big show for big event

Collins will be featured at Wines of the San Juan