

Devotion

For Drew

Winter 2011



WINTER 2011 PROGRAMS-AT-A-GLANCE

Dave Miko and Tom Thayer: *New World Pig*January 7–March 5
Opening Reception: Friday, January 7, 6-8pm

This collaborative exhibition features Dave Miko's

enamel on aluminum paintings and **Tom Thayer**'s stop-motion animation videos. Working separately but in tandem, the artists have juxtaposed the loose, abstract vocabulary of Miko's paintings with Thayer's supersaturated colors and lo-fi image quality derived from his use of antiquated video technology along with current digital processes.

Cauleen Smith: REMOTE VIEWING January 7-March 5 Opening Reception: Friday, January 7, 6-8pm

California-based filmmaker, screenwriter, and video installation artist, Cauleen Smith presents three new distinct but interrelated video works that draw from abstracted historical narratives of absence, loss, displacement, burial, and excavation — not only exposing that which has disappeared, but also investigating the gestures and traumas associated with the violence of erasure.

Devotion: Sarah Michelson For New York City Players January 13–22, 8pm

Collaborators include: Rebecca Warner, Nicole Mannarino, Non Griffiths, James Tyson, Eleanor Hullihan, Jim Fletcher, Alice Downing, Richard Maxwell, Pete Drungle, Parker Lutz, TM Davy, Zack Tinkelman, Bozkurt Karasu, Matthew Lyons, Bob Bellerue, Nicholas Elliott, and Barbara Bryan.

Shim Sham Hosted by Roxane Butterfly January 29, 7pm

Based in New York and Barcelona, French-born tap dancer Roxane "Butterfly" was given her name by the late legendary be-bop hoofer Jimmy Slyde. Known for her Worldbeats projects that merge a range of musical influences including flamenco, Central African, Indian, classical, and experimental jazz with tap dance, Butterfly hosts this free open jam session in which some of the finest of New York City's rhythm tap community come together to share and showcase their moves.

An Evening with CoonBidness January 31, 7pm

Deftly blending writing, art, and politics, the Harlembased publication hosts an evening of readings, video, mash-ups, and performances by contributors to their inaugural CRITICAL ASS issue including Lucman Brown, Edwin Torres, Paloma McGregor, Urayoán Noel, Paula Henderson, Iona Rozael Brown, Xaveria Simmons, and others. Founded and edited by writers and musicians Greg Tate and LaTasha N. Nevada, CoonBidness

hangs out dirty laundry and celebrates a renegade African cosmopolite spirit in a well-woven series of surreal short stories, Facebook threads, poems and scintillating visuals by mid-career, and emerging artists

An Evening with Esopus February 1, 7pm

The semiannual arts publication presents an evening of performance and screenings related to its current issue, ESOPUS 15: TELEVISION, which explores the medium of TV through contemporary artists\(^1\) projects, critical and visual essays, interviews, and facsimile reproductions of production artifacts.

Trajal Harrell:

Twenty Looks or Paris is Burning at The Judson Church February 9–13, times vary

Choreographer Trajal Harrell's project Twenty Looks or Paris is Burning at The Judson Church is the culmination of a decade-long inquiry into the parallel histories of postmodern dance and the voguing dance form. Rather than illustrating a historical fiction, each work in the series transports this imagined scenario into a contemporary context to address the shifting relationship of movement to site, class, and identity as well as to comment on how contemporary dance is created, scaled, distributed, and consumed. *In choreographic collaboration with Cecilia Bengolea, François Chaignaud, and Marlene Freitas.

Ellie Ga: *The Fortunetellers* February 16, 7pm

The Fortunetellers is an autobiographical, narrative performance based on a five-month residency the artist **Ellie Ga** spent on the Tara, a research sailboat frozen into the ice, purposely drifting near the North Pole to gather scientific data. Combining a vast array of documents she created and archived along the way (photographs, videos, annotated sketches, maps, travel logs), Ga superimposes live storytelling, recorded sound, still and moving images, to conjure up the terms and rituals of daily life in the Arctic night while incorporating fragments of one of the rare entertainment forms the artist and the other nine crew members of the expedition managed to create for themselves in their remote, confined habitat: a lecture series.

Brent Green: Gravity was Everywhere Back Then February 17–18, 8pm

Inspired by the real actions of the eccentric Leonard Wood, filmmaker **Brent Green** brings to life this love story like no other in his first feature-length film. Shot entirely on the full-scale town he built in his backyard, Green combines animation, stop-motion, and live-action in an ethereal opus to lovers and tinkerers everywhere. In these performances, Green (continued on last page)

The Kitchen presents

Devotion

By Sarah Michelson
For New York City Players

Cast in order of appearance

Narrator Rebecca Warner
Spirit of Religion Nicole Mannarino
Mary Non Griffiths
Jesus James Tyson
Adam Jim Fletcher
Eve Eleanor Hullihan

Assistant to the choreographer Alice Downing
Prophets Neal Medlyn, Alice Downing, Liz Jenetopulos,
Nancy Kim, Andrya Ambro

Text Richard Maxwell
Original Music Pete Drungle
Additional Music Dance IX by Philip Glass*
Lighting Design Sarah Michelson and Zack Tinkelman
Paintings TM Davy
Costumes James Kidd, Shaina Mote, and Sarah Michelson
Fitness Coach and Massage Therapist Sulvn Silbar

Production Manager Bozkurt Karazu

Manager Barbara Bryan

*@1986 Dunvagen Music Publishers Inc. Used by Permission.

Special Thanks

Thank you to Alice Downing and James Tyson whose dedication and support of this dance created it.

My heartfelt thanks to the dancers

To Rebecca Warner for your diligence and absolute unwavering commitment to the movements, to Nicole Mannarino for your endless patience and trust and precision, Non Griffiths, for coming here and for all our hours and now years of working which have changed me - I love you; James Tyson (!), Jim Fletcher for your willingness at every second, Eleanor Hullihan for your bravery, generosity and skills.

To Pete Drungle for the music To Richard Maxwell for the text To TM Davy for the paintings

To my friend Parker Lutz whose work and discussions with me over all the years remain central to the process

Thanks to everyone at The Kitchen

To Zack Tinkleman, thank you so much for your sensitive and intelligent work. To Andrea and Bob thank you so much for all the support. I felt completely taken care of by this team! Thank you Matthew Lyons for a million things but perhaps above all your care, camaraderie, precision, and manner!

Thanks as always to Deb Singer for her generous support. To, Rashida, Jessica and everyone who played with Prudence. To Chase, Liz, Neal and the box office team.

To Bozzy, thank you.

To Claude Wampler for all your help.

To James Lo, I am so grateful.

To Suzi Silbar everything/always x

Barbara Bryan, Julie Alexander, Stephanie Cali and Bessie McDonough-Thayer for the work they do every day to keep the ship from sinking.

To Nicholas Elliot and the NYC Players admin team.

To Pam Tanowitz without whom this show would not have been possible

To JMY Leary, thank you from the bottom of my heart.

For advice and friendship,

Jodi Melnick, Gia Kourlas, Trajal Harrell, Robert Grescovic, DD Dorvillier, Jennifer Lacey, Maria Hassabi, Claude Wampler, Bob Ajar, Jon

Kinzel, Jennifer Monson, Yasuko Yokoshi.

In Wales

Everyone at Chapter Arts especially Silva Mutoe and Janek Alexander, Wendy, Huw and Iwan Griffiths, and Cathy Boyce.

Thanks also to Jimmy Jolliff - for driving back from North Carolina in a blizzard Thanks to Liam O'Malley.

At BAC thanks to Misha, Stanford and Huong for the incredibly helpful Residency. All at Abrons Art Center
To Karl Rio and Hanna at impulstanz

And to Theater Du Welt Festival

My deepest thanks and love to my family Colin Rusch and my daughter Prudence. You guys are it.

Biographies

TM Davy was born 1980 in NY and was educated at the School of Visual Arts. He is represented in New York by Eleven Rivington, where he recently had his debut solo exhibition. Selected group exhibitions include No Soul for Sale at Tate Modern, London; Sur le Dandysme Aujourd'hui at Centro Galego de Arte Contemporanea, Spain; Nudes at Galeria Fortes Vilaca, SP, Brazil; Le Petit Mort de Ete at Klaus von Nichtssagend, Brooklyn; and Trifecta and Idols of Perversity at Bellwether Gallery, NY.

Alice Downing was born in Worcester, England. She trained at Laban in London gaining a BA (honors) Dance Degree in 2006, and later a Master in Performance in 2008. Alice was a member of Transitions Dance Company 2006, when she first worked with Sarah Michelson on *Swan Lake* with the company. Later the same year, Alice performed in Michelson's *DOGS* and feels incredibly lucky to have continued to work with Sarah since.

Pete Drungle was born on the coast of Fantin, in the town of Agimaque. As a young child, he was dragged from his country with twenty other children of different races and both sexes by European robbers who, brandishing their pistols and sabres, threatened to kill them if they attempted to run away. They lived confined, and heard nothing but the clanging of chains, the sound of the whip, and the cries of fellow prisoners. In this dreadful situation he was carried to Grenada and made a slave. But Pete was eventually liberated and carried to England. He was there in 1998, in the service of the last court composer to the Prince of Wales. Mr. Drungle currently lives and works in New York.

Jim Fletcher has worked with Richard Maxwell and the New York City Players for more than ten years. He has performed in the NYCP productions of Showy Lady Slipper, Boxing 2000, Caveman, Showcase, Henry IV, part 1, The End of Reality, The Frame, Ode to the Man Who Kneels, and People Without History; and the videos The Darkness of this Reading and The Feud Other. Recently he has also worked with Elevator Repair Service (Gatz) and with Tim Etchells of Forced Entertainment (Sight is the Sense That a Dying Person Tends to Lose First). In September 09, he directed a ten-minute segment of X Wohnungen in Vienna for the Players called "A Fresh Feeling." He recently acted in and co-wrote the feature film Bass Ackwards, directed by Linas Phillips, premiered at the 2010 Sundance Film Festival.

Born in Cardiff, **Non Eleri Griffiths**, 14, is currently a pupil at Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr, Cardiff, a Welsh-language comprehensive school, and has studied ballet with The Shirley and Mandy Morris School of Dance, Cardiff since the age of six. Non has enjoyed dancing for the ballet school shows, often taking lead roles, and has been invited to dance with the European Ballet on two occasions. She has been a Wales & West Mid Cecchetti associate. Non met Sarah at Chapter Arts in 2007 and performed in *Dover Beach*, Cardiff and New York, for which she was awarded a Bessie.

Eleanor Hullihan is from North Carolina. She has danced with Beth Gill, Jennifer Monson, Jennifer Allen, Miguel Gutierrez, Mecca Vasie-Andrews, Zeena Parkins, Cynthia Madansky and John Jasperse. asubtout, her collaboration with Katy Pyle, creates fantasy operettas that have been performed at Jusdon Church, PS122, Galapagos, Dixon Place and various lofts in Bushwick. She also makes work with JMY Leary at Pieter in Los Angeles. Trained at NCSA, ADF, NYU Tisch Dance and S.E.A.D., Eleanor was also a 2010 danceWEB scholar. She occasionally teaches dance and improvisation, teaches Pilates in the East Village and Chelsea and is a teacher trainer for the Kane School. While living in LA she worked as a dance coach for movie actors. Eleanor could not be here without the boundless support of her family and Jimmy.

Bozkurt Karasu started working as a production crewmember of the Istanbul Festivals organized by Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts in 1990. He later became the Production Manager of the same foundation while continuing to work as a freelance production/stage manager and production designer. In 2003 he joined The Wooster Group as production manager and moved to New York. In 2005 he co-founded the production and design company, organizma.org in Istanbul. Besides working with The Wooster Group he collaborates regularly with New York City Players.

Nicole Mannarino is a dancer and a cliff climber. She has worked most recently with choreographers Kyle Abraham, Beth Gill, Juliana May, Antonietta Vicario, and Hattie Mae Williams. She has climbed in Yosemite Valley, Tuolumne Meadows, the Needles, Shawanagunks, Cochise Stronghold, Gorges du Verdon, the Alps, Sedona, Potrero Chico, the Adirondacks, and Brooklyn Boulders. She also studies gyrotonics and pilates with Clarice Marshall.

Richard Maxwell is a playwright and director living in New York. Maxwell studied acting at Illinois State University. In Chicago, he was a founder of the Cook County Theater Department. He is now the artistic director of New York City Players and a resident writer at New Dramatists. Maxwell has been selected for Guggenheim Fellowship and the Foundation for Contemporary Arts. His plays have been translated into six languages. A volume of his plays, Plays, 1996-2000: Richard Maxwell, has been published by Theatre Communications Group. In 2011 he will premiere his latest work Neutral Hero at Kunstenfestivaldesarts. Brussels.

Sarah Michelson would like to name some artists among whom she works. Parker Lutz, Mike Iveson, Greg Zuccolo, Charlotte Cullinan, Dominic Cullinan, Yasuko Yokoshi, Maria Hassabi, Jmy Leary, DD Dorvillier, Trajal Harrell, Jennifer Lacey, Jodi Melnick, John Jasperse, Claude Wampler, Paige Martin, Jennifer Monson, Yvonne Meier, Iuciana achugar, Chase Granoff, dancenoise, Ralph Lemon, Neil Greenberg, Tere O'Connor, Miguel Gutierrez, Rosane Chamecki, Andrea Lerner, Jon Kinzel, Bob Ajar, Mika Kurosawa, Dean Moss, Richard Maxwell, James Tyson, Emily MacDonald, Jandy Nelson, Pete

Drungle, Michael Portnoy, Julie Atlas Muz, Adrienne Truscott, Yoshiko Chuma, Ann Liv Young, Beth Gill, Eric McNatt, Paula Court, Eleanor Hullihan, Rebecca Warner, Nicole Mannarino, Jim Fletcher, Non Griffiths.

New York City Players was founded under the artistic direction of Richard Maxwell in 1999 and has performed in over twenty countries. Venues include Barbican Centre, London; Theater Bonn; Vienna Festwochen; The Hebbel Theater, Berlin; Toneelgroep Amsterdam; Theaterformen, Hannover; Festival D'Automne, Paris; Project, Dublin; Chapter, Cardiff; Lokal, Reykjavik; Brut, Vienna; Kampnagel, Hamburg; Festival Internacional de Teatro de Sâo José do Rio Preto, Brazil; The Wexner Center for the Arts, Columbus; The Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; On the Boards, Seattle; Performance Space 122, The Kitchen, and Soho Rep in New York. Their work has been selected for national and international recognition, including several Obie Awards.

Zack Tinkelman has worked with such directors and choreographers as Moisés Kaufman, Ruben Polendo, Paul Lazar, Andy Paris, Tina Sheppard, and Sheron Wray, and with such companies as Half Straddle, Red Terror Squad, and Target Margin. His designs have been seen at La MaMa E.T.C., Ontological-Hysteric Theater, City Center, Ohio Theatre, HERE Art Center, Chocolate Factory, Skirball Center, Dixon Place, Teatr Mały in Warsaw, and the ICA in London.

James Tyson has performed with artists including Davida Hewlett,) + (= a0, Pearson/ Brookes, New York City Players (*The Darkness of this Reading*), Alajotas Dance Company. He is also Theatre Programmer at Chapter Arts Centre, Cardiff.

Rebecca Warner grew up in Brookline, Massachusetts. She graduated Summa Cum Laude and Phi Beta Kappa from Columbia with a BA in Neuroscience. She dances with Sarah Michelson, Neta Pulvermacher and Muna Tseng. She has performed with the Mark Morris Dance Group, the Metropolitan Opera Ballet, Diana Crum and Jamie Bishton among others. She has choreographed for the National Yiddish Theatre. Thanks and love to family and friends.

Devotion is a co-production of Sarah Michelson, New York City Players and Chapter Arts Centre, Cardiff, Wales. Devotion is commissioned by The Kitchen, On the Boards and The Walker Art Center.

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Sarah Michelson is a sponsored artist of The Field, Inc., and this project has been made possible in part through the sponsorship of The Field.

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Vicky Shick: Not Entirely Herself Wednesday-Saturday, March 16-19

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WINTER 2011 PROGRAMS-AT-A-GLANCE (cont'd)

provides the live narration along with live music by **Brendan Canty** (Fugazi), Green, **Drew Henkels** (Drew & the Medicinal Pen), **Donna K, Michael McGinley** (the Bitter Tears and lead actor in *Gravity Was Everywhere Back Then*), **Alan Scalpone** (the Bitter Tears), and cellist John Swartz.

Briggan Krauss with Raha Raissnia: Cosmography February 25–26, 8pm

This latest audio-visual project between long-time collaborators saxophonist, composer, and sound artist Briggan Krauss and abstract painter and film artist Raha Raissnia features all new music for Krauss's stellar trio H-alpha (Ikue Mori on laptop, Jim Black on drums, and Krauss) plus an additional five-member ensemble conducted by Skuli Sverrisson. Best known as a member of the legendary group Sexmob, Krauss explores otherworldly sounds and sonic textures with composed passages as well as structured improvisation in this new work, and Raissnia creates an evocative vocabulary of shifting light forms through a new live cinema performance built from video, film, and slide projections. Additional performers include: Brian Drye, trombone; Peter Evans, trumpet; Michel Gentile, flutes; Mike McGinnis, clarinet; Sarah Schoenbeck. bassoon; and Karen Waltuch, viola,

Annie Gosfield: Daughters of the Industrial Revolution March 4–March 5, 8pm

Inspired by her immigrant grandfather, a junk dealer in the Lower East Side who recycled scrap metal and other byproducts of the industrial age, Gosfield will sample the sounds of metal, machines, and factories, and transform these raw materials into something new. Featuring two ensembles: the Annie Gosfield Ensemble, with Gosfield on sampling keyboard, Roger Kleier on electric guitar, and Ches Smith on drums and percussion; and Real Quiet with Felix Fan on cello, piano by Andrew Russo, and guest percussionist Alex Lipowski. Also pianist Stephen Gosling performs a selection of Gosfield solos,

An Evening with *Cinema 16* Curated by Molly Surno March 8, 7om

In this evening of film and live music, Cinema 16 pairs five short films with a specially commissioned score by New York experimental rock band Psychic IIIs. These films address the dialogue between repression and sexual expression/freedom. Psychic IIIs will compose an original live score to Ron Rice's Chumlum, Beryl Sokoloff & Crita Grauer's Necromancia, John E Schmitz's The Voices, Lichter Peter's Light Sleep, and Raymonde Carasco's Gradiva Sketch I.

Vicky Shick: Not Entirely Herself March 16–19, 8pm

Vicky Shick presents a new dance landscape in which

three women intersect and try to make sense of the delicate order and imagined narrative of their world. Working with her long-time collaborator, visual artist Barbara Kilpatrick, who has created costumes that also function as set, Shick offers a dance piece that is intimate and gigantic, meticulous and wacky. Featuring dancers: Marilyn Maywald, Jimena Paz, Maggie Thom; and coda with guest, Neil Greenberg, and Vicky Shick. Set and costume design by Barbara Kilpatrick. Sound design and performance by Elise Kermani with lighting by Chice Brown.

Shame the Devil Curated by Petrushka Bazin March 17–April 30 Opening Reception: Thursday, March 17, 6-8pm

Inspired by the parallel ability of both the stand-up comedian and the artist to play the role of cultural observer and provacateur, this exhibition presents new sculpture, video, installation, and photography by artists, who strategically examine, with their frank observations and dry wit, the socio-political dimensions of power associated with cultural, racial, and economic issues. Artists include Elizabeth Axtman, Michael Paul Britto, Jessica Ann Peavy, My Barbarian, and Kenya (Robinson), among others.

BOMBlog 1:15 An Evening with BOMB March 22, 7pm

How much text can a reader absorb in one minute and fifteen seconds? The average online reader spends just that amount of time reading an article on and BOMBlog, which averages 1,500 words. Is this reading or something else entirely? The ephemeral nature of online content has been discussed ad nauseam, but what's often left out of the conversation is the effect that such fleeting encounters with culture have on consciousness, on the inner life that has always been the basis of creativity. Celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2011, BOMB presents an evening of performance and conversation that explores the gap between the digital and the material, attempting to answer the question: what is reading?

Steven Reker: People Get Ready March 31–April 2, 8pm

In this new performance work, musician and choreographer Steven Reker crafts a mix-tape of movement pieces scored live by his band, People Get Ready. Teasing out points of connection between contemporary dance and indie music, the group creates sonic landscapes inhabited by dancers from which both songs and choreography emerge. Participants include Megan Byrne, Jessica Cook, Luke Fasano, Jen Goma, Reker, and James Rickman. With video design by Jim Byrne.

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