

December 5, 1997

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THIS LIST REFLECTS GIFTS RECEIVED AS OF NOVEMBER 14, 1997

Antony
and **The Johnsons Chamber Orchestra**
present

THE SONGS OF FIONA BLUE

"Twilight"

*When the Swan flies to Heaven
Soaring through the atmosphere
There's a feeling that lingers in the afterwards:
Will you ever return?*

"Cripple and The Starfish"

This was the theme song for a dark musical that I staged at Theater for
The New City in 1991. Set at the end of the world, the play chronicled
the brutal, sado-masochistic love affair of the last two "Real Hearts" on
earth. Princess Nanooka (played by myself) sang the song to her cruel
lover Poisonella (played by Lily of the Valley) moments before cutting
out her own heart to offer as the final "proof" of her devotion.

"Hitler in My Heart"

Written while on tour in eastern Germany in the New Year of '94.
Struggling, I dreamed of corpses writhing in the cold, freshly churned
fields.

"The Atrocities"

*God visits all lost souls
To survey the damage
We noticed a bonfire
burning in his eyes*

"River of Sorrow"

I wrote this song for "Saint" Marsha P. Johnson, the heroic Street
Transvestite Action Revolutionary whose body was found floating in the
Hudson River in 1992.

"Rapture"

"...So it was that I walked into the Crowbar one Thursday night that summer to find a small but visually arresting group gathered, equal parts cast and audience in the small dark bar, about eight of each.

Antony, who was then named Fiona Blue, sang a composition of his called "The Rapture" which seemed such a mature, full-blown work that it stunned me, and has again, on occasion...At a certain point the tiny spotlight fell down on Antony as he tried to sing, and I remember thinking, this is how Jackie began, with terrible tech and taped together shoes and a sense of doing something so important that it was bound to succeed, if only in this way, in a small room to a tiny but perfect audience. This is how all good things must begin in the night, things that will matter later - quietly, far from the inexorable rush to the market place and the clatter of press releases and fax machines. They will carry on, I thought: The dry season's ended, and deadly violets may push up again!"

- Chi Chi Valenti (on her first night at Blacklips)

"Divine"

A tribute to The Most Beautiful Woman in the World, the ultimate perverter of youth, purveyor of filth and Christ figure, that shit-eating, heart-breaking, horrified beauty...Divine.

Fifteen-minute Intermission

Audience members are invited to the 2nd floor gallery for refreshments and viewing of the Visual AIDS exhibition of paintings by artists David Bryan Erwin and Frank Holliday.

LIFE ON MARS?

A film by James Elaine & William Basinski

Super-8 cinematography: James Elaine

Videography & editing: William Basinski

Editor: Einat Sidi

Post-production: The Outpost

Music: William Basinski

Cady Finlayson (violin) plays in the Westchester Symphony, the Sebastienne Flute Trio, and in the band for Irish folk singer Pierce Turner. Her most recent recording credits include the soundtrack to the film *Snakes and Ladders* (Sundance Film Festival Jan. '97), a Holly Palmer CD and the video for Aerlingus.

Liz Maranville (violin) is a mad scientist as well as an extraordinary violin player.

Vicky Leavitt (cello) is a musician whose versatility of style ranges from rock to jazz to classical. She has collaborated on projects with choreographers, film makers and visual artists. She plays with the bands Bela, 88 Butterfly, and Illuminati.

Mariana Davenport (flute) has played piano and flute since childhood. In high school, she entertained legions of football fans with her Irish green outfits and flute playing skills. She has studied classical, jazz and improvisation, and has participated in various jazz ensembles. Her loft on the Bowery is an open performance space and sanctuary for the vagabond artists and musicians of today.

William Basinski is a composer and performer living in New York. He has performed throughout NYC for the last nineteen years at various clubs and venues such as Art in the Anchorage, PS 1, PS 122, La Mama. As founder of avant garde music showcase, Arcadia in Williamsburg, he has promoted many young performers and produced numerous showcases. His LP, *Shortwave Music*, will be released in January 1998 on NOTON Records, Germany.

Sasha Noë is an artist living and working in New York.

James Elaine is an artist and filmmaker living and working in New York. His films have been shown in festivals in New York and San Francisco. His installation *The Dying Salon* was shown at the Institute of Contemporary Art in Boston for their *Gothic* exhibition in 1997.

Presentation of kinetic sculpture,

BOTTLESMASHER #5,

electronics. metal, mixed media by Sasha Noë.

THE PLAYERS

Antony (composer, voice, piano) is a musician, playwright, director and performer. He is the founder of two performance collectives, The Johnsons and Blacklips Performance Cult. Between '95-'96, Antony staged his productions *Miracle Now*, *The Birth of Anne Frank* and *The Ascension of Marsha P. Johnson* at PS 122. With Blacklips, Antony performed at PS 1 Museum For Contemporary Art (Gallery Boudoir), Soho Guggenheim, Exit Art, and Zone D.K., as well as in nightclubs throughout Manhattan. Antony has also performed extensively on his own as a hermaphrodite chanteuse, presenting original music. He will be releasing his debut album in the Spring of '98 and is planning a new production called *LOVE*. Antony was recently awarded a N.Y.F.A. fellowship in the category of "performance art/emergent forms" (July 1997).

Todd Cohen (drums) has been touring internationally with The Machine since 1990. He has also worked with the NYC based acoustic folk-rock band, Lionfish. He is currently preparing to stage *Snap Dragon*, a solo performance piece for drums.

Baby Dee (piano, harp) is a big fluffy cat from Cleveland, Ohio. She is available for Christmas parties, weddings, and barmitzvahs, as well as both short and long-term relationships. Baby Dee is currently promoting suffixes. She exhorts you to create your own suffixes and use them in every endeavor.

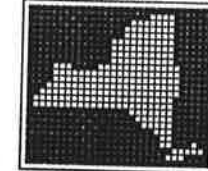
Francois Gehin (bass) has played with a diverse selection of artists in styles ranging from rhythm and blues to rock and roll. He played for 7 years and toured throughout Europe with the RCA/EMI artists Little Bob Story. In New York City, Francois has played with PSYCHO 69, The Descenders, Danny Kalb from the Blues Project, Jimmy Vivino from the Conan O'Brien show, Popa Chubby and Jessie Malin from D Generation.

Special thanks to Anney Bonney for her longtime support of this project. Also to Sheila Callahan, Sue Poulin, Inigo Elizalde, our fantastic production crew, and to Wayne Lopes, our sound engineer, and all the Kitchen staff for their efforts, and especially to Einat Sidi, editor extraordinaire, and Al Arthur and Ruth Kahn at the Outpost for their fantastic editing facilitation and support of this work. Also many thanks to Karl Francke, whose oscilloscope sound-analyzing device was used for the opening sequence in the film.



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index

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